Hi Gang, I did stay out of the hospital this last month. I had to see my cardiologist for a follow up of my heart attack. He said it was very mild, so you are stuck with me for a while longer. This issue is rather large so I will save my remarks for next time.

I do have one thing to ask of you, can anyone tell me this ham’s name, call and QTH? Looks like he is running 3 ARC-5 aircraft xmters. Please reply to w0oyh@arrl.net
◆ **WorldRadio Online** is online and ready for you to read!  [http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)

◆ Here is a web site to check out.
Orlan, Hope you get better and make sure you take it easy. That barfing and ................. is hard on a person....even at my young age.

I love your KAR report.

By the way....check out my web site at:

[http://home.swbell.net/k0wa](http://home.swbell.net/k0wa)

Lee Buller
K0WA
ex- WA0SWC
ex - WN0OWN
Former Op at W0QQQ

◆ Kansas QSO party is getting closer to the air waves. Details for the late summer operating event will be published soon.

SHARC will hold a Technician class in Lakin at the Kearney County Hospital on February 28 starting at 08:30 AM and ending around 4 PM. Lunch will be served.
Upgrade exams will also be given. The upgrades to general or extra will take place around 11 AM or any time after until we start testing the class.
For more contact Dale 620-492-1930 or email were@pld.com.

---

The date for the Kansas QSO Party is set - Aug.29th & 30th. The web site is <http://ksqsoparty.org>.

Please send out to all on your list.

Thanks

Del Sawyer, KC0SKR

◆ **Would you like a list of our ARRL Ks "ECs"** Emergency Coordinators and their counties and a printable map of Districts and Zones? Just CLICK>>>  [http://www.cenkares.org/](http://www.cenkares.org/) You will find a lot of other Ks info there so spend some time, for Kent has done a terrific job for us.

☐ Kansas Section News Click >>> [http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=KS](http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=KS)

☐ Keep up with the world of ham radio, CLICK >>>> [http://www.arrl.org/](http://www.arrl.org/)

73, Orlan wØoyh UR KAR ed and ARRL Ks Ast. Section Mgr.  w0oyh@arrl.net
Hello Midwest ARRL members,

Some noteworthy events are on the horizon. For the first time since Norfolk hosted it, there will be a Nebraska State ARRL convention thanks to K0NEB and the Lincoln ARC. This is March 21 and details are at http://www.lincolnhamfest.org/

Our division convention is once again being hosted by WB0YNX and the 3900 Club in South Sioux City IA April 17-18. This one is on the banks of the Missouri River. Details at http://www.3900club.com/mycustompage0031.htm

ARRL's Contest branch has named 2009 the Year of the State QSO Party. The popular Missouri QSO Party will be held this year on April 4-5. Operating periods are from 1800 GMT April 4th thru 0500 GMT April 5th and again beginning at 1800 GMT on April 5th thru 2400 GMT. The object of the contest is to QSO as many Missouri amateur radio stations, in as many different Missouri counties as possible.

Complete contest information is available at www.w0ma.org/mo_qso_party.htm

The Nebraska QSO Party starts 1700Z April 25 and runs one full day. Info at http://www.hdxanet/neqso/

A group is working on a Kansas QSO Party, possibly to be held in August. Stand by for details.

Patronizing these hamfests and on-air events will bring you enjoyment and add to the health of our great hobby. Spring also sees ARES and other public service activities switch from ice and snow storm concerns to convective severe weather and numerous opportunities for "___thon" communications support.

As always, thanks to Steve W0SJS, our Midwest Division webpage has items of interest to division amateurs. http://www.arrlmidwest.org/

73 Bruce KØBJ – k0bj@arrl.org
West and South part of the state is short of active ham radio operators, or at least it appears that way from the number we have signed up for ARES availability to check into the state Amateur Radio network system.

Listed below are the counties by ARES Zones that are lacking an active person serving as Emergency Coordinator.

Zone 3A Decatur, Sheridan, Thomas and Logan counties.

Zone 3D Wallace, Sherman, Rawlins, Decatur counties

Zone 3E Smith and Osborne counties. Note N0LL is reporting Smith Center activity only.

Zone 6A Gray, Haskell, Finney counties.

Zone 6B Clark, Commanche Kiowa counties.

Zone 6C Hodgeman, Pawnee, Edwards, Ford Counties.

Zone 6D Ness, Rush counties. Our District 6 is also without any one serving as District Emergency Coordinator.

Zone 5A Newton and Sedgwick counties.

Zone 5E Barber, Pratt, Kingman counties.

Zone 5F Reno

Zone 5H Rice

How about each one of you reading this report and living in any of the above mentioned Zones/counties drop me a line reference the amount of activity in each county (within your Zone) as you know of it. Somewhere out there, some of you could be our point of contact for emergency communications.

The Tornado season is upon us and we do not want to be caught short when it comes to Ham Radio representation after disaster hits.
Hi everyone. Lots of news this month about youth and ham radio.

Kansas Young Ham of the Year

As promised, here is more information about the Kansas Young Ham of the Year award.

-Nominating forms will be available on April 1st.
-The award is open to any licensed amateur radio operator age 18* or younger.
-The nominee must be a legal resident of Kansas as of the date of nomination.
-Nominees will be assessed based upon five categories: public service, leadership, technical proficiency, operating activities, and character.
-Anyone, including a family member, may nominate an operator.
-Letters of recommendation will be required. Recommenders may not be related to the nominee.

*Additional details will be in the nomination packet.

Nominations must be postmarked no later than June 15, 2009. The announcement will be made at the Kansas Section convention in August.

If your ham radio organization would like to become the permanent sponsoring club for the Kansas Young Ham of the Year award, please contact me directly.
Hiram Percy Maxim Nominations Sought

Here's more about last month's HPM announcement:

http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/03/03/10682/?nc=1

2009 Amateur Radio Newsline™ Young Ham of the Year Award

The nominating period for the 2009 Amateur Radio Newsline™ "Young Ham of the Year Award" is now open. See http://www.arnewsline.org and follow the "YHOTY" link for the nomination packet.

Submission deadline is May 30, 2009.

Kansas QSO Party

The Kansas QSO Party will have a category for youth! Watch for more details from the organizers.

ARRL Foundation Grants

If you're looking to fund an initiative, the ARRL Foundation may grant your organization its wish. From the ARRL Club News:

Amateur Radio organizations apply for grants that may range from $500 to $3000 to support projects related to Amateur Radio. Many of them are focused on introducing young people to ham radio, helping them become licensed, and getting on the air. Recent grants have been awarded to expand a fox hunting project, to expand a school radio club, to support licensing classes, and to assist museums with Amateur Radio displays. Grant guidelines, forms and instructions can be found on the web at http://www.arrl.org/.

What project can you think of that would help bring young people into the hobby?

Until next month, have a good one.

73 & 88,

Emily
KC0PTL

There's a new on-line Ham Radio magazine called Ham-Mag at http://ham.france.free.fr/crbst_17.html.

You can subscribe (it's free) by going to the website and clicking on “Subscription”. Two issues have been published so far, January and February, and both are available on-line by clicking “Past Issues”. The document is published in PDF format, which requires Acrobat Adobe/™ Reader, or equivalent.
Here it is March. Storm season is coming up on us. Remember that next week starts Severe Weather week. I hope you all are preparing for it, by taking storm spotter classes, checking your 3-Day home survival pack and rechecking those communication GO-BAGS. Might be a good time to also check those generators. I talked with Jason KSØTAG, our in State representative, about the State Amateur radio communication station. It is not up and functioning yet. He did say that the wheels were greased and turning slowly. I hope this means in the next few months the station will be in operation. Thank you for the nice number of check-ins this month. We have had the last few months a slight dry spell on numbers. Maybe with Spring coming, the numbers will increase. Hope to hear you next month. 73

The Kansas RACES Net meets every month on the first Thursday at 7:00 pm 3940 KHz

All stations are welcome.

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11 Counties 12 QNI Ø QTC

The Kansas RACES Net meets every month on the first Thursday at 7:00 pm 3940 KHz

All stations are welcome.

Joseph WDØDMV - State RACES Officer wd0dmv@arrl.net
Kansas Army MARS

Kansas Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) began training in March with MARS Region 7 in the new MARS training program, MARS 101. The on-air, interactive training course will consist of twelve weeks training.

All MARS members are expected to participate in a training net for each unit, and will complete a test by email at the end of the course. The first unit was a historical perspective on Army MARS.

MARS was organized in 1925 when the Army’s Chief Signal Officer, General Saltzman, enlisted the support of the American Radio Relay League. The service was intended to provide our country with additional communications channels, which could be used in the event of communications emergencies.

QST in December of 1925 said, “It seems to us that this affiliation is about the most important thing that ever happened to amateur radio in this country.”

Today’s MARS program features daily traffic and training nets--authorized for voice, CW, sound card mode, and Pactor. Add to that the MARS Winlink 2000 system, including up-to-date HF and VHF MARS gateways, and MARS continue to provide the United States with additional emergency communications channels that are more powerful than General Saltzman could have imagined.

Find out more about MARS at: http://www.ksarmymars.org

Kent KØWEW
AROUND THE STATE:

Orlan,

We are ready to announce the Kansas QSO Party for 2009! I drafted the following news release - and I received permission from Ron Cowan, KB0DTI (KS Section Manager) to quote him. If you would like to re-package the information in a different format or with different content, I am available for proofreading.

If I can provide more information, please contact me at 316-371-2293 and at winger5552001@yahoo.com.

Randy Wing, N0LD

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Kansas to Offer State QSO Party in August

Stations working on their Triple Play Award or Year of the State QSO Party Award will want to be on the air on Saturday, August 29th and Sunday, August 30th as Kansas will hold their first QSO Party since 2002.

"The Kansas QSO Party (KSQP) is certain to put Kansas on the map -- and hopefully off the Needed List of many a deserving amateur," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X. The 2009 contest is sponsored by the Boeing Employee Amateur Radio Society of Wichita, KS and the Santa Fe Trail ARC of Olathe, KS.

Kansas Section Manager Ron Cowan, KB0DTI, told Kutzko that interest has been high for starting the event up again. "I had many hams inquiring about the Kansas State QSO Party," Cowan said. "We are encouraging Kansas stations to "register" with us and work 20 meters in the afternoon hours. This will help to tackle the demand of the state -- and its many rare counties -- for several Amateur Radio awards, including the County Hunters, ARRL's Triple Play, and Year of the State QSO Party."

If you are a KS radio amateur or you will be active as a rover in the state of Kansas during the Kansas QSO Party - all 105 counties need to be activated! Please send an email to info@KsQSOParty.org to register your interest and document your county activation(s).

The Kansas QSO Party runs from 1400 UTC Saturday, August 29th to 0200 UTC Saturday, August 30th and from 1400 UTC Sunday, August 30th, 2009 to 2000 UTC Sunday, August 30th, 2009. Active bands will include 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2m. Complete rules and forms can be found on the Kansas QSO Party web page at http://www.ksqsoparty.org/. Don't miss your chance to work some of the rarest counties in the country -- get in on the fun of the Kansas QSO Party!

For those of you contemplating contacting your Congress-people, here are a couple of sites, first for Kansas and the second for Missouri.

<http://www.visi.com/juan/congress/cgi-bin/newseek.cgi?
  site=ctc&state=ks>

<http://www.visi.com/juan/congress/cgi-bin/newseek.cgi?
  site=ctc&state=mo>

To get other states, simply substitute that state's two letter abbreviation for the last two letters in these sites. <snipped> from "LL"
This from Jim WØEB......... Orlan

Ah, those Irish!

The French President is sitting in his office when his telephone rings.

'Hallo, Mr. Sarkozy!' a heavily accented voice said. 'This is Paddy down at the Harp Pub in County Clare, Ireland. I am ringing to inform you that we are officially declaring war on you! We voted to reject the Lisbon treaty!'

'Well, Paddy,' Sarkozy replied, 'This is indeed important news! How big is your army?'

'Right now,' says Paddy, after a moment's calculation, 'there is myself, me Cousin Sean, me next door neighbour Seamus, and the entire darts team from the pub. That makes eleven!'

Sarkozy paused. 'I must tell you, Paddy, that I have 100,000 men in my army waiting to move on my command.'

'Begoora!' says Paddy. 'I'll have to ring you back.'

Sure enough, the next day, Paddy calls again. 'Mr. Sarkozy, the war is still on. We have managed to get us some infantry equipment!'

'And what equipment would that be Paddy?' Sarkozy asks.

'Well, we have two combines, a bulldozer, and Murphy's farm tractor.'

Sarkozy sighs amused. 'I must tell you, Paddy, that I have 6,000 tanks and 5,000 armoured personnel carriers. Also, I have increased my army to 150,000 since we last spoke.'

'Saints preserve us!' says Paddy. 'I'll have to get back to you.'

Sure enough, Paddy rings again the next day. 'Mr. Sarkozy, the war is still on! We have managed to get ourselves airborne! We have modified Jackie McLaughlin's ultra-light with a couple of shotguns in the cockpit, and four boys from the Shamrock Bar have joined us as well!'

Sarkozy was silent for a minute and then cleared his throat. 'I must tell you, Paddy, that I have 100 bombers and 200 fighter planes. My military bases are surrounded by laser-guided, surface-to-air missile sites. And since we last spoke, I have increased my army to 200,000!'

'Jesus, Mary, and Joseph!' says Paddy, 'I will have to ring you back.'

Sure enough, Paddy calls again the next day. 'Top o' the mornin', Mr. Sarkozy! I am sorry to inform you that we have had to call off the war.'

'Really? I am sorry to hear that,' says Sarkozy. 'Why the sudden change of heart?'
'Well,' says Paddy, 'we had a long chat over a few pints of Guinness and packets of crisps, and .................. we decided there is no way we can feed 200,000 prisoners.'

**AROUND THE WORLD:**
Thanks Orlan.
Good looking map, that is a lot of work.
Did you see that Rice County shows H5 and Foxtrot 5? How come it took some one in SC to catch that? What happened to you Kansans?

Recently replaced my 80M dipole with 14ga stranded. A limb took down the 24ga in the wind a while back. We are an antenna restricted neighborhood so most of the antennas are in our attic.

Here are some photos at Chimney Rock Park near Asheville, NC and the Biltmore estate when dad KAØITA and Marie came to visit a while back. Looks like that would be a good place to put an antenna, but there was a higher spot to the west.

Thanks for all you do.

73, Steve NØJJO

*Other NØJJO photos on request to w0oyh@arrl.net*

*Steve McAtee*

13603 Edgetree Drive

Pineville, NC  28134
**SILENT KEYS:**
Silent Keys:

WDØANN- Jean Ellington, Garden City
NØKXL - Ray Layman, Topeka

Jerry Sultz WØAIC – Wichita
Dick Loosen – KBØEVE A long time member of the Wichita Amateur Radio Club passed away on Monday, February 16th. He lived in Derby in his later years where his company Q Corporation was located. Dick, KBØEVE, contributed to the funding of the Derby 146.79 repeater in a big way over the years. We all wish condolences to his wife Becky and son David. More information may be found at: http://www.legacy.com/Kansas/DeathNotices.aspx?Page=Lifestory&PersonId=124318768
<snipped> from the Grounded Grid

◆ **SHARC member Raymond Andrews K0LZR** became a silent key on Monday. More information at the link below.

Dale NØKQX

http://www.webfh.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=230241&fh_id=10739&s_id=9306B46CC40BEDEC7DBC1AE5735921C9

◆ **WDØANN- Jean Ellington**, Garden City

*Be sure to keep your Section Manager informed of any silent keys in Kansas so he can get them published in the QST. Please CC me while you are at it for the KAR newsletter.*

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**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 Net control on Monday, Fridays and Saturdays at 10 PM. Been doing that for 30+ years... Orlan

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**KANSAS STATE ARRL CONVENTION:**

AUGUST 16  2009

MAP >>> http://www.centralksarc.com/prnt.php_files/mapimage.png

More Info & Central Kansas ARC >>> http://www.centralksarc.com
The Pastors Best

A preacher said to a farmer, "Do you belong to the Christian family?"

"No," he said, "they live two farms down."

"No, I mean are you lost?"

"No, I've been here thirty years."

"I mean, are you ready for Judgment Day?"

"When is it?"

"Could be today or tomorrow."

"Well, when you find out for sure when it is, you let me know. My wife will probably want to go both days!"

Call to Another Church

A pastor places his order at the pet store. "I need at least 50 mice, 2,000 ants and as many of those little silverfish you can get."

The clerk replies, "We can probably do that, but it might take some time. Mind if I ask why you are placing such an unusual order?"

The pastor replies, "I've accepted a call to another church and the Pastor's council told me to leave the parsonage the way I found it."

Farewell Offering

During the last Sunday service that the visiting pastor was to spend at the church he served for some months, his hat was passed around for a goodwill offering.

When it returned to the pastor, it was empty. The pastor didn't flinch. He raised the hat to Heaven and said, "I thank You, Lord, that I got my hat back from this congregation."

Holy Communion

Being a new pastor to an aging congregation, I told them I would be serving them prune juice in Holy Communion. When asked why I would dare entertain such a thought, I said, "If the Holy Spirit won't move you...the prune juice will!"

Hot Air Hand Dryers

My pastor friend put sanitary hot air hand dryers in the rest rooms at his church and after two weeks, took them out.
I asked him why and he confessed that they worked fine, but when he went in there he saw a sign that read, "For a sample of this week's sermon, push the button."

Sent to KAR by Tom WØEAJ

◆ You're gonna like this one fer sure... Orlan

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2BfzUIBy9A

◆ Jesus and the Burglar:

A burglar broke into a house and shined his flashlight around looking for valuables. He picked up a CD player when a strange, disembodied voice echoed from the dark saying:

'Jesus is watching you.' He nearly jumped out of his skin, clicked off his flashlight and froze.

When he heard nothing more he continued. Just as he pulled the stereo out he heard:

'Jesus is watching you.'

Freaked out, he shined his light around frantically. Finally, in the corner of the room his light beam came to rest on a parrot.

'Did you say that?' he hissed at the parrot.

'Yep,' the parrot confessed, then squawked, 'I'm just trying to warn you that he's watching you.'

The burglar relaxed. 'Warn me, huh? Who the hell are you?'

'Moses,' replied the bird.

'Moses?' the burglar laughed. 'What kind of people would name a bird Moses?'

"The kind that would name a Rottweiler Jesus."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

You are incredible!

Another first rate KAR!
I hope you are getting stronger. Glad you are still up and running the race!

Larry w0aib  TU Larry.........

Hi Orlan, This must mean you're back home?
Hope you're feeling better.

73, all the best.

Kyle Yoksh  Yep, TU 4 all UR prayers!

Hey Orlan, great issue of KAR once again.
I can relate to heart catheter stuff....
Got two Stents and a defibrillator implant December 20th.
Doing just fine now, with no apparent nasty side effects.
73
Ron WA0PSF    TU Ron.........

PS
On the notice of the 2009 convention, the correct day it August 16th.. You have the 21st shown

Glad to hear you are doing ok. I don't think D-CON is in order, hi.

Saw the piece in your FEB KAR about "For the World 'above the Top Band.' " Recently I've gone the other way, below top band and out of RF entirely to pressure waves at that. I've designed and am playing with a direct conversion receiver that tunes the ultrasonic "I" band, from 35 to about 55 kHz! I can hear bats and insects chatting and hunting; hearing what dogs hear! Good DX. My next project I'm moving lower to below 20 Hz!, infrasound. While there are no elephants here in Kansas, a Doctors Without Boarders doctor has promised to take my 20 Hz pressure wave receiver on safari for a test! I've now converted the 35 kHz ultrasonic receiver into a kit for others: W0XI's Ultra-RX1 Kit. See www.midnightscience.com/ultra-kits.html 73s. Phil, W0XI, Lawrence, KS.    B sure 2 CK Phil's web site........

Orlan, Glad to hear you're back home. Ron passed along the good news on QKS SS last night. Hope you get to feeling much better.

73,
Mike    TU Mike, Me TOOooooo.
K0MDS

Nice one - I especially enjoyed OTHER PEOPLE's stories and funnies...
Yeah, my BC-348Q (Wells-Gardner) works fine... I listen to 75m AM on it, in the mornings (3.875 mcs)... "informal" net runs from approx 0730 your time, to 0830 +/-, depending on props and "honeydo's"... they also get on that freq at about 1730 your time, most evenings.

It's the one from Uncle Bill. ( I even have the hand-crank antenna-reel from the PB4Y-2 "Privateer" (Navy version of the B-24), that it came out of).

Tom w0eaj

◆ Hi Kent,
>
> I have 2 to convert this time.
>
> (1) ARES reports.
> (2) Ks ARES map.
>
> TU until UR better paid.
>
> Orlan

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

Orlan, I understand our pay rate is approximately the same.
But for your sake, I hope you make more!

73,
Kent KØWEW
Kent, I am blessed in just still being here and even more so with having friends like you.

◆ **Orlan, I would like to be added** to the KAR email list. My callsign is KD0FEG and my name in Robert Lowery.

Thanks, Robert   **Welcome to KAR Bob. Glad to have U on board. Orlan**

◆ **Dark Roasted Blend: Really Bad Wiring Jobs**


Bill Barnes WBØNSQ

◆ **The March 2009 Grounded Grid is on-line!!**


And as always you can get the back issues at


◆ Larry: Here is a great site for vintage radio parts.

<http://www.radiodaze.com/>

John WA0HGK   <snipped> from “LL”

◆ **Thanks Orlan, just returned** from Texas and trying to catch up. 73s, John

Yes, we were down around Mission in the valley for two weeks and spent a week coming and going, just visiting family and old friends.

John

◆ Hi Larry ---- don't know if you've picked this up yet or not: <snip> from “LL”


My store-bought baluns look more like pipe-bombs than the one's I build. Most of the lower cost baluns are made in PVC pipe with fittings and wires coming out the top. I guess we should clearly label them "NOT A BOMB"!

See the article..... Hmmmm.... maybe we should paint them pink or something.

We have nothing to fear but ....... the police!
73 de Ken, K0KS  Maybe I should have put this in the KAR HA-HA-HA column. Ken is one of our displaced Kansans, from right here in my area. He is a Salvation Army official that got transferred to TX. Orlan

Bill Barnes WBØNSQ asked, “what would they do to one of his duplexers?”

◆ To all those who use the 443.100 repeater in Liberal:
The CTCSS tone for this repeater has been changed from 71.9 hz to 141.3 hz.
It is still linked to the SKECT repeater system and now has the common PL tone of the SKECT system.

Steve Benson
N0BTH
EC-ARES Dist 6F
n0bth@arrl.net

◆ Some of you may be interested in seeing the International Space Station pass overhead. Access:

<http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/realdatalightings/cities/view.cgi?country=United_States&region=Missouri&city=Kansas_City>

or, if this link is broken:

<http://tinyurl.com/hx5vk>

to get a schedule and direction for the sightings.

Thanks to Chett, K0TCB, for this information.

73,
Larry, W0AIB

Tom’s Key-Storms - WØEAJ Denver, Co. Displaced Ks neighbor
This is what's on the bench - gotta' replace the MAIN TUNING dial-cord, align it, then stick it back together. It DOES have some 13 "black beauty" capacitors which are known for being BAD (they look like large black-bodied resistors), but these all work - I'd have to think hard about replacement of 'em, as the radio works great - has all but ONE of the original "hallicrafters" tubes in it.

Scrubbed the knobs, repainted the RED lines on 'em, and washed the case and front panel - cleaned up very nicely... even the meter works well, and the face polished up great. It's amazing what a little contact cleaner will do.  Shortcut to: http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~postr/bapix/SX99.htm

Tom

**Here's a list of test-quizzes on just about EVERYTHING.** Oh yeah, it's got all Amateur element preps, too.  http://www.vellosoft.com/dloads/list.html

Tom

**Okay, here they all are. Now,** there's no excuse for not getting that GENERAL or EXTRA.  http://kd4e.com/hl.html

Tom

**There's been a recent thread on one of the Hallicrafters 'reflectors',** with opinions on which old radio receiver is the best looking - several opted for the SX-99, I and many opted for the SX-62, and a bunch for the SX-28, which is very hard to find, unless you are willing to pay big bux for one... which I'm not.

Still, looking through my 1945 ARRL Handbook (my very first book on ham radio - given to me by a Navy Uncle), those wonderful green pages of Hallicrafters, still capture my eye. S-20R's, SX-28's (tremble, pant, pant), and all the rest of their line, still grab the kid that lives inside the 65 year-old body I call ME. In "those days", The Handbook always had ads in the back, containing all the wonders of the world that mere mortals usually couldn't afford, or at least not a 13 year old, who sold flower & vegetable seeds, and cashed in pop &
beer bottles to make a few pennies here and there. We could only DREAM of owning a real "Ham Shack", just like the cartooned ones on QST covers, perhaps containing a Johnson 500 (whew!), and a National HRO-60 - or maybe even a Knight T-150 and a Hammarlund Super-Pro... or hopefully something home-brewed that was in a 6 foot tall, 19 inch RACK - yeahhhh, heck every kid knew that if it was in a RACK, it must be powerful and very cool, indeed. Oh yeah... lots of meters too - the more meters, the better it must work, with all those wiggling pointers that only the smartest of hams understood.

Home brew was very popular back then - yep... beer AND ham radio. Our neighbor used to regularly blow several bottle up in his garage and for a few weeks the area around his house, smelled like a brewery... but I digress. Analog tube-type TV sets were everywhere, and power-transformers to be had for the "cutting out". Every ham (and kid) had boxes of diked out resistors, capacitors, chokes, tube-sockets, switches, and wiring, that his Mother REALLY WANTED TO THROW AWAY, but didn't dare. I recall building a filament-continuity tester, a signal tracer, and a resistor/capacitor substitution box from plans in Popular Mechanics, all in Mom's recipe boxes (boy, was she mad). Hey, they were the right size and were metal, and best... the lid was hinged! Other REAL hams produced full-gallon amplifiers, and out-of-their-head exciters, built with nothing more than experience and knowledge of circuitry - schematics were for the weaker of us. A journey into a REAL ham's basement resulted in something akin to being a guest on the space-shuttle; vast displays of meters, dials, knobs, switches, and big "glowey" things in the back of viewing windows, that produced massive quantities of heat, sufficient to run the turbines of the USS MISSOURI (BB-63), or heat my entire school at least. All manner of gloriously constructed devices in RACKS (remember racks?), lending to the aura of magnificence. Tom Corbett and the Space Cadets didn't have rigs that looked like THIS! (actually, in the movie "Mission To Mars", there's a Hallicrafters SX-42 with a microphone plugged into the earphone jack!) Ohhh, the depth of inspiration to a kid was beyond anything that resulted in science class - what's a Wilson cloud-chamber compared to a rack-mounted exciter, running 4 1625 finals... into four 813's in grounded-grid?

I recall a fellow in Mission, KS, on the NW corner of 52nd. and Maple, who MADE HIS OWN 600 ohm ladder line! I don't know who he was, but I recall seeing him with two big coils of copper wire, and several glass rods. He broke measured pieces of the rod; laid 'em in routed grooves on some kind of wood or stone, then pulled the twin strands of wire, tightly ACROSS them and clamped the wires.... all this time, he had a gas torch going, and would then play the flame across the glass rod, and melt it so that the wire was melted INTO the rod - he did this in about 3 foot sections and managed to make beautiful VERY LOW LOSS feeder line, for ultra-cheap money. It took me years to figure out what he had been doing, as I was just into crystal sets at the time. Imagine going to Associated Radio these days, and asking for 2 rolls of wire and a handful of glass rod to make your own ladder-line... actually, I'll bet the guys over there might actually HAVE some.

When I bought a rather beat-up Hallicrafters S-38D http://www.rigpix.com/hallicrafter/s38d.htm a few years ago - which I'd lusted after when I was a boy of 13, back in 1956, I wondered if I could "make it play" again - finally, I got it all fixed, working, and realigned - plus shined it all up and scrubbed the knobs with a toothbrush... I hooked up a piece of wire to the antenna screw, and let it warm up - after listening to the local 40's station here (KEZW), I put it up on the 30m band (9 mcs)... and while tuning about, I stumbled across the BBC, just like the old days, listening to other kid's short wave radios - I happened to glance on the dial-background (with all the names of cities, around the World... Paris, Moscow, Washington, Tokyo, etc... they used to do that) and the dial pointer was sitting DIRECTLY OVER "London" - I laughed out loud and said to myself - yep... back in 1956, nobody lied to kids.. if they said LONDON would be there - sure 'nuff, it would be!

...and it was.

Tom

◆ http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=160316271795&ru=http%3A%2F%2Fshop.ebay.com%3A80%2F%3F_from%3D%2040%26_trksid%3Dm3811313%26_nkw%3D160316271795%26_sacat%3DSee-All-Categories%26_fvi%3D1
I have one of these - mine's not as gorgeous as this one, but DOES WORK... and I HAVE the matching speaker! The last one I saw sell, went for $1,100, so I'm anxious to see what this one goes for.

Tom

◆ This photo is me in 1962, as a new Novice at K6NCG (Treasure Island) while in ET school in Uncle's Navy... most likely, I didn't look a lot different when I was in San Diego in 1964.

This year, I used a '52 Gonset Commander w/matching VFO... and a 1958 Knightkit R-100A (which really surprised me, as to how good it was, once I fixed the 48 bad solder joints and FINALLY did an alignment on it, which it appears it had NEVER undergone!)

![Photo of a person operating a radio](image-url)