Hi gang, It is with deep regret that I inform you that Jay AB5PA has become a Silent Key. He was the ARRL Central States Traffic Net Manager for many years living in Tuttle, OK. The net covers 7 or more different states with many many members. He was well known to those who worked 40 meters and loved by all who knew him. I have not received an obituary at this time but see "Silent Key" column below.

I have something very special to share with you this month. The following is from Ken Blair KCØGL, the originator of KAR in the days of print on paper newsletters and the US mail. When KAR came in the mail, it was hard to tell it from the other magazines it was so professionally done. He put 40 hours a month into it, bought a special typewriter and made trips to KC to have plates burned. A real service to Ks ham radio...! Here's Ken..........

-------------------

After 46 years in the same home, and using a tower and 3-element beam for 35 years, Pat and I have moved into a town home at the Lawrence Presbyterian Manor. Pat and I will be 71 early next year. I was simply tired of maintaining our home and as it was in excellent condition we decided to sell it and move to Manorwoods. Our home sold the second day it was on the market. We have been at Manorwoods for about 8 months now and we love it. I no longer have to think about maintenance as the Manor takes care of the Townhome plus mowing and clearing snow off walkways. There is no charge for water or basic cablevision. One great thing is they allowed me to erect my outside weather sensor instruments and a Hustler 5-band vertical in the front yard. I worked Phone Sweepstakes this year and made 145 contacts in a few hours so the vertical works fine. Admittedly the beam works better but I'm fortunate to be able to have the vertical. Pat and I are both in good health but now we are in a system that can take care of us as our health needs change. 73, Ken Blair, KC0GL, 1329 Kasold Drive - D2, Lawrence, Ks 66049-3426, kblair@sunflower.com

I sure everyone has seen the coal mine disaster in the papers and TV for over a week now, but did you know the one survivor was a ham? For more go to > http://www.arrl.org/

Tom WØEAJ suggest we hams send him a QSL card. Good Idea Tom! I will do that and get it in the mail in the morning. Tom says, "FYI...if any of us still have cards... 73, Tom" McCloy Jr, Randal L, KC8VKZ

PO BOX 223
Philippi, WV 26435 Got mine in the US mail today. Orlan

My request to the ECs to send an HF msg to their SEC was a total flop except for two responses and one was our MW Vice Director, KØBJ. Any one taking the "ARRL Certification and Continuing Education courses" must do this to pass the course.

Gang, now I know I am getting TOOooo old. When I see a photo of some one at a computer keyboard typing and reading the screen of a monitor and the caption says, "CW
operator at work." I wonder who and what I have been for the last 53 years with my fist on a key and copying code with my ears and not my eyes. I got to thinking, is there enough difference between the two that one should be called a CCW, "Computer CW operator." Well, are they not both sending code? Yes but, one is using his own mind to send and receive code while the other is using the mind of software writer who wrote the CW program for the computer to send and receive code. The CW op has learned another language with his mind and the CCW operator has learned to type. What would happen if the computer crashed and there were no more dits and dahs being sent? If my key quit I would simply loosen one of the two thumb screws and pull one wire loose from the key and touch it to the other wire and keep on sending code. If the computer went out, and you can not read the monitor, you are no longer copy code. But if my speaker or headphones went out, I can still copy the code from the swing of the S-meters needle. If I can not type does that mean I am not a CW operator? I think the real distinction is, with the CW operator the program for sending and receiving code is in his mind while with the CCW operator the send and receive program is on the computers hard drive. If the hard drive dies you have a dead computer and if my mind dies you have a "SK" Silent Key. Can one software writer take the place of thousands of minds? Are we using our minds less now days? What do you think?

**Do you like REAL home made biscuits** and sausage gravy? Well I know where there will be some lip smacking good eating on February the 4th. Just 40 miles south of me at LaCygne where our SM lives will be their holding their annual hamfest. Small country town with a main street 2 blocks long. Where else can you attend a hamfest and park right smack dab in the middle of down town main street and have the best ever biscuits and sausage gravy, doughnuts, rolls, hot coffee or cold pop. I have my bib on already. But WARNING, two years ago I got there only a few minutes late and got nothing but the smell. Went home with only tears on my bib. Ron, be sure they save me some..! See "Hamfests" below for details.

**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/](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.

**Need a Ks ARES map?** [http://www.cenkareas.org](http://www.cenkareas.org) or [http://www.qsl.net/swkareas/section.htm](http://www.qsl.net/swkareas/section.htm)

**Don't miss the Kansas Section News "KSN"** Click >>> [http://www.arrl.org/sections/KS.html](http://www.arrl.org/sections/KS.html)

73, Orlan w0oyh - UR ed

**ARRL KS SECTION MANAGER**

To receive or contribute to Orlan's Kansas Amateur Radio News E-mail News Letter contact Orlan-W0OYH-Editor at orlan@arrl.net

See KSN on ARRL Website for detailed PSHR and more Kansas news: [http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=KS](http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=KS)

Ron D. Cowan, KB0DTI
ARRL Kansas Section Manager:
kib0dti@arrl.org
Dec 30, 2005 FROM THE DESK OF K0BXF
Activity for the month of November 2005 with 19 EC reporting
ARENZ Zone
1A 7 nets 103 QNI 16 QTC
1C 2 nets 16 QNI 0 QTC
1E 3 nets 21 QNI 0 QTC
1G 4 nets 44 QNI 0 QTC
2B 2 nets 30 QNI 0 QTC
2D 3 nets 26 QNI 0 QTC
3E-F 4 nets 48 QNI 0 QTC
4A 36 nets 302 QNI 12 QTC
4B 8 nets 67 QNI 3 QTC
4D 4 nets 26 QNI 4 QTC
4H 1 net 18 QNI 0 QTC
5A 4 nets 12 QNI 0 QTC
6B-C-D 2 nets 26 QNI 0 QTC
6E 5 nets 28 QNI 0 QTC
6F 4 nets 28 QNI 0 QTC
6G 0 0 0
State RACES 1 net 5 QNI 0 QTC, Riley, Brown, Leavenworth, Wyandotte and
Shawnee counties represented.
20 Zones 90 nets 762 QNI and 35 QTC
KS ARMY MARS reporting membership had 27 stations 770 man hours of on air operation handling
2474 messages.
We are nearing 50 percent of our Zones reporting now and that is good. A little extra push by some of
you, out there, to get the rest of our Zones in the habit of reporting would be appreciated.
73, Bob Summers K0BXF ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator k0bxf@arrl.net
Need a KS ARES map? >>> http://www.cenkares.org
http://www.qsl.net/swkares/section.htm
KANSAS STATE RACES OFFICER
Joseph WDØDMV - KS RACES Officer
KANSAS ARES REPORTS
Here is the ARES report for DEC 2005 for DIST 6F
12-4-2005 1 Net QNI-6 QTC-0
12-11-2005 1 Net QNI-8 QTC-0
12-18-2005 1 Net QNI-9 QTC-0
No SKYWARN activity for DEC
Steve Benson N0BTH - EC KS Dist 6F

This was in the Leavenworth Times. They had a nice picture of me on the front page, but
I can't open it. v/r KC0JCQ EC

Original Message-----
From: Rachael Bossow
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2005 3:57 PM
Subject: Re: Amateur radio story

I'm pretty sure the story was never posted on the Web site. Here it is as it is published Nov. 5. Please
let me know if you need anything else.
Thanks!
Rachael

Amateur radio: A rich subculture
By RACHAEL BOSSOW
Leavenworth Times Staff Writer

Cellular phones, Blackberrys and laptop computers can send and receive information without being attached to any outside power source. So what happens when an emergency situation knocks out electrical lines and cellular towers?

Enter the world of amateur radio, where users can transmit and receive information from across the street or across the state. Also known as ham radio, licensed users don't transmit only during an emergency. For many, it's a hobby that connects radio enthusiasts from around the globe. "The radio waves bounce off the ionosphere," said Paul Backs, a Leavenworth amateur radio user. "You can talk all over the world with a small antenna." A retired lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Marine Corps, Backs had been encouraged to try amateur radio by his relatives. Looking for something to do with his entire family, Backs attended hunting and boating classes with his children when his wife, Susan, found a class teaching amateur radio. After completing the class, Paul and Susan Backs became licensed ham radio operators. Their children, Nathan and Rebecca, became licensed after attending more radio training. Since becoming involved with amateur radio in 2000, Backs was twice named president of the Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club, an area organization with more than 60 members that "meets" on the airwaves each Wednesday night. The members have a chance to speak with each other over the radio and hone their broadcast skills.

"KC-zero-JCQ," Backs announced his call sign on Wednesday to other PKARC members listening in. The PKARC members followed by announcing their call signs, some of which Backs recognized as being from Platte City, others from Leavenworth County. After turning on a different radio to another frequency, he identified the voice of a frequent contact in New Jersey. When amateur radio users make contact, they often exchange QSL cards, which lists the date, frequency and time of the contact. One of Backs' first goals upon receiving his ham license was to collect a QSL card from every state in the United States.

"Some are hard to get, like Hawaii, Vermont, New Hampshire and Alaska," Backs said. "One person I've talked to was a state senator from Georgia." Persons interested in obtaining their amateur radio license can attend a ham radio class from the PKARC. Classes are one night a week for eight weeks, and an examination is required before students receive their radio license. After passing the exam, students qualify for a technician's license, and can upgrade to a general class or extra class license after more training. "The higher you go, the more frequency you get to play in," Backs laughed. He currently has a general class license. According to Backs, ham radio equipment can run anywhere from $400 to 800, depending on the kind of radio and the technology. "With more modern technology, some guys buy a radio and don't like them," Backs said. "The antenna is what makes it work anyway."

The Backs family has several amateur radios, including hand-held devices that the family has used in inclement weather. "When bad weather was predicted, I took (the radio) to school, and sat in the principal's office to tell them when it was coming," Nathan Backs said. He is a senior at Leavenworth High School. Amateur radio operators are also used as weather spotters during tornado season, performed "Goblin Patrol" at area schools on Halloween and have provided radio support for the March of Dimes "Bikers for Babies" ride, which attracts thousands of motorcycle riders. "We station people around the course to make sure everything goes okay," Backs said. "Ninety percent of use is awareness. If people don't know we're available, they won't ask."
He is also a four-year member of Amateur Radio Emergency Services, and is participating in today's Simulated Emergency Test. Because communications are often disrupted, amateur radio users pass information to emergency personnel and relief organizations. "In an emergency, cell phone towers will be over-utilized or destroyed," Backs said.

In a pre-exercise trial on Wednesday, Backs spoke with Johnson County radio operators on a repeater, which received Backs' five-watt radio signal and transmitted the message at 100 watts. The signal could reach other amateur radio users up to 50 miles away. "We try to write up a scenario to give the exercise reality," Backs said. "Some exercises are something mythical, but if we do (an emergency) that's plausible, we can exercise every aspect of the emergency."

The simulated emergency in today's exercise is a major earthquake in Missouri that affected St. Louis with some damage in the Kansas City area. Backs explained that during the S.E.T., radio users form "hubs," similar to wagon wheels, and transmit information to a net controller, who then contacts other hubs and transmits and receives information about the "emergency."

"We have a wonderful rapport with the emergency management," Backs said. "The S.E.T. exercise is done every year." PKARC members recently went to Mississippi in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina to provide communications support. Backs said Mike Stewart, a PKARC member, gave feedback on what forms of communications worked during the emergency, and what needed more work. "This is a good area for amateur radio," Backs said. "If a need ever came up, they'd rally."

Thanks Paul for sending this news paper article for all to read.

ECHOLINK SAVED A HAM
Hello All, this is from my good friend Trevior Boyd in Brisbon, Australia....If you aren't aware, Echolink is a computer program that turns your laptop into a HAM radio....I have been a member for 2 1/2 years now and I thought this was a good (successful) story....JB Jerry Bruce , kc0ifo Thanks JB for passing this along..! Orlan
This article is from QRZ.COM
Date of incident 12-29-05
Date of article 12-30-05
As I sat in front of my computer with echolink on and connected to The Missing Lynk System a message comes across that a fellow ham needs help. G4WDI was suffering from a heart attack right at his home while talking on the radio. WA4VWV was chatting with James when it happened and this is an email that was sent to me directly from Steve, WA4VWV:

"James...you sounded like things were not going well...and then I got the text message that simply said "HELP"

We rallied the troops and had the paramedics dispatched to your QTH. Hope you didn't mind that friends of yours was concerned, but when I get a message that says "HELP" then be assured that I will gather every resource available to make sure it happens.

It took several folks on MissLynk to assist and gents from Indiana, Arizona and Washington were directly involved and the entire network went quiet until we were sure that assistance was on the way. Geez, talk about the spirit and intent of amateur radio. We all anxiously await positive news!

Let me know what you can, when you can. Take care and be well!

73 de Steve, WA4VWV"
Also sent in another email was an update:

"Let the record show that our good gang did, in fact, save a life. The British Army Air Corps responded and found him damned near flatlined, fired up a chopper and flew him off. Apparently he was on O2, along with CPR during the flight.

A rush trip to the ER of his local hospital brought him around and about 4:15 this AM I got the word that all is once again well. Hey guys...let's face the reality of last night. Were it not for the "system" and some heroic reactions, we might have had a Silent Key on our hands. By all means, this should be an Amateur Radio Newsline item. What a classic example of our hobby, with several people involved, quite actually saving a life of a fellow ham in a whole different part of the world. Geez, am I proud of our collective efforts! Thanks to all involved! This not to pump sunshine up our skirts, but an acknowledgement of a job well done!

73 de WA4VWV"

Just goes to show, doesn't matter what you use as a tool as long as it's for the greater good

**HAM LICENSING CLASSES:**
The Johnson County Radio Amateur's Club will be sponsoring a four week Technician Grade Amateur Radio class beginning on Tuesday, January 3 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. The classes will be held each Tuesday evening at the Merriam Fire Department training room (9000 W. 62nd Terrace, Merriam, KS). Upon successful completion, participants should be prepared to pass the Technician Class FCC test for Amateur Radio Operators. The content covers basic electrical theory, principals, FCC regulations and RF environmental safety. Morse Code is NOT a requirement for a FCC Technician Class license. The $25 fee (approximate) includes the manual and a year's membership in the Johnson County Radio Amateur Club. Class size will be limited and it is suggested you RSVP by December 16.

Amateur radio operations have been in the spotlight with the recent natural disasters in the Gulf area and becoming more integrated with City and County government emergency plans as an effective emergency communications method. Where the content of the class is of a general nature, these classes are specifically designated for CERT Team members, Emergency Management personnel, and First Responders.

To sign up for the class, or obtain additional information, please email dennis@tsanet.org with the subject line "HAM Class".

Additional information can be obtained by contacting.

Dennis Smeltzer email: dennis@tsanet.org

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Santa Fe' Trail Amateur Radio Club Licensing Class:  
Starting January 7th, 2006 every Saturday 9:00 - Noon  
Location: Johnson County District 1 Fire Station 490 New Century Parkway New Century Airport, Kansas (East of Gardner, KS. and north of Sprint's North Supply Building )  
This will provide the instruction necessary to obtain a Technician or General class amateur radio license.  
Cost is $5.00 to register and $15.00 to $45.00 for books/materials.
SILENT KEYS:
William Charles Lang - KC0IA

William Charles Lang, 78, Shawnee, KS, passed away Friday, Jan. 6, 2006, at his home. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10 a.m., Monday, Jan. 9, at the St. Joseph Catholic Church; entombment in the Resurrection Cemetery Mausoleum. Friends may call from 1-3 p.m., Sunday, the Amos Family Chapel of Shawnee, where a rosary recitation will be 2:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions to St. James Academy, 24505 Prairie Star Parkway, Lenexa, KS 66227. Bill was born Feb. 11, 1927, in Kansas City, MO, to Henry F. and Emma M. (Berger) Lang. He was a veteran of the US Navy during WWII, serving on the U.S.S. General H.W. Butler. Bill was co-owner of Lang Heating and Air Conditioning, Merriam, KS, and was a volunteer with South Park Fire Dept. Bill was a member of the Shawnee Mission Sertoma Club, American Legion, Post 327, Shawnee Amateur communication Team and MARS. He had several hobbies, including fishing, hunting, and scuba diving. Bill was preceded in death by his three brothers, Henry, George and Ed; and a sister, at a young age. Survivors include his wife, Bonnie M. (Schofield) Lang; daughter, Donna Lang-Stoffel and her husband, Ron; grandson, R. Hunter Stoffel, all of Mission Viejo, CA, and many nephews and nieces. (Arr. Amos Family Chapel of Shawnee, 913-631-5566) Published in the Kansas City Star on 1/7/2006.

Thank Larry WØAIB, Bill belonged to our AR club.

It is my sad duty to announce the passing of Elwood (Woody) D. Kielhorn WØQEK at 6:25 P.M. December 21, 2005 in the Stevens County Hospital. Woody was a member of the Southern Plains Amateur Radio Klub (SPARK) from it's founding. During his amateur career Woody experimented with many operating modes, provided technical help to all that asked, and was a volunteer examiner. Woody also constructed and maintained several repeaters and digipeaters in the Southwest Kansas area. Woody will be greatly missed by all that knew him!
Memorial Services will be 1:00 P.M. Monday December 26, 2005 at Kitch-Brenneman Funeral Home
1212 W. 2nd St.
Liberal Kansas 67901
(620) 624-5647 or 1-800-640-9205
73's
Dan WØKKS

Jay Curry AB5PA graveside service will be at 2 pm Tuesday at the Tuttle Fairview Cemetery. No address is given as of yet. Bondel Smith Mortuary at 6934 SouthWestern in OKC is in charge of the funeral. Additional information will follow as available. Pse re-transmit this info as you see fit. GN. George NJ0F sends

Hildred E. Naylor - K0FAR
Hildred E. Naylor, of Kansas City, KS, died December 12, 2005. Mrs. Naylor had been a resident of Kansas City, KS for 62 years. She was born in Wichita, KS on June 17, 1915 and lived in Mulvane, KS until 1939 when she moved to Kansas City, KS with her husband. Mrs. Naylor received her teaching certificate from Kansas State Teachers College in Emporia and began her teaching career in Mulvane, KS. She assumed her husband's teaching position in Kansas City during WWII while he served in the Navy. Mrs. Naylor became an Assistant Administrator and later became Board Secretary of Providence
Hospital, which merged to become Providence-St. Margaret's Hospital. She retired from her positions there in 1977. She was also one of the founding members of the Providence Hospital Guild. Mrs. Naylor was active in community affairs including serving as President of the KCK Women's Chamber of Commerce in 1969 and President of the Monday Club and her PEO Chapter. She was recognized as "Boss of the Year" in 1977 and received the Soroptimist Award for "Leadership in Civic and Community Service" in 1971. She was active in the First Pilgrim Congregational Church holding numerous leadership positions in its organization. Mrs. Naylor is survived by her two children, a daughter, Hildred Susan Swaim and, a son, Frank W. Naylor, Jr. and four grandchildren. Hildred's family will receive friends from 12 noon-2 p.m. Friday, December 16, at the Porter Funeral Home, 1835 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, KS. A family graveside service will follow at Highland Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, friends are encouraged to make a donation for Alzheimer's research to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., 17th Floor, Chicago, IL 60601. (Arrangements Porter Funeral Home & Crematory, 1835 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, KS (913-621-6400) Published in the Kansas City Star on 12/14/2005.

http://www.legacy.com/kansascity/LegacySubPage2.asp? Thanks to Larry WØAIB and Bill WBØNSQ for his one.

HAMFEST - HAMFEST - HAMFEST - HAMFEST - HAMFEST - HAMFEST -
21 Jan 2006 4 Feb 2006 Do U like real home
Missouri Valley & Ray-Clay ARCs Mine Creek ARC made biscuits and
Ramada Inn Community Bldg. sausage gravy?
4016 Frederick Blvd. Broadway Street This is the place but U
St. Joseph, MO LaCygne, KS have to come early..!
Talk-In: 146.85 (PL 100) & 444.925 (PL 100) Talkin 147.885/147.285
Contact: Roy Burtnett, KA0SIU Contact: Ron Cowan, KB0DTI
PO BOX 195 PO Box 36 LaCygne, KS 66040
Oregon, MO 64473-0195 Phone: 913-757-4455
Email: rfbkdb4@ccp.com Email: kb0dti@arrl.net
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
Here is something for next KAR
73's
Bill AA0OM
Midway amateur radio club
hamfest will be february 18, 2006
mark this date on your calendars
LOCATION: BUFFALO COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS
KEARNEY, NE
TALK-IN
146.625()(PL TONE 123.0) 147.315(+)(PL TONE 123.0)
Breakfast and lunch can be purchased at the kitchen
burghardt will be at the hamfest so bring your wish list
if you need any parts from burghardt, give them a call and they
will bring it down. 1-800-927-4261 Toll free
kb0ytn richard l klauz will be there to embroider hats,
jackets, sweatshirts or anything he can get a needle through
WE WILL BE HAVING AN A..R.E.S 8:30., S.M. 9:30 AND M.A.R.S MEETING 11:30
THERE WILL BE HAM RADIO LICENSE TESTING AT 12:00 P.M.
THOSE WANTING TO TEST NEED TO CONTACT MIKE OSTERBERG AT
K0VZ@arrl.net OR PHONE HIM AT (308) 234-6152.
******WE ARE NOT TAKING WALK-INS******
FIRST TABLE IS $10.00 (INCLUDES ADMISSION TICKET)
EXTRA TABLES ARE $5.00 EACH.
ADMISSION TICKETS ARE $5.00 EACH.
CUT OFF DATE FOR ORDERING TABLES IS FEBRUARY 11.
AFTER THAT DATE TABLES ARE $7.00 EACH.
MIDWAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PO BOX 1231
KEARNEY , NE. 68848-1231
Come one come all for good food and friendship
DOOR PRIZE VERTEX STANDARD VX-150
CLUB WEBSITE: http://w0ky.kearney.net
DOORS OPEN AT 8 AM
FIRST TABLE (INCLUDES YOUR ADMISSION TICKET) $ 10_____
ADDITIONAL TABLES AT $5.00 EACH NO. TABLES______ X $5 = $ _______
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MARC TOTAL $ _______

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

HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA
WHO DOES WHAT
A man and his wife were having an argument ab out who should brew the coffee each morning. The wife said, "You should do it, because you get up first, and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee." The husband said, "You are in charge of cooking around here and you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee." Wife replies, "No, you should do it, and besides, it is in the Bible that the man should do the coffee." Husband replies, "I can't believe that, show me." So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him at the top of several pages, that it indeed says.......... "HEBREWS"
Don-KA0EIC

S.W.R. -- A term, applied to any part of the antenna system, which means: "Savings-to-Watt Ratio". Based on the inverse relationship of dollars in the bank and effective radiated power. Characteristic Impedance The usual reaction of your spouse when told about the proposed antenna system. Mike NØHM

A sign in front of the church read, "Try our Sundays, they are better than Baskin-Robbins."
David KIØNN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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
Hello, all. I suspect the best we can do is to be as flexible as possible and use a combination of the work around Ron mentioned. I think I can get a signal out on 160. I'd also get a kick out of trying to exchange traffic with a KC or Topeka area station on 2m CW if anyone there is so equipped, hi! (Much more fun than via a repeater.) And, of course, if our backs are against the wall, we can press email into service (pardon the heresy). I guess the good news is that, as Ron said, the problem will solve itself once we march some little distance past the winter solstice. Merry Christmas to all!

73, James, NB0Z James is ARRL Ks CW net manager. Net meets at 7 & 10 pm on 3610 kHz.

I was looking at the ARRL site and saw that you have a *K*a*nsas *A*mateur* R*adio newsletter available. I would like to be included in the mailing list.

Thanks! Allen Wisbey N0SCK Welcome aboard Allen...! Orlan

The Central Texas DX and Contesting Club takes its technical matters seriously. We have some major contesters in our club and we work hard to help each other out, whether by giving each other QSOs for contests or assisting with weighty technical matters. In the wake of the ARRL 160M contest this past weekend we entered into one of these serious discussions relating to the relative benefits of coaxial cable positioning. (Quotes from e-mails on our club reflector.)

73, Don AD0K in Texas, another misplaced Kansan, hi hi...!

_____________________
W5JAW called me during the worst of the static and QRN on Saturday night. But he banged right through with his amazing 160M antenna located on his second story balcony.

Later I managed to pull a puny weak signal out of the noise that was W5ZL and I was wondering if conditions across town were that bad. A few seconds later the phone rang and Susan answered it. After a short while, between CQs, Susan came back in the hamshack and said that Gary had called. And that Gary had said he was running so much QRPP, that his signal wasn't making it all the way to the end of his coax.

Richard K5NA

_____________________
Gary - if you run your coax DOWNHILL, the electrons can get accelerated due to gravity...might help the signal next time. :-)

Scott KI5DR

_____________________
Scott, doesn't the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle mean that the electrons will be confused by all that gravity?>

Tom K5TM

_____________________
Nope, the coax works just like a garden hose. Gravity will accelerate the electrons and if you grab the coax and pinch it, you can choke off the flow of electrons.

Terry AB5K

_____________________
...and, sometimes they get stuck sideways in the coax and by increasing power suddenly you can knock them loose to free up the flow.

Don ADØK
OK, you've guessed the secret to my "amazing 160m antenna located on my second floor balcony" (Richard's words). Since it is only 8 feet tall, the electrons don't have far to go. In addition, my rig is about 5 feet above the base of the antenna, so the electrons get a running start before heading back uphill. I've considered putting the rig on the top shelf of my desk, but then I would have to stand up all the time to operate.

Even my Carolina Windom, used for all the other bands, is only about 12 feet above my operating position. This arrangement required careful planning on my part. It's amazing to me that you guys with 100-200 foot towers get out at all. You should be ashamed for making those poor electrons work so hard!

Jim, W5JAW

Hello I am Godfrey M. Flax KC0AUH District Emergency Coordinator in S.W. KS I am inviting you and your EC's to join the aresecs yahoogroup http://groups.yahoo.com/group/aresecs (which is a private, not open to public) group to help in share ideas, comments, complaints, suggestions concerning A.R.E.S. PLEASE consider joining and PLEASE forward this invitation to ALL of you EC's. Please help keep A.R.E.S. alive by sharing your ideas and such. I do thank you for your time

Within the last few days I have purchased several books to start the Southwest Kansas A.R.E.S. Group, Inc library. I have received the following books to add and establish the Library.

1 book "Emergency Power for radio communications"
2 books "Now your talking" study guides
2 books "Emergency Communications Handbook"
1 book "instructors manual for technician class license course"

As I am able I will be purchasing more for the library.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL MATERIALS HAVE BEEN MARKED "PROPERTY OF THE SOUTHWEST KANSAS A.R.E.S. GROUP" AND ARE AVAILABLE TO ANY ONE THAT WOULD LIKE TO "CHECK THEM OUT". IF YOU HAVE SOMEONE THAT IS INTERESTED IN AMATEUR RADIO AND WOULD LIKE TO USE THESE BOOKS PLEASE E-MAIL ME TO CHECK THEM OUT. (Licensed or not (please sponsor the non-licence people who would like to use them)) As of right now I personally feel that we do not need a "deposit" but if the club members feel differently PLEASE let me know.

As of 12/24/05 our library has the following:

1 book "Emergency Power for radio communications"
2 books "Now your talking" study guides (5th edition)
2 books "Emergency Communications Handbook"
1 book "instructors manual for technician class license course"
1 book "RF exposure and you"
1 book "RFI BOOK"
1 book "2000 ARRL Handbook for radio amateurs"
1 book "Vertical antenna classics"

ALL are from ARRL

PLEASE IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO "DONATE" TO THE LIBRARY PLEASE DO SO ANY
MATERIAL IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

PLEASE HELP BRING AMATEUR RADIO "BACK TO LIFE" IN WESTERN KANSAS!!!

CUL & 73's
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Southwest Kansas A.R.E.S.® Group, Inc. KSØECC (A Not-for-Profit Organization)
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Hi Orlan, This is a very fine article. I like it! Thanks for sending it along. Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
73, Steve, WV1X ARRL HQ staffer. Steve is very helpful to us in the field.

Hi Orlan, It was good to get the Christmas edition of the KAR. We always appreciate seeing all the sites given for the different technical subjects. The internet is really something if you know where to find things. I just learned today that the Northwestern Division Director Greg Milnes, W7OZ became a SK on Saturday after a heart attack suffered the previous day. Greg was Director for 7 years and Vice Director prior to that. Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF is now Director. I had the good opportunity to meet Greg for the first time, while at the Spokane hamfest several years ago. He was a nice guy.

The weather has been typical for New England, maybe colder than usual and with several snows already and the calendar says winter begins in two days! I want to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.
73, Chuck KØBOG Chuck is a ARRL HQ staffer and displaced KS ham how usually makes our State Convention.

Ask and ye shall receive! Thanks to KC0BS and KA0VXR:
For repeater frequency information take a look at: http://www.ksrepeater.com
http://www.missourirepeater.org
I will add these two sites to my standard "ham events" list, as I suspect that many of you would like to be able to program your radios.
73, Larry Staples – W0AIB

This is a good example of why it is not important for those of you who are fighting the CW test for the General licenses. Just write down what you think you heard and you will be surprised what you will come up with at the end. Enjoy your CW practice. John Can you read this?
Olmy srmat poelpe can. I cnuolt blveIE taht I cluod uesdnatrd wahr rdanieg. Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttar in waht oredr the ltteeers in a wrod are, the olny ipmoatnt tihng is tath the frist and lsat lteer be in rghit pclae.
The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a problem. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Amzznig huh? yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt! if you can raed tihs psas it on!!
John Halladay KAØJMO via Bob KØBXF
Can you raed tihs? Olny speeial plepoe can.
i cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulaclty uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the
hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in waht oerdr the
ltteres in a wrod are, the olny iproamtnt tihng is taht the frsit and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The
rset can be a taotl mses and you can stll raed it whotuit a pboerlm. Tihs is bcuaseae the huamn mnid
deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot
slpeling was ipmorantt! if you can raed tihs rpsoet it.

It would be very interesting to fire this off at a CW operator to copy -- in his head -- and see what the
results are!

It would also be interesting to find a CW operator who could send it! ;-) John NØEI
CLICK > [http://www.qsl.net/ckarc/news.html](http://www.qsl.net/ckarc/news.html) to read the KARC QSP newsletter of the Central
Kansas AR Club.
73-Don-KA0EIC

Tom's Key Strokes:
I wrote this a few years ago, but in light of what's happening around the world, I thought it
timely to send it out again. Let's raise our glasses this Christmas... toast ABSENT COMRADES,
and those who still stand watch, keeping us safe these cold nights.
ALSO - Remember... Christmas IS a national holiday, so let's all make sure the flag is flown.
Tom
------------------------------------
It's another Christmas letter...
Hi Gang,

Many years ago, my Uncle Tom started doing this sort of thing, not so much because he didn’t want to
write to everyone individually; rather because being a Presbyterian minister, his time was pretty
precious around the time of the famous birthday.

Each year, the card would come, with the carefully folded letter inside... it was sort of like this type-
style, and not the standard “typewriter style” of type, which of course, made it all-the-more intriguing.
There were always carefully crafted sentences with all manner of family and church news, typically
interspersed with some great hunting or fishing story (which always made me wish I’d been along).
Tom knew that that letter would be read by many eyes, and it became a sort of yuletide newspaper in
those halcyon days of yesteryear, when NOBODY had cellphones, pagers, FAX machines, or Email,
much less SUV’s (we called ’em pickup trucks or station-wagons!)

Grandma Smatla would carefully guard this letter from places she’d never been, and would never see,
outside of the occasional photograph. When you’d arrive in the kitchen (after removing your boots, of
course), she’d hear you and after the usual hellos and such, she’d notice how nice my latest flannel shirt
felt, and offer me the letter to read. I’m not sure who got the greater pleasure... her or me!
Well folks... it doesn’t matter to me if you offer the letter to another (although, I hope you will). This
year’s is the usual collection of memories, with one exception. We are faced again with the prospect of
conflict... our young men and women are once again on guard on foreign shores, at sea in darkened
ships, and in the air... patrolling the vast oceans and lands, on guard for US. Our family has had
somebody in the service of our country, nearly continuously since 1940, save for now. Uncles, cousins,
Fathers, Uncles, and even an Aunt once... WW-II, Korea, The Cuban Crisis, Lebanon, Vietnam, and
others that never made the headlines. I guess we earned a rest. Currently, my family and it’s many
extensions are not in the watchtowers... we depend on others.

...and that’s why I bring to you, my Christmas portrait... hopefully, it will paint an image in your mind, from 41 years ago... when my Mom awaited my arrival from U.S. Navy boot camp... a suddenly-grown man, carved from an 18 year-old kid... his body harder, his hair shorter, his sunburned face a bit wiser (just a bit). There would be frightening times to come, long nights and difficult days - but for a short time, Mom’s sauerkraut, chicken noodle soup, REAL egg custard, and anything else my heart desired was mine.

December 1961... U.S. Naval Training Center - San Diego, California
We had just finished 9 weeks and 5 days of recruit training. In our total and complete lack of wisdom, we were convinced that no greater group of MEN knew more, did more, or were better looking and more desirable to the young women of the land than US. After all, we had survived the filtering process, hadn’t we? We had marched smartly, scrubbed our clothes with wooden brushes and Tide, all done from a bucket... we were wizards of Naval lore and terminology, we knew every knot that was worth knowing, and could converse in scatological language that was known only to the lowest of creatures (and never voiced to our Mothers... perhaps to our Fathers). In short... we fully felt that we were SAILORS... ahhh, the way the word dripped from our tongues and escaped our lips. No greater majesty could be conferred on a young man.

We were offered the opportunity to select modes of transport for our departure. I chose the train... the famous Santa Fe El Capitan, to be exact. There were a handful of other “Guardians of the Sea” who chose the same, and we found ourselves at the train station, there at the foot of Broadway, downtown. Our seabags (stuffed with all our earthly belongings and uniforms for all occasions) were checked at the baggage window, having our tickets already in hand. The Navy was used to wide-eyed kids who thought they knew everything after only 10 weeks, and we received our tickets ON BASE, before riding the buses to relative freedom. The lovely old station building is tiled with ceramic tiles from Mexico City, and the beautiful Spanish architecture remained. How many people had come through there, I wondered. There were sounds of Christmas travelers, whining children, the countless conversations, shuffling of luggage & packages, and the smell of diesel and steam, mixed with the oaken benches... rather like pews I remember.

We boarded and in what seemed like an instant, we were bound across the Western United States. Through California, then Arizona, New Mexico... we talked of what was to come in our lives... what would the ships be like? how hard would the schooling be? Somewhere along the way, we met an older couple in the club-car; the old boy had a smuggled bottle in a paper sack (kind of like the movies, I rather think now), and he insisted upon buying each and every one of us a Coca-Cola and pouring a small amount of the fiery elixir into it, as “we were sailors, and certainly deserved all the benefits thereof”. There was occasional snoozing, but sleep was difficult in spite of the long ride. and...

We became aware of the train slowing... when we asked the conductor why, we were informed that we were approaching Newton, Kansas. Our company yeoman, Larry Lane, was from there, and we would bid him good luck and see him off. Larry was a pretty big guy, a bit older than the rest of us, and certainly more mature. As the train stopped on a section of track, we peered out through the open top of a dutch-door between the cars. In the distance, across many shining tracks aglow in the night with the snow falling, we could see Larry’s family waiting on the platform. It was a scene from a Saturday Evening Post cover... a Norman Rockwell version of rural America to be sure. The slanting roof of the white station house with Larry’s Mom, Dad, Sister, Brother... and dog - glowing under a cone of snow...
cluttered light from the single-bulb fixture over the platform. They were waving at the train, as we crowded into the space between the cars for a look and all waved back. Suddenly, a great form burst between the cars; it was Larry, seabag atop his tall shoulder, white hat atop his head, and the collar of his peacoat pulled up. He grinned at us... his roommates for the last 2 ½ months, and shook a few hands, then smiled and said something like “So Long... we’ll see ya’ sometime!” We parted like the Red Sea, and Larry stepped out on the green, snow covered wooden platform that was next to the train.

You could see that the edge of the 4 steps were worn, rounded by countless shoes going up and down the wooden steps. At that moment, standing on the top step, Larry hoisted his seabag with a tug and a turn to lift it atop his shoulder; he hadn’t counted on the slippery surface, and the momentum took the seabag AND him right down on his duff! We all laughed till our sides hurt, and chided him for his delightful show, most certainly for our benefit, to be sure. He carefully descended the remaining steps and we watched silently as he walked the 1/8 mile across the tracks to family, waiting in the glow of the platform.

The image that shall always be in my memory, was just before he stepped up onto the platform, he turned... slowly... and waved at us... his comrades whom, doubtless he would never see again. The train began to creep forward on the tracks, steam from the brakes escaping; we watched his Mother hugging him, then the rest all crowding about him, even the dog. My last image of Newton, Kansas was the far-away, now empty platform, with that cone of yellow glow, a’mix with a thousand snowflakes... and somehow, I knew it was a passing era.

We would all get home that Christmas. I met my Mom & Dad at the Union Station in Kansas City. Pop was surprised... Dad didn’t recognize me, he said. I suspect he remembered his youth and his Army days. We were now the young lions... we were immortal, or so we thought. A few short years later, we would discover that we were very mortal. Oh, but in that time... it was Christmas. It was the farm, and the smell of home cooking... huge cast-iron skillets of fried potatoes and good Polish sausage... sauerkraut and Jell-O salads... funny stories we told each other... my Mom and Grandma looking just a bit harder at the little kid they’d just tried to let go... and now he smelled like OLD SPICE... A cue I picked up from my Uncle Bill... somehow, dress blues and Old Spice just seem to go together, you know. Funny... I don’t think I wore civilian clothes the whole time I was on leave.

So this year, as you sit down at your tables... hoist your glasses to the Larry Lanes of the world. Somewhere, a kid is coming home on Christmas leave.... and somewhere, another one is standing watch on the bridge of a ship... or in a cold bunker... or flying anti-submarine patrol over the North Atlantic... or re-reading the latest letter from home, and trying to keep the sand out of the envelope... or fueling a B-52 for yet another mission to some place unknown... or maybe just somewhere that isn’t home. They’re there for all of us... they’re not forgotten when listening to little kids sing Christmas carols in church... nor when sitting down to eat dinner... and I’ll never forget you, Larry Lane... I hope you got home okay.

God Bless us Everyone... A Wonderful Christmas, and prosperous and safe New Year.
Tom Thanks for the memories Tom. I felt I was there with you it was so vivid.
Thomas C. Dailey Tom and I met for the first time while my wife and I were vacationing in San Diego.
2001 I think I was driving a Nash Rambler station wagon and he was a young kid from OP, Ks.

END