Hi gang, I have had a lot of IP send me email saying they can not deliver KAR cuz the box is unavailable, too full, unknown and etc. I mailed out 3 QSL cards telling them and got one reply. I mailed out 8 letters and got 3 back saying moved and left no forwarding address and one saying he was no longer on the internet, I checked the FCC data base and found they were still using the old address and the other 6 have not replied. I will have to delete those who IP tells me they can not make the delivery 3 times in 30 days. I hope those full email boxes are not full cuz someone is not well.

I received a request from Allen G Pitts, W1AGP Media & PR Manager at ARRL Hq requesting permission to publish the KAR special of KØNK and his group presenting ham radio in the Olathe’s Meadow Lane School on the National PR reflector. YEP, I said YES!!!

Hi Orlan, in your next Kansas news could you include a link to "Wheat State Wireless Association/Miami County Delta 4 ARES". I am the club secretary and the members wanted me to get the link location out to other hams. Link address is: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wswa/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wswa/)

Thanks, Terry Reim, WA0DTH

**NWS Storm Spotter Training**
2/28/08 from 7 to 9 pm.
NWS Storm Spotter Training
Johnson County, KS
Blue Valley North West High School,
Performing Arts Center
13260 Switzer,
Overland Park, Ks
Mike Costello, KB0ISQ
Mcostello@jocogov.org

Thanks to Larry's List, w0aib

**Ham making his own vacuum tube.**
[http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2008/01/make_your_own_vaccum_tube.html](http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2008/01/make_your_own_vaccum_tube.html)  
<Snippet from Larry's List>

The **Kickapoo QRP ARC** (Leavenworth) will be operating its QRP special event station for the fourth year from Weston Bend State Park. We will have both CW and SSB on 20M and 40M; higher bands if conditions permit.

Freeze Your Keys special event
Club call - W0EBB
Saturday, February 9, 2008
8:00 am - 4:00 pm CST
Weston Bend State Park, MO
QSL cards are available. See the February QST or the ARRL web site for QSL info.
Visitors are welcome. Come in the main entrance, pass the park HQs (on your right), continue to the four-way stop, and look to your right. You should see us at the picnic shelter. We’ll have an APRS object (FYK) posted for those who are suitably equipped. Talk-in is on 145.330-.
72/73, Mike K0MDS

◆ This is a terrific interview of Allen, the Media and PR Manager, ARRL, by Talk Zone about amateur radio. <http://www.talkzone.com/archive.asp?aid=11138
<Snipped from Larry's List?>

◆ Dear WARC & Tec-Ni-Chat members;
This email is to inform you that the December 2007 "Grounded Grid" is available on-line. Use this link: http://www.warc1.org/ then using the menu on the left side of the page, click on the word "Grid". Select the month of January 2008.
Or, to skip the web site and go directly to the "Grounded Grid" directly, use this link: http://warc1.org/grid/2008-01.pdf
There is no January General Meeting. The 75th Annual Banquet for Officers installation is January 12, 2008 at 6:00p.m. and the Kansas Masonic Home, Maple and Seneca in the Banquet Hall.
Season's Greetings and Safe and Happy Holidays to all;
Kent Stutzman, KB0RWI
Grounded Grid Editor
Wichita Amateur Radio Club
grid@warc1.org
http://www.warc1.org

◆ Our Kansas Section News (KSN) has had over 1500 hits in the last 30 days. I hope UR one of those. Click http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=KS and ratchet up the numbers.

◆ Keep up with the world of ham radio, CLICK http://www.arrl.org/
73, Orlan w0oyh UR KAR ed and ARRL Ks Ast. Section Mgr. & KAR ed
Our Kansas Section News (KSN) has had over 1300 hits in the last 30 days. I hope UR one of those. Click http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=KS and ratchet up the numbers.

◆ Keep up with the world of ham radio. CLICK http://www.arrl.org/
73, Orlan w0oyh UR KAR ed and ARRL Ks Ast. Section Mgr. & KAR ed
ARRL KS SECTION MANAGER - Ron KB0DTI
Feb 2 - Mine Creek Amateur Radio Club - Mine Creek Winterfest Hamfest in the LaCygne, KS Community Building on Broadway, 9:00 a. m. - 1:00 p. m.
Free Admission - Tables - $10.00
Main Prize to be determined - Hourly Prizes
(Tickets —$1.00 each or 6 for $5.00)
For More Information Contact: Ron (913) 757-3758, e-mail: kb0dti@arrl.net
Talk-in: 147.285+
Take US 69 to K152 and go West 5 miles to town. Or take K7 Hwy to K152 and go East 8 miles to town. Turn North on Broadway. US 69 Hwy. is now 4 lane all the way from KC to LaCygne Exit and from Ft. Scott to Prescott. 40 minutes South of Kansas City shopping.
That's Ron's home town
==================================
For more from Ron and lots of new photos. CLICK http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=KS
Ron also makes him self available to the Kansas hams on the Kansas HF nets. You will even find him as the Net Control Station on the Weather Net at 6 PM on 3920 kHz several times a month. He is available to all on the Kansas Side-band Net daily at 5:30 PM on 3920 kHz. You will also find him on QKS the ARRL Ks CW net at 7 & 10 PM daily on 3547 kHz. All of our SMs in the past have made them selves available to Ks hams this way on all three nets. At one time it was the only way to send our monthly reports to the SM. 73, ed
Ron KB0DTI
ARRL KS SECTION MANAGER

ARRL KS SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR - Bob K0BXF

From the desk of K0BXF----ARRL SEC KS
Only 13 EC Zones reporting activity this month with 90 net sessions, 695 QNI and 27 QTC. RACES had 7 counties represented on the monthly net Greenwood, Mitchell, Montgomery, Shawnee, Johnson, Phillips Neosho and Riley counties were there.
Army MARS reported 523 Man hours of activity with 1428 messages originated.
Time for annual reports to be completed for the year 2007. Let us not forget. Any one interested in involvement of a state ARES training net? Let me hear from you, especially if you want to be a part of the setup operation. Hope you all had a good past year and are planning on a better more active new year ahead. As always your suggestions for improvements are always encouraged. Our SM says 2008 is great. Let us help him make it that way, Printable Ks ARES map. CLICK http://www.cenkares.org/

73, Bob Summers K0BXF ARRL Ks Section Emergency Coordinator Bob can be found on the 3920 kHz Kansas nets at 5:30 PM. From the desk of K0BXF----ARRL SEC KS

ARRL K S A S T. S E C T I O N M A N A G E R "Y o u t h" - E m i l y K C 0 P T L

kc0ptl@arrl.net

KANSAS STATE RACES OFFICER - Joseph WDØDMV

I don’t have anything this month as I did not call the Net in Dec. and No one was heard in Jan when I called it. The RACES Net meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm Local time on 3940 KHz.

73 Joseph WDØDMV
State RACES Officer Proud to be a Ham
wd0dmv@arrl.net

The RACES Net meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. Joseph can be found on the 3920 kHz at 5:30 PM and as the Net Control Station on Wed evenings.
NEWS FLASH==The MO-KAN Division of SATERN now has it's own club callsign: KSØSA

Our SATERN leaders are currently working on guidelines for our rapid response teams. The objective is to have teams in each ARES District. The SATERN Teams will follow the same guidelines as ARRL has setup for ARES MAT Teams. We will adapt our requirement for teams to have the proper emergency radio equipment to support The Salvation Army functions -- canteens and a base station. We would welcome any lessons learned from other leaders who have been operating a rapid response team operation in the past.

Our lessons learned during the Kansas City tornados and in Greensburg is one fact -- APRS is a very important tool that really brings the SATERN operation to perfection. Due to the mobile operation of the canteens...moving frequently or roving...trying to meet up with a canteen can be extremely challenging. In Greensburg there were no street signs for the first week as was also the problem with North Kansas City during the tornados.

Complicating this factor is our volunteers operating the canteens, so well as, SATERN members are normally from another area and unfamiliar with the location. The canteen who has APRS can be found by the delivery vehicle who also has APRS -- giving us unequaled assistance finding that roving canteen who just ran out of water. By also having a base APRS station setup at the SATERN Command Center, The Salvation Army and incident personnel can better understand what areas have been covered and also know when they are returning to the warehouse. It can also help assist the canteen driver when it is required to go to a specific location. If you have APRS equipment, we need your support during a disaster. We have a SATERN APRS net where you can checkin on a weekly basis. We would like to encourage anyone to participate. Just send the message 'SATERN Net check in' to N0MTC and Larry will add you to the weekly list. Any APRS connection will work.

For more information contact Larry Gunther N0MTC, Kansas Division SATERN Net Coordinator,
EMAIL:
N0MTC@kc.rr.com

With the change in license structure many of our members have been able to upgrade
allowing them HF privileges, however many members are still dealing with antenna restrictions. In an effort to communicate with "all" our members [and ARES members] throughout our division, we have initiated an ECHOLINK net. During a disaster ECHOLINK can be used to talk directly with Division EDS Headquarters in Kans City, MO. We started this some time ago on an irregular basis. This past year Darren Martin N0MZW has made it possible for us to have ECHOLINK checkins during our Kansas City 2meter net on the FIRST TUESDAY of each month at 7:30pm. This has also helped those members in remote areas to communicate with other members across the division. We would encourage anyone to participate, you can connect to N0MZW-L or to node number 306860. We will use this particular net for important division announcements and information for members. For more information or help using Echolink contact Darren Martin N0MZW, Kansas City Metro SATERN Coordinator, Email: N0MZW@yahoo.com

I certainly hope you have a very blessed year in 2008. Hopefully the disasters in Kansas will be fewer and our weather will give us an opportunity to spend lots of time with our family. If you really want to serve during a disaster -- SATERN is where you need to be! If you have portable APRS equipment -- we need YOU! If you have any questions, contact me.

June Jeffers KB0WEQ  
KS ARRL DEC - Liaison to The Salvation Army  
KS & Western MO Division S.A.T.E.R.N. Coordinator  
Gardner, KS 66030 [Johnson County]  
Home: 913-856-8674  
Email reply: KSSATERN@kc.rr.com  
WEBSITE: http://home.kc.rr.com/saternkansas

QKS - THE ARRL KS CW TFC NET OF THE NTS:  
Net operated daily at 7 and 10 pm on 3547 kHz. 7 pm is the out going tfc into the NTS system and incoming at 10 pm. You are welcome to check in with or without tfc. Our manager is James, NBØZ I am the NCS on M, F & S at 10:00 PM

GREAT WEB SITES:  
<http://www.angelfire.com/weird2/jerome/pub/kc.txt>  
http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=vBGIdf0VjQ4  
http://www.kptv.com/weatheralert/14776224/detail.html

SILENT KEYS:  
Dr. Hampton W. “Tony” Shirer, W0RZF, 1924 - 2007 Lawrence  

Memorial services for Dr. Hampton W. “Tony” Shirer, 83, Lawrence, will be at 10 a. m. Monday at Trinity Episcopal Church in Lawrence. Inurnment will be in Trinity Episcopal Church Columbarium.  

Dr. Shirer died Sunday, Dec. 9, 2007, at his home.  
He was born Aug. 8, 1924, in Newton, Mass., the son of Hampton F. and Pauline Haynes Shirer. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Washburn University in 1945 and a
medical degree from Kansas University in 1948.

Dr. Shirer served in the U. S. Navy in the Medical Corps. He taught at KU from 1955 to 1961. He worked in biomedical research for General Motors Research Labs in Pontiac, Mich., from 1961 to 1964. He was then a professor at KU, where he taught cardiopulmonary physiology and biomedical instrumentation, from 1964 until he retired in 1991.

He was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Lawrence, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Friends of the Lawrence Public Library, Douglas County Amateur Radio Club and American Radio Relay League. He was a past president of the American Heart Association, Kansas affiliate, and also served on the board of directors for the American Heart Association.


Survivors include a son, Hampton N., State College, Pa.; three daughters, Virginia S. and Louise J. Shirer, both of Lawrence, and Carolyn H. Boyd, Lake Quivira; and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, the Rev. Marie E. Shirer, in 2002.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society or Lawrence Humane Society, sent in care of Warren-McElwain Mortuary in Lawrence.

Dear Orlan:


Thanks for all of your time and effort to produce a great newsletter for all Kansas Hams. Your work is really appreciated.

73,
Ken Blair, KCØGL

Donald Allen Weaver - K0JPW

WEAVER, Donald Allen "Gordo" Weaver, age 86, of Osawatomie, Kansas, died Thursday, December 27, 2007, at the Olathe Medical Center in Olathe, Kansas. Donald, or "Gordo", as his brother named him, was born October 29, 1921, in Osawatomie. He was the oldest of four children of Harley Dencel and Grace Tenevra Jones Weaver. He grew up and graduated from Osawatomie High School with the Class of 1939. He worked for the Graphic during and just after high school. He earned his associate's degree from Independence Community College in Independence, Kansas. He served in the U. S. Army with the 101st Signal Battalion in the Asiatic Pacific Theater during World War II. He received two bronze stars for his service in the southern Philippines. After World War II, he lived in California and Nevada, as well as other places, before starting to work for The Kansas City Star as a typesetter and then in
computers. He retired after 35 years in 1981. He was married at age 47 to Mary Charlotte (Newlan) White. He was a member of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus, Elk Lodge #921, and the VFW, all of Osawatomie. He was an amateur radio operator (K0JPW), active in civil defense. He also was a member of the International Typographical Union, and acted as a storm spotter. Don was preceded in death by his parents, his stepson Darrell White, his sister Barbara Cedeno, and his brother Lawrence Elwood "Buck" Weaver. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Mary of the home; one stepson, Barry White of Welda, Kansas; one stepdaughter, Penney Steiger of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma; one sister, Irene Wikle of Lee's Summit, Missouri; seven grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; other relatives and friends. Services will be held at 10 a. m. Monday, December 31, 2007, at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Osawatomie, with burial in the Osawatomie Cemetery with military honors. In state will be after 1 p. m. Sunday with rosary prayers at 2 p. m., followed by visitation from 2:30 until 4 p.m., at the Eddy-Birchard Funeral Home in Osawatomie. Memorials may be made to St. Philip Neri Catholic Church. Published in the Kansas City Star on 12/29/2007.
◆ KØJPW -- Don Weaver, Osawatomie
W9YNL - Don Thomas, Topeka
KB0EC - Scott Kohr, formerly of Salina
WØRZF - Hampton "Tony" Shirer, Lawrence
N0ISS - George Brannan, Wichita
KFOR - Eugene Benzing, Shawnee
WØNSW - Milo "Mac" McNall Jr., Topeka,

FROM AROUND THE STATE:

Good afternoon, Orlan!
Hope everyone is staying warm. I've been on tour with my former employer the past four weekends with train expos in the scale model railroad hobby, which is his hobby. Everything is going great here in Fort Scott.
Dennis, W0HL, has asked me to inform anyone that would like to use the repeater at Nevada, MO to do so. It is an open repeater. It identifies his call sign in CW. Frequency is 145.450 - output. Please use it with kind consideration of all amateur rules and regulations as found in the FCC's part 97.
I have enclosed a signature ad at the end of this email in reference to the scale model railroad hobby. Remember, amateur radio has kept it's close relationship with railroads all throughout the USA in past history. Take care!

Merry Christmas!
73s, from Keith, WBØQDE

SEK Hobby Supply
PO Box 631 2210 S. Main St
Ft. Scott, KS 66701 Ft. Scott, KS 66701
For information on model railroad hobby supplies
call Don Banwart at 1 (620) 223- 5190
FAX (620) 223-6955
Hi Orlan,

A few sharp eyed hams are likely to notice in the January 2008 QST page 93, the announcement of a new book relative to Amateur Radio titled "The World of Amateur Radio, 1901-1950: A Social History".

The hams who recognize the famous photo of Marshall and Loretta Ensor in the farmhouse radio shack will wonder how it is that their photo, became used on the cover of this hard back 281 page book.

The cover photo is the one that was mailed out to all who requested "a shot of the station there...", and many more that went out along with a W9BSP or W9UA QSL card for years. I thought an explanation is in order.

Back in 2006 I was contacted by professor emeritus Richard A. Bartlett of Florida State University. He had become aware of the Ensor Museum by discovering the Marshall Ensor Memorial Org. Club web site. He told me that in researching for the book he was writing he'd come to understand that the Ensor brother and sister team played a part in contributing to our country's welfare by the earning of the 4th and last Paley award back in 1940. He was also searching for any photos from long ago that depicted women hams active in radio communication.

Of course it was my pleasure to comply with several photos of not only the Ensors but others from the archives. This nice man was not a ham but grew up in California from a young age sharing the upstairs bedroom of his older brother Forrest, W6OWP, who kept Richard
entertained in the bedroom ham shack back in the 20s and 30s.
Forrest, I was told died later in 2006 after getting to read the manuscript before being published. I was told that Forrest liked it but wished it had more about the nuts and bolts of the hobby.
The museum has a donated copy to show on your next visit. Also we hope to have completed an expanded display of Hallicrafters radios when we open in May.
73 to all,
Larry Woodworth, W0HXS
Ensor Museum Manager
If you can visit the Ensor Park and Museum, just 5 minutes South of central Olathe but haven't, do it now and see a most interesting and original flashback to the mid-1900's. Our motto "SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT" is true. A site map, Ensor GPS coordinates, and much more can be seen on the website at www.w9bsp-w9ua.org
Larry Woodworth WØHXS
Ensor Park and Museum Manager
Past Pres. - MEMO  <snipped from the Jo Co RAC Feedback.

HA - HA - HA - HA - HA

THE COMPUTER SWALLOWED GRANDMA

The computer swallowed grandma.
Yes, honestly its true!
She pressed 'control' and 'enter'
And disappeared from view.

It devoured her completely,
The thought just makes me squirm.
She must have caught a virus
Or been eaten by a worm.

I've searched through the recycle bin
And files of every kind;
I've even used the Internet,
But nothing did I find.

In desperation, I asked Google
My searches to refine.
The reply from him was negative,
Not a thing was found 'online.'

So, if inside your 'Inbox,'
My Grandma you should see,
Please 'Copy','Scan' and 'Paste' her
And send her back to me.

This is a tribute to all the Grandmas who have been fearless and learned to use the Computer...... .. They are the greatest!!!
We do not stop playing because we grow old;  
We grow old because we stop playing.

NEVER Be The First To Get Old!  
Beware the man who only has one gun. He probably knows how to use it!

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:**
Here are three interesting web sites:

= ========== 

From KC0YDZ:  
<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/12/19/100/?nc=1>

= ========== 

From K0UAA:

From time to time you send out information about Websites pertaining to the early days of radio and associated topics. Here is a URL to something some of your readers might enjoy.  
<http://earlyradiohistory.us/index.html>

= ========== 

From KA0VXR:  
Large file - loads slowly. Dream!  
<http://www.kkn.net/dayton2006/K9LTN.pdf>

= ========== 

♦ The greatest threat to global cyber security today, according to Internet Security Systems researcher Josh Corman, may be your mother's computer.

Or more precisely, the collected computers of all the world's mothers. Along with millions of other out-of-date and unsecured PCs strung together by the Internet--what Corman calls "the leper colony"--those machines represent a combined mass of computing power responsible for most of the Net's spam e-mails, much of its click fraud, and the vicious "denial of service" attacks that can knock sites offline and even destroy online businesses altogether.  
[http://tinyurl.com/396oap](http://tinyurl.com/396oap)

--

John n0ei

No Microsoft nor Apple products were used in the preparation or transmission of this message.

The EULA sounds like it was written by a team of lawyers who want to tell me what I can't do. The GPL sounds like it was written by a human being, who wants me to know what I can do.

♦

Barry, KC0YDZ, sent this web site, which most likely, will be of interest to many of you:  
<http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2007/14dec_excitement.htm>

73,  
Larry, W0AIB
Wonderful! I’m tried getting high school kids interested without much luck - obviously works much better with the younger ones that are not so captivated with cell phones, iP0Ds, etc. - Jim AA0PP

Hi Orlan, I hope you are missing all the bad weather. Thanks for forwarding this news item; I’ve passed it along here. I see there was some coverage in 2003 also; it’s good to hear the club is still actively promoting amateur radio to the schools. [http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/07/10/1/#Ham](http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/07/10/1/#Ham) I would like to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas!
73, Chuck, KØBOG

Orlan, I am wondering what you know about the recent Ice storm in Kansas and Oklahoma. LOTS of damage and in fact I lost two antennas to the weight of about three quarts of an inch of ice. Brother Ross AA0MM in Holton is on generator power as I have been since monday. Lucky I have a good generator. I am thinking this comes close to an emergency for a lot of people that are in cold dark houses. The cost to power companies and government agencies is going to be HUGE. I know since I do work for FEMA on a part time basis.Take care my friend and stay in touch. John kf0in

Orlan: You’re still looking dapper, as always. Thanks for all you do for Kansas Amateur Radio. Merry Christmas and God Bless You.
73 de Rick, KF4LM

Orlan, I always like receiving your greetings in the form of a Christmas tree. A Merry Christmas to you and yours, keep up the good work.
73, Chuck, KØBOG
ARRL - The national association for Amateur Radio

My kind of card. Thank you very much and God bless you and yours.
Jack and Hanna Hela Jack Roney

ORLAN & ALL: JUST WANT TO WISH ALL OF YOU A WONDERFUL & BLESSED CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR.
HAD NO POWER IN ELLSWORTH FOR 3 DAYS, DOWNED TREE BRANCHES. GOT THAT TAKEN CARE OF LAST WEEK. THEN SATURADY 13" S OF SNOW. ROY LOST A LOT OF TREE BRANCHES & WE HAD SERVICE INTERMITTENTLY IN SALINA. 10" S IN SALINA.
WE ARE VERY HAPPY THAT ROY IS ON THE MEND AFTER TIME IN HOSPITAL FROM SURGERY & GOING TO QUITE A FEW DR. APPOINTMENTS. ROY IS ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF & GET OUT & GO MORE. HURRAH FOR US BOTH. HOPE TO SPEND THE HOLIDAYS IN ELLSWORTH.
HELEN & ROY

Barry, KC0YDZ, thought you might be interested in this:
Will the traditional junk box disappear? Is it possible that the average ham will get organized? [http://www.instructables.com/id/Ultimate-Parts-Storage](http://www.instructables.com/id/Ultimate-Parts-Storage) I have lots of empty three ringed binders which I don't need any more.

I laughed till my sides hurt, concerning "hamfest descriptions". Truer words were never written. Of course, the article about "OJ" being dead was not received well out here, as one of our leading AM guys (who also runs the Collins AM net) is none other than KØOJ, and I'm
pretty sure he's not dead... perhaps a little low on sensitivity, but not dead.
And there's a couple more: "Controls move very smoothly" (yeah, all the pots are broken inside, and the shafts are twisted off)
"Very Stable" - (that's cause it weighs 182 lbs, so it ain't goin' anywhere)
"Non Smoking environment" (yeah, except for the power transformer)
"I forgot the manual" (Yeah, you'll have to fight BAMA to download one, and then you won't be able to read it)
"Never run Mobile" (yeah, but it went to every Field Day, sat in the rain and mud, and had beer spilled on top of it)
Best 73 I FWD the JoCo RAC newsletter,"Feedback" to Tom
Tom - WØEAJ "see Tom's Keystrokes in the KAR newsletter"

Tom WØEAJ
♦ The center of the United States.http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2008/01/02/2/?nc=1
♦ Here's a British site "Vintage Military Amateur Radio Society". Restoration, Use, Events, etc... of various British, Canadian, and US Military gear, as used by amateurs.
http://www.vmarsmanuals.co.uk/

Tom WØEAJ
Tom's Key-Strokes - WØEAJ Denver, Co.
Displaced Ks neighbor

A Variac is a VARIable AC transformer... i.e. "autotransformer". It's a way of adjusting the AC voltage to whatever you're powering, so that you don't hit the equipment with the full 117vac in one shot. In the case of older electronic gear, one connects the Variac TO the plug in AC source, and takes the output (usually selectable for INPUT voltage or MORE THAN INPUT voltage) to the load... i.e receiver, et. al. When I first work on an old receiver, I do the following:
1. Remove ALL of the tubes
2. Bring up the Variac S-L-O-W-L-Y, watching the AC Voltage, AND the AC Current! (the voltage should come up, without very much current (amperes) draw at all)
3. Reduce the Variac to zero again.
4. Insert ALL of the tubes EXCEPT for the rectifier (5Y3, 5R4, 5U4, etc...), which you LEAVE OUT!
5. Now advance the Variac, watching the meters for the same. It should draw more current, as it's lighting up the filaments of all of the tubes, EXCEPT for the rectifier (thus, NO B+ voltage), but not too much - a half-amp to 1.5 amps is typical.
6. If all has gone well, thus far... leave the tubes going for a while... then bring the variac back down. NOTE: As the old style electrolytic and paper capacitors GO BAD after time, this is why we've been doing what we've been doing ("Black Beauty" capacitors, as used in many models of Hallicrafters and in the Hammarlund SP-600's are especially insideous)... the idea is to check out the transformer for excessive current draw (usually caused by internal moisture or turns-shorting), the filament string of the other tubes for the same, and to ensure that there are NO direct-shorts in the power supply. Obviously, if the CURRENT goes up faster than the VOLTAGE, you have a problem.

Now for the REAL TEST... IF (and only IF) you're confident that the radio is in fairly good condition, and that you know how to watch for excessive current draw...
7. Ensure the Variac is at Zero... insert the rectifier tube... bring up the AC voltage to the radio V-E-R-Y S-L-O-W-L-Y, keeping an EAGLE EYE on the current meter, until you've reached 10% of the normal voltage... i.e 12 vac.... leave it for about a half-hour... now up to 20%... or 24 vac... same time story... keep repeating these steps until the input voltage is at FULL input, and let the radio cook for a time... all the while KEEPING AN EYE ON THE CURRENT METER! [ Voltage is not the full story - the current is what will tip you off to a possible bad capacitor or shorted transformer winding ] This is roughly how to use a Variac for best results - something to keep in mind is that one side of the Variac is ALWAYS HOT... that is, it's connected to one side of the AC line all the time... most good techs ALWAYS use what's called an "isolation transformer" between the Variac and the gear that's being worked on... why? The isolation transformer is a 1:1 ratio unit, so whatever you put IN, is what you get OUT... but... you remove the direct connection to the AC line, which can ruin your whole day. I'd hate to admit how many burn marks there are on my clip-leads because of this tiny little fact!

In addition - I built a small box, with a full-wave bridge rectifier module in it... to that plugs in a 30,000 mfd @ 150 vdc capacitor (with a 10K ohm bleeder resistor across it) to the output... what this gives me, is a variable DC supply that will give reasonably filtered DC voltage from zero to 150vdc (the capacitor smooths out the ripples, and "boosts" the output to about 1.2 or 1.3 times the input DC voltage (not regulated). Oh, but always remember to let the cap bleed off before connecting anything else. That voltage sticks around for a while, and you could find youself putting 90vdc to a 12vdc light bulb.

You'll Need:
Box, big enough to mount the Variac in AC Amps Meter (same range as your Variac... 0-5 aac, 0-10 aac, etc...)
AC Voltage Meter 0-150 vac is recommended Isolation Transformer (rated for your Variac's capacity)
I installed a standard single AC jack on the side of mine, along with a pair of banana jacks. This gives you output, not only to a standard cord, but is useful for powering up stuff that requires other voltages via plug in leads, like 6v and 12v bulbs... 24vac relays... checking out...
the "brown out" level for equipment that has cutoffs at about 90 vac, or with the DC setup... now you have (in my case) a 5 amp Variable DC supply that runs from zero to about 145 vdc. My Variac is THE MOST useful tool in my shop, and I use the heck out of it. It's not foolproof, and I have had a few "surprises", but in my estimation, it's INDISPENSABLE. Hope this helps.

Tom
WØEAJ

◆ The way it used to be... of course, DASHBOARDS were made of Steel back then.
http://www.qcwa.org/w3zwi_mobile.htm
◆ Somehow, the message never seems to get old.
http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~postr/bapix/HaliCmas.htm
◆ This is a Christmas Letter I put together a few years back; since then, there have been losses in the family, and ultimately, the sale of the "home place" farm, where the family and portions of it, gathered for 56 years, since 1951. The story is a tale of a young "man" (and I use the term loosely) of 18, coming home from Navy recruit training at Christmas time... the images are still bright and fresh - all the while similar stories STILL play out. So, all take a moment out of our razzle-dazzle daze [sic], and just sit down in a favorite chair and THINK... about a simpler time.

Tom
◆

A story I sent to the "30's & 40's" radio station here - the GM is my friend... the story is true.

It's the old chief swabbie again. This Christmas will be a bit tough - I lost my Uncle Bill this April, a retired Naval Aviator, who inspired me to do nearly everything in my life that was productive, successful, and led to my various careers. As a result of his passing, my other Uncle had to sell the family farm, a place which had 56 years of history for me and my family (since I was 7 years old in 1951).

As I was helping Uncle Ed clean out the old house, now chilly from lack of heaters, I found a treasure... a family bible; not just ANY family bible, but one that was first owned by my Great, Great Grandfather in the land, formerly known as Austria, in an area which became Czechoslovakia (yeah, I know how to spell it!).

Shortening up an amazing story, this bible was smuggled out of Czechoslovakia in 1964, as the communists (deliberately NOT capitalized) prohibited ANYBODY from owning one. This old book was kept wrapped in oilcloth, and hidden beneath A MANURE PILE, to prevent it's discovery - an event that surely would have resulted in my Grandmother's relatives from being imprisoned, put to death, or both.

The book was somehow gotten out of the country, delivered to California, thence to a woman who tracked down my Grandmother in a tiny farm-town in Kansas, and then sent to her. It's about 5" thick, and completely written in the "high Czech" language (I can read a bit), and ultimately will be donated to the Matthew Stach museum in the Carolinas (M. Stach was the FIRST missionary in Greenland). We're related to the Stach's, so it seems fitting. NOTE: The very first school in Kansas was built by a Stach (it still sits on the grounds of the museum in Topeka, near I-70)

Now, as we comfortably sit down at our tables this Christmas, and are filled with the love of
our families, traditions, and the safety of a glorious country, where we need not fear... think of a simple book - spirited out of a hostile land, under pain of death, and know to what ends FREEDOM inspires those who truly treasure it.

Happy Birthday Jesus - thanks for the inspiration.
Tom Dailey, former USN


♦

Snap, Crackle... Pop. If you're old enough, you immediately associate these words with Kellog's Rice Krispies (™) (yeah, with a "K"). But... if you're a ham, well these words take you to just about any receiver on any band (unless it's FM). My alternate introduction to $S, C, & P$ was with a crystal set; a wonder of the neo-modern world, enjoyed by multitudes for years. At first, I only heard of them, then saw designs in Popular Mechanics - I endeavoured to look through enough trash-barrels in KCMO, to find an old coil of wire, a thrown-out transformer, or maybe some REAL wire to wind the coil with. The real stopping point was to find a pair of 2000 ohm headsets... GEE! Two Thousand Ohms? My meager mind at the age of 7 had difficulty comprehending the difference between Volts and Ohms, as Mr. Ohm was not yet, my friend, and I envisioned 2000 ohms as a "whole bunch", not easily obtainable by a boy of seven, and no doubt Very Dangerous.

To my rescue, came my Uncle Ben. Ben was the serious Uncle; in the Navy since 1941, Ben had actually gone ashore WITH the Marines on Guadacanal. He was an aircraft mechanic... they would need them RIGHT AWAY, so he went along. One of the things he brought back was a set of Telephonics 2000 ohm earphones (we didn't call 'em headsets, back then), with leather enclosing the spring steel bands across the head. He told me that they came out of either a PBY Catalina or TBM Avenger... he couldn't remember which. I begged, I cajoled, I prostrated myself at his figurative feet... lamenting my need for "only a pair of earphones". The begging worked - I was presented with these lovelies (which I STILL have), and it was off to the races. I recall putting them on, pretending I was John Wayne in the Flying Tigers, flying a Curtiss P-40 Warhawk and shooting down "japs" in trails of flaming smoke and debris. It was then I happened to accidently brush the tip of the 1/4" phone plug on a metal surface, and heard "static"... the mysterious $S, C, & P$. Unbeknownst to me, it was a simple case of discovering the principle of the ANTENNA... still, it was awfully cool, and neat to demonstrate to my friends.

Ultimately, my Uncle Bill (another Navy aircraft mechanic) gave me a piece of galena ore in a slug of lead (Joila' - a CRYSTAL - Huzzah!), a roll of wire (he felt sorry for me), some REAL Fahnstock Clips (crystal sets cannot possibly work without the use of Fahnstock Clips, can they?) and a mica capacitor of some uknown value (I hadn't learned about "Bad Boys.... etc." yet). I located a piece of wood, my Dad's wood screw collection, and set to work. Winding the coil, entailed many, many turns of No. 24 wire on a Quaker Oat's box (they were round - guess they still are)... how to perform this act? I finally tied the wire onto a doorknob, and walking WAY OUT to the back of the yard, I walked back toward the doorknob, winding as I went. This went well, until Mom INSISTED on knowing what the heck I was doing with a wire on the door - I screamed "Don't take it off!", as Mom insisted on everything in it's place, and WIRE definately did NOT belong on doorknobs, at our house. I prevailed, and by some mystery, I actually didn't have much wire left over at the end of my required number of turns.
The box & wire was then painted with shellac, and left to dry. Only a couple of bugs stuck to it, and they were easy to pick off. The "slider" or movable tap (if you will!) was made from a piece of a Strongheart dog-food can. I cut the snot out of myself, folding the edges over, and it was too soft, anyway... so finally used a piece of that springy steel banding that you find on packing crates - Ahhh, *Municipal Trash Collection Day* in KC MO during 1950 was a wonderful thing for a boy of 7 years.

All went well, until I required a "cat's whisker". For those of you who do NOT know what contrivance this might be, it is a relatively sharp piece of wire, set into some manner of holder that enables you to move the point around on the surface of the piece of lead ore, to find the "sweet spot". (what you're actually doing is finding the point where it acts as a diode-detector) Alas! I had NO "cat's whisker"... heck, the closest cat was on the farm, and that was in Topeka! Back to the Popular Mechanics, and I was guided to one of Mom's safety-pins... ONE of the greatest wonders of the World. Enough bending (I used up 3 before I got one bent the right way) and pushing, then screwing it down in the circuit. I held my breath, I moved the slider on the coil, I "adjusted" the "cat's whisker"... nuthin!

Careful examination of the "circuitry" revealed zero - no mistakes, I could find, anyway. Finally, I asked the Grand Wizeer... the Knower of All Things... He Who Knew All... my Dad. Knowing "diddly" about radio, He perused my drawings, he investigated my "construction"... he read the Popular Mechanics article, and then simply pointed to the coil - "Isn't this winding supposed to be hooked to those pieces, and this winding to your antenna and ground?" Gad, how amazing! What a total droll I felt like - indeed, a blithering idiot with a drool cup. I loosened the screws, placed the appropriate wire endings where they were supposed to be... harumphhh... and there it was! KMBC 980 - *Wow, Gee, Oh Man, Golly, Neat-o*, and whatever else we used to say in exclamation, back 57 years ago. It was SO loud you could hear it across the room! ...and it was FREE... nobody could yell at me for "using electricity up". This went well, until it was found that I preferred listening to "The Lone Ranger", "Gangbusters", "Lash LaRhue", "Hopalong Cassidy", "Sky King", and the myriad of other radio shows that transported me to far-off places. Schoolwork came first - Dad would take the earphones, and only give them back when I'd "earned it"...... rats! Another modern method of punishment for my erring ways.

My antenna was the left-over wire, wrapped around everything I could reach (which wasn't very high back then). I finally discovered that the heating ductwork made a very good antenna, and it didn't involve my Mother's admonition "Arghhhhh! More Wire! - That radio junk will never make you a penny!" (I LOVE to remind her of that statement... to this day). I made better-and-better crystal sets, learned to abbreviate crystal with "xtal" (so I could look very cool), and ultimately scored a longer cord for my headphones (aircraft phones come with a pretty short cord at the helmet - they plug into longer ones in the cockpit and other positions) (I graduated - no longer did we call 'em "earphones"... they were now "HEADphones"). Then came a 1-tube radio, broadcast DX'ing (my Rushton grade School buddies admit to doing it too), and finally the day that I heard a guy on top of WDAF, saying "CQ CQ CQ this is WØQQ WØQQ in Mission, Kansas. calling and by". By this time we lived in Mission, Ks. I rigged the best (and smallest) xtal-set on my bicycle, and rode around, until I heard him really loud, and then saw his antenna farm... Ohhhhhhhhh it was beautiful... I'd finally met a "HAM"... thanks to Mertin Reeves WØQQ (SK) - 5412 Sycamore Drive / MISSION, Carl Bruns - KØGOZ (SK), Stan Linder - KØVLZ (SK), Eddie O'Dell - KØJLP (SK) and the ham station at Shawnee-Mission North HS - WØZLK (SK), I became one, myself.
...and it all started with a piece of lead ore - something my Father always alluded to, that I had too much of, in the dorsal vicinity of my trousers.

**Straight Key Night lives** - *this year with a Multi-Elmac AF-67 "Transciter", and a BC-348 receiver.*

73 - Tom

♦️ Orlan,

This site gives links to many different brands, models, and types of equipment, both amateur and commercial. Lots of Heath, Hammarlund, Hallicrafters, Zenith, etc.

http://bama.sbc.edu/free.htm

♦️

By, Duane Fischer W8DBF

I turned the knob and current flowed,
The filaments within now glowed.
I listened for those waves of short,
From foreign land, the air and port.
But what was this, a rising hum?
It louder grew and drowned all fun.

I pulled the cord and sniffed for smoke,
Those roasted bugs were not a joke!
I pulled the tubes and checked each one,
And looked around for grounds undone.
Electrolytics oozing goo,
Resistors toasted black and blue.
Insulation all dried and loose,
No holiday for this old Goose!

A cathode short or cap that fried,
The coil hummed Taps and then it died.
The knobs were loose, shafts warped with age,
Missing was the schematic page!
Dial cord was frayed, the pointer bent,
The dial lamp filament was spent.
The chassis dark with flecks of rust,
But fix this rig I knew I must.

To Internet I went with haste,
To find some help, then cut and paste.
With solder warm and tester hot,
I searched my junk for parts forgot.
With luck and coffee by the dawn,
That blasted hum would all be gone!
And then with eyes all red like beets,
I'll turn that knob and mock defeat.
Now some may think this really dumb,
But solid state is just no fun!
There's nothing like that magic glow,
That comes from vacuum radio.
So when your Halli hums so strong,
Be sure to smile and hum along!

♦ Wowzers! Did you folks participate in SKN? (Straight Key Night). It was a splendid turnout, from what I could hear. Lots of folks with VERY RUSTY fists, and a few well-lubricated ones that sounded close to keyers. One fellow I chatted with asked me if I knew "American Morse" (it's different), so I knew he was an "OM of the First Water", indeed.
I cranked up the Multi-Elmac AF-67 "transciter"; 60 watts of input (42 out) to the single 6146 tube. It sat next to the 1942 WW-II BC-348Q receiver, courtesy of the Wells-Garner corporation and my Uncle Bill, further assisted by the US Navy and a PB4Y-2 Liberator that gave it's radios away so the French could put theirs in. It's a fun receiver, but not exactly what you'd call great... kinda' broad, but that's what a Novice wanted back "in the day", when we owned maybe 3 or 4 crystals (if you were rich). Heck, you'd call "CQ", then tune THE WHOLE BAND to see if anybody called you back - Old Timers know about that. Guys with Hallicrafters S-38's and Heathkit AR-3's knew it too.
The "Q" had a crystal filter, that actually did a fairly good job of narrowing down the passband, and I always likened it to the sound of the sonar in a submarine movie from my childhood daze [sic]. ...made a few contacts with that (awfully fun), then having warmed up the 1962 SWAN 350 transceiver for about 4 hours (that's how long it takes, so you don't earn the name "swan"... for flying all over the VFO), I hooked it up to the old "L" network tuner (transmitter fooler) I'd made back in '69 - Back when I lived in a house at 41st. and Mercier in Westport (1974), I still had my SWAN 500C, and it went through the very same "L" network, so that silly old L-box has seen a few electrons go through it... this then fed a 130 foot end-fed longwire. I made several contacts with that rig. It once belonged to WØRAS (SK) / Norm Wilson of Leawood, who was my Stepdad's best buddy. I've kept it in LIKE NEW condition (I promised Norm's wife, I would), and regularly check into the Collins Collector's Net with it (just to give 'em a bad time)... they alway say it sounds good, then act surprised when I tell 'em it's a SWAN.
I copied guys using brand new ICOM 756 Pro III's, Yae-hoo FT1000 series goodies, Johnson Rangers, Valiants, B&W 5100's, home-brew transmitters from as far back as you could count, and even a Collins KW-1 (Now THERE is a transmitter). Young and Old... guys and girls... great fists and some pretty horrible ones, but everybody was out there - ham radio in it's traditional form - pure, unadulterated, non-gadgeted, with filaments and pilot LIGHTS, swinging-coil meters, and 'fluted' knobs... "wrinkle finish" and "hammertone" painted cabinets, "send/receive" switches, Dow Key relays, and getting "bit" by the voltage across cathode-keyed rigs (it hurts, and you WILL do it again... and again), a few "Benton Harbor" rigs to fill it all in, and even a Knight T-50 was heard, plus a WW-II vintage ARC-5 (both, generally known as splendid little TVI generators).
Receivers included wonders such as National NC-125's, 183D's, 300's and 303's, Hallicrafters' of all genre', Hammarlund Super-Pros, SP-600's, 110's, 180's, and a 129X as well, There was even an HRO-50; an HRO-60, and lots of old military ones. Everybody was a winner - nobody went home empty handed. Once again, the room filled with the "burned dirt" of tubes, warm
capacitor wax, phenolic switch wafers and coil forms, cooked paint, and a little ozone, if you happened to have that kind of power... (I don't).
SKN is a return to youth... and an adventure FORWARD... it's always an adventure, and always fun. Go to the next hamfest, and INVEST in a boatanchor... not only will you get something very fun, but you'll be investing in the future - looking back, enables you to see where you've been .. it makes the journey easier to where we're going.

73 es GN

Tom

Perhaps you all were not aware of my 'alternate command', after the war. Depicted here, is "The Queen" (Kathleen) assisting me with navigation, whilst I keep a weather eye out.

http://sandiegohistory.org/collections/autos/images/16744.jpg