Hi gang, My doctor gave me a guaranteed weight loss diet. "If it tastes good....... spit it out..!"

I have a couple of large articles which I have posted at the very end of this newsletter because of their size and interest today. I didn't want to do a Special and felt this info should be made available to those interested.

Welcome back to KC Larry WAØYQM. 28 years ago Larry accepted a job with Harris in Quincy ILL and was there for 10 years and than worked in California the next 18 years with Ampex. He was very active in RACES and AMSAT Coordinator. He is now getting into our local RACES and working with the Wyandott County EP with Bill Barnes WBØNSQ. Let us know how things are going when you get settled in Larry.

Browsing the internet by your "Power Lines."
I believe everyone is aware of the latest battle being fought for us by ARRL. Some companies want to send Broadband digital data over Power Line (BPL). Imagine all of those square waves radiating from the power lines in your neighborhood covering all your favorite ham bands. BPL in the ham radio world is the "Brass Ponders League. I see ARRL has referred to it as "Power Line Communications (PLC). If you wish to get up to speed on this problem, go to >> http://www.arrl.org <<<. Scroll the page and click on past articles at the bottom of the page.

For more CLICK on >>>> http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/

Visit the ARRL's secure BPL Web site <https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/>.

http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/10/23/1/?nc=1

Here is a news paper article. >> http://newsobserver.com/business/story/2962650p-2716401c.html

Uncle is watching us hams.
I want to remind you of what I said last month about taxpayer grant money being available to us for emergency training through the ARRL Continuing Education courses. For more info click >>>> http://www.arrl.org/cce/ The grant money is used to reimburse those completing the courses. Uncle is watching us through your reports to your SM to see if this is a good investment for the taxpayers money. You vote for this program by reporting your activities to your SM and you vote against it by not reporting, than again you may not be active in public service. Through ARRL, Uncle receives a summation of your reports from your SM which will be used to determine if future grants will be made available to hams.

You may view the calls of those active and reporting to your SM's on the ARRL Ks Section News page at >>
Here are those reporting to the Ks SM in October:

Claude AAØIQ, Jay AB5PA, Tim ABØWR, Debby ABØUY, Bob KØBXF, Mike KØPY, Harvey KØRY, Ron KBØDTI, Jim KCØGDV, James KIØBK, James NBØZ, Rich NØENO, Bill NØKFS, George NØLIE, Dan NØZIZ, Dave WØFCL, Orlan WØOYH, Preston WØWWR, Jim WAØLYK, Louie WBØYZW, Tom WBØZNY, Joseph WDØDMV.

I am sure many more are active in public service but are not letting Uncle know it. That is a good way to say to our congress, we are not interested in the grant $s to help train us for real time disasters.

After the "Letters to the Editor" below is a fine example of a report from the Emergency Coordinator in Leavenworth to our SM. This is an email report. To improve our appearance with Uncle, send an abbreviated report also to the SEC via ham radio. This demonstrates we hams are still using ham radio to send messages. We don't need a ham license to send email but we do to send a radio message via HR. If you take the training courses you will find you will be required to send radio messages.

Feel free to coment...! I will print them in the "Letters to the Editor's column" in the December issue.

A Texas amateur antenna case
A Texas amateur antenna case has affirmed again that the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 has teeth when it comes to compelling municipalities to reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communication.

For Sale
40-foot Rohn 25 foldover tower; Hy-Gain TH6 DXX; Ham II rotator with control box, guys, posts, etc. All in very nice condition. Tower is up in the air and I only want a buyer who can SAFELY take her down. $375 takes it all. I do not wish to part it out. Call 913-369-9280 in the daytime, please. Thanks - Paul Pestock, KC0CXE email at kc0cxe@hotmail.com

Feel free to forward the KAR newsletter to other hams and friends.

73 gang, Orlan w0oyh - KAR ed orlan@postcomp.com

KANSAS SECTION MANAGERS CORNER: Click on >> http://www.arrl.org/sections/KS.html
Your SM is:
Ron Cowan KBØDTI
kb0dti@arrl.org

ARRL AFFILIATE CLUBS RENEWAL TIME:
Attention clubs: Time to check your ARRL affiliation status (Oct 10, 2003) -- It's time for ARRL-affiliated clubs to check and update their ARRL affiliation status. Don't let your club affiliation lapse! To report changes in club data, visit CLICK >>> "The Affiliated Club Annual Report Form" page on the ARRL Web site. Follow the instructions under the heading "How to submit an update for your club records." ARRL will update its club affiliation database as soon as it receives new data, and updated listings typically appear on the ARRL Web site.
within 24 hours. Renewing Special Service clubs should complete Form FSD-7--Application for Renewal as an ARRL Special Service Club. For more information, visit the CLICK >>>> ARRL Club Companion Web page or contact Margie Bourgoin KB1DCO 860-594-0267.

Redundant:
http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/fsd2/
http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/fsd7/renewal.html
http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/

ARRL NTS - QKS KS SECTION CW TRAFFIC NET MANAGER:
SEPT QKS Sessions 62, QNI (check-ins) 346, QTC (messages) 201.

The breakdown is; 7 PM Net QNI (check-ins) 209, QTC (messages) 132. 10 PM Net QNI 137 QTC 69
With NCS'S and Ten Rep's of W0WWR, AB0WR, WA0LYK, WB0ZNY, NB0Z, K0BJ, W0OYH and K0PY.

73, Mike KØPY - ARRL NTS, Ks QKS CW Net Mgr. Thanks Mike to you and the QKS gang for keeping a 90 year old HR tradition alive and well. Orlan

KANSAS HAM CAUGHT ON VACATION:
Looks like one of our OESs was on vacation in Colorado. Just goes to show you it is a small world.

For the full story go to......... http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2003/10/19/1/?nc=1
"But things did improve (at least to some degree; nothing ever goes completely right for The Amateur Amateur). We vacationed in Breckenridge, Colorado, last year. During a day trip to Garden of the Gods, I tried 2-meter simplex on .52 and got a response from "Mike" in Manitou Springs. (Sorry, but I don't know his last name. I apparently wrote down his call sign incorrectly.) Two days later, while driving through Rocky Mountain National Park, I heard Craig McManus, K0JJM (he was KC0IUW at the time). This was an interesting contact, as Craig was simultaneously talking to me and to another ham who was hiking somewhere else on the mountain. Craig and I were both heading to the same spot, the Alpine Center at the top of the mountain. We met in the parking several minutes later. It was the first time I'd ever meet another ham face-to-face during a vacation.

Craig told me that he'd monitored 146.52 all the way from Topeka, Kansas, and barely heard anything. Once he got to the park, however, he made two contacts at the same time." etc. etc.

ARRL CERTIFICATION & CONTINUING EDUCATION REGISTRATION:

(ARRL Certification and Continuing Education registration: RegistrationRFI) course (EC-006) opens Monday, October 27, 12:01 AM Eastern Standard Time (0501 UTC). Registration remains open through Sunday, November 2. Classes begin Tuesday, November 4. Registration for the HF Digital Communications (EC-005) and VHF/UHF-Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008) courses remains open through Sunday, October 26. Those interested in taking an ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) course in the future can sign up to receive advance notification of Registration opportunities to take advantage, send an e-mail to prereg@arrl.org. On the subject line, indicate the course name or number (eg, EC-00#) and the month you want to start the course. In the message body, provide your name, call sign, and e-mail address. Please do not send inquiries to this mailbox. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web page <http://www.arrl.org/ccc> and the C-CE Links found there.
ARRL KANSAS SECTION NEWS: Go to >> http://www.arrl.org/sections/KS.html
A good place to find out what other Kansas hams are doing and not just those under your repeater. You will see those who report their activities to our SM. These are some of the reports I mentioned above that our government now wants to see. You will find photos of hams and clubs across Kansas too.

Are you missing the new photos that Ron post there each week? You may be missing yours...!

 Venture out side the confining walls of your repeater and into all of Kansas and the into whole world of ham radio via ARRL web site.

SILENT KEYS:
Ron,
Orvin Wilson, NØRKH, of Osborne, KS became a silent key September 30, 2003 at the Osborne County Memorial Hospital. His wife, and my sister, Barbara, NØRKK, survives.

Gary, NZØM
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William "Curtis" Strother, WØDNF - "Darn Nice Friend", of Overland Park, KS, passed away Sunday, October 12, 2003 at the age of 88. Funeral was 10 a.m. Friday, October 17.
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Please remember to inform your SM, kb0dti@arrl.org of your fellow hams who become SKs so they can be recognized and remembered in QST, KSN and here in KAR.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM ARRL TO......
Orlan,
I was looking at the zero call district on the A-1 Operators list at the ARRL website, and guess who's callsign I saw there. Two new callsigns. They are two of QKS's Net Control Operator's. AB0WR Tim and WA0LYK Jim.

Congratulations gentleman, you have achieved the highest ham radio award possible. Your first class operating abilities and habits are a standard for others to follow. Once again congratulations and thanks for your F.B. help on the Kansas QKS CW TFC net.

URL is http://www.arrl.org/awards/a1-op/roster/bycall0.html

73, Mike K0PY QKS CW Net MGR  Thanks for the info and URL Mike.

THE ENSOR FARMSITE & MUSEUM:
A ham radio station and home has become a museum.
http://www.w9bsp-w9ua.org/

73,
Larry Woodworth, W0HXS  Ensor Farmsite and Museum- Director and M.E.M.O.-President
I just received the Museum's newsletter. I will forward it to anyone upon request to.....
 orlan@postcomp.com

SCOUTS JOTA:
I would like to offer this as a type of after action report and lessons learned from our first experience in supporting JOTA.

Setup: We were able to put the antennas up early and get them tested. This was due to the timely approvals of our requests to support from both the post facilities office (Mr. David Todd) and the response of the Rod and Gun Club (through Mr. Buzz Leonard). We were also able to move the mobile command post to the MARS site on Thursday, which helped. There was some confusion about the camper being there, but it all was resolved Saturday morning. Like any operation, the rehearsal and pre-execution setup are critical and we were in good shape because of it, except at one station. The camper station was a little problematic because of the type of antenna we had set up initially. This antenna worked great during our last outing, but wasn't performing well at the MARS site. We believe the other antennas and coax strung overhead dramatically changed the radiation patterns and caused inefficiencies in the antenna system. We put a portable pole up with a folded dipole (two wires) antenna and had remarkable success. Unfortunately, we lost part of the morning on Saturday doing that and the first group of Scouts didn't get to do much at that site.

Day 1 (Saturday): The camper site functioned fine after the first group of Scouts. The tent location was great. We probably ran somewhere between 75 and 100 scouts through the sites, talking on several different bands to several groups of other Scouts. We had contact with Scouts at Annapolis, MD and then another group in Frederick, MD. The last group of our Scouts talked to a troop at Mineral, VA. We were able to talk to a large concentration at a site in CA, but I don't recall the name of the Scout Camp.

It caught us a little off guard that the Scouts showed up so early on Saturday morning (0830ish). We should have been there earlier. We had the schedule, but expected them a little later. I'm afraid some of them didn't think much of the JOTA.

Several Scouts expressed a strong interest in pursuing an amateur license. We have been approved to start a Venturing Crew/BSA activity for amateur radio. I have several names, but would like to offer this to all troops. Dan, is that something you can disseminate for me? I'll be happy to come to meetings and make a pitch. Just let me know.

Day 2 (Sunday): No takers. I think everybody was breaking down camp and going home. At this point, I need to retype a letter I got from one the amateur radio operators. Please pass this to all troop leaders involved for widest dissemination:

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"To: Paul Backs, President, Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club

On October 18, 2003, I was privileged to assist the Boy Scouts JOTA at Fort Leavenworth Military Reservation.

From a personal point of view I was amazed at how polite and courteous the Boy Scouts were to the amateur operators and support personnel.

It was a welcome change from the youth I encounter at my various work locations, on both sides of the state line."
Respectfully, KJ Karcher, KC0OIU"

----------------------------------------
I can only second Mr. Karcher's comments. We were dealing with a lot of variables to make this all happen in a beneficial manner and the scouts were incredible. Please accept our heart-felt thanks and next time we'll make it even better.

Lessons Learned: Be prepared. Have printed handouts. Put up a couple of more stations so more kids can talk and they can talk longer. Have a discussion session before they talk on the radio (this really isn't necessary, but would serve to occupy slack time and they may even learn something).

Semper Fidelis, Paul Backs KC0JCQ, President, Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club - Leavenworth, Ks.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:
Hi Joleen,

I noticed your call. I knew and have a picture of Arno WØFDJ of Lynn, Kansas back about 1950. We belonged to the Kansas Nebraska AR Club at that time. I am from Belleville. I live in the KC area, sense 1953.

73, Orlan W0oyh - arrl Ks Ast. SM and KAR ed
----------------------------------------
Wow, you knew Arno. How nice to hear from you. I don't have any picture of Arno. Would you email me a copy of the one you have and any stories that you remember of him. I would like to know more about him.

I, too, am a member of the Kansas-Nebraska Radio Club that mets in Concordia, and I was pleased to be able to obtain Arno call.

Thanks for your email. Sorry it has taken me so long to get a reply out to you.

I think, Wendell Wilson WØTQ, has recruited me to take over as secretary for the Kansas of the Year Award Committee, anyway he has asked me if I would send out the mailings starting the first of the year.

Nice to make contact Orlan.

God bless,

Joleen W0FDJ
----------------------------------------
Hi agn Joleen,

I put the 2 photos of Arno WØFDJ in the US Mail today. I wish they were better. A lot of what I have is in the museum in Concordia. You might look and see what is there.

GB and 73, Orlan w0oyh
----------------------------------------
Thanks Orlan, received photograph. Made me happy, thanks so much. I am headed to Concordia today, so maybe, I will get a chance to go by museum. If not today, another day. Thanks for pics and info. JOLEEN WØFDJ

Good to see the old call assigned to you Joleen..!  Orlan

**********

I thought you might get a kick out of this one from my Guam buddy, in Mass. It was taken about 1967, shortly after I went back into the Navy. I was at the US Naval Communications Station, Guam - Marianas Islands, working in Satellite Communications. The ham station there was quite active, and while at KG6AAY (King George Six All American Yankee), we ran over 3,000 phone patches during the latter part of 1967, into the same period of 1968.

The reason for the greasy pants, was that I was working on my 1960 Austin-Healey Sprite (better known as a "bugeye"). Joe Egle (first BMC dealership in the Midwest, out in Olathe) sent me the parts I needed, and even picked up the postage to Guam. Now, there's a good guy.

At one point in the madness, I took my Heathkit "Twoer" and mobile p/s.. with a car battery, and lashed it onto a palm-tree raft, and operated Maritime Mobile on 2m AM, while about a mile off of Guam Island. When the raft began to come unravelled, my friend in a "fold-boat" came to the rescue and took the radio and me in tow..... the battery went over the side.

That's another bedtime story kids... tune in again for more exciting adventures from... Tom WAØEAJ

"The Amazing Electric Apple Juice!"  Tom, you said, "greasy pants."  Was there a photo?

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I sent this to my Mom, also the Wife..... both can "appreciate" it. I passes along a photo entitled "Arkansa Hells Angels

and these are the replies. Orlan

Tom

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

I sent this on to all my Harley & other bike friends. Interesting, as I ride an '83 BMW R100/RS bike, myself. Nearby, in the town of Wheat Ridge, there's a small shoppette that has a sign atop it, that reads "HARLEY-DAVIDSON accessories".... and right below it on a shop window is painted "OIL BURNERS".....

Tom

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

Good On Elliot - KC0PTO (never could figure out how to put a "theta" on my Email... Getting the General really OPENS ham radio... matter of fact... it always did! Now all you need is a 6AG7 and a 6L6, plus an old TV transformer..... sorry,

forgot that the few remaining one are all at hamfests (under the tables!)

I'm finally beginning a single 6AG7 transmitter... building it on an honest-to-gosh aluminum bread pan, with a 5Y3 rectifier (none a' them new-fangled diode things for this project!), and a real-live television transformer (An Admiral, thank you very much). The hardest part was finding the 365mmfd single-section variable capacitors.

More to follow  Tom, I know another Tom WBØZNY, who some time ago finished making 8 tube type transmitters.
He designed them all, chassies, hardware, knob gear ratios, coils and etc. I think they run 100 watts.

Tom Dailey
*********

Hi Orlan,

It was good to get the latest edition of "KAR" and read first hand what's happening in Kansas. Thank you very much for including the information about the Ensor Museum. It was indeed a pleasure to be able to take a tour of the site and see all the information available. I especially liked the pictures of the shack and rig, license tag collection, Cushman engine and the Model A. I will definitely try to visit it someday. I shared it with the rest of the people in this department. On September 27th, we had the opportunity to represent the League at the Spokane, WA hamfest and met some wonderful people. I saw Greg Milnes, W7OZ (could identify with OZ being from Kansas) the NW Division Director and Ben Schupack, NW7DX, the winner of the Hiram Percy Maxim Award and the first Foundation Goldfarb Scholarship. Elvin, JA3CZY was an interesting fellow and had a good program telling about Amateur Radio in Japan. This site has pictures if you're interested.

Thanks to you and Ron for all you do.

73, Chuck KØBOG @ ARRL HQ
*********

Orlan,

Once again, an excellent presentation in the KAR. I don't know if you have a forum or the inclination for it, but I want to share with you that KJ Karcher (KC0OIU), one of my Tech students, then General theory student, has now passed his code and has his General ticket. He is the first of my neophytes to make it to HF. Wouldn't it be grand to publish a list of those who accomplish this test of endurance?

Having re-read this now, I don't mean "those who have achieved obtaining their General License in spite of going through my courses." I like to think I had some value added. Thanks again for all you do. 73 Paul Backs, KC0JCQ  Thanks Paul..!  Paul is the president of the Leavenworth club.
*********

Thanks for adding me to your 'mailing list'. You have a very nice newsletter. I am going to look forward to reading it each month.

Marti WB0ERI  Marti is a very active ham in Leavenworth teaching classes, giving tests etc. Glad to have you aboard
*********

Steve & Pamela McAtee   If you remember, Steve and Pamela are from Kansas. To keep up with them go to >>>

http://home.carolina.rr.com/spmcatee/index.htm
*********

-------------------------------------------------------- End of Letters to the Editor ------------------------------------------------

Subject: ARES Dist C4 October 2003 Monthly Activity Report
1. From: EC for Leavenworth County, Dist C4
2. Month: OCTOBER
3. Year: 2003
4. Total ARES members: 25
5. Change since last month: Gained 0 - Lost 0
6. Local Net Name: Leavenworth County ARES
7. Frequency Used:
   a. ARES/RACES NET 145.330 (-) N0KOA RPT THURSDAYS 1930 LOCAL
   b. LEAVENWORTH COUNTY ARES TRAINING AND INFORMATION NET
      147.000 (+) WB0ERI RPT SUNDAYS 1930 LOCAL
8. NTS Liaison: Bill Thompson - W0NYG
   Official Emergency Station: Rick Reichert - KF4LM
   Army MARS Liaison: Ric Nelson - KA3LOC
   American Red Cross Liaison: Nolan Beatty - KB0TML
   President of PKARC (Club Call KS0LV): Paul Backs - KC0JCQ
9. Activity:
   NETS
   OCT 05  ARES/ITN  QNI 15  QTC 1  NCS KB0TML
   OCT 09  PKARC/ARES  QNI 10  QTC 1  NCS KA0DJR
   OCT 12  ARES/ITN  QNI 09  QTC 1  NCS KB0TML
   OCT 16  PKARC/ARES  QNI 09  QTC 1  NCS KA0DJR
   OCT 19  ARES/ITN  QNI 16  QTC 1  NCS KB0TML
   OCT 23  PKARC/ARES  QNI 07  QTC 1  NCS KA0DJR
   OCT 26  ARES/ITN  QNI 10  QTC 1  NCS KB0TML
   OCT 30  PKARC/ARES  QNI 09  QTC 1  NCS KA0DJR

PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES (see comments below)

ITN=Information & Training Net
PKARC=Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club Net
LVCO=Leavenworth County
KC=Kansas City
NWS=National Weather Service

TRAFFIC
Origin: 00
Sent: 08
Received 08
Delivered 00
Total 16

DEC Cross Reference:
OCTOBER 2003 ARES DIST C4 NET REPORT X
08 SESSIONS QTC 16 QNS MEMBERS KA0DJR
KA3LOC KB0TML KC0JBE KC0JCQ KD5MDA KE0DL
KF4LM KG0ZZ N0CKI N0XVS W0NYG W0ROO WA0TJU
NON-MEMBERS AB0PU KB0AMY KC0GFJ KC0JUX
KC0LDT KC0LSE KC0MRJ KC0NIJ KC0NYL KC0OIS
Having fun with your multi-mode TNC using HF RTTY/AMTOR/NAVTEX!

Or how to automatically copy daily ARRL bulletins using your multi-mode TNC!

You bought a multi-mode TNC because it could do so much more than just packet, but it just sits there most of the time. Well, now it's time to dust it off and put it to good use! Here is a way to use it to copy ARRL RTTY bulletins off the air automatically. No internet required! HI HI.

Twice each day, the ARRL sends out RTTY (radio teletype) bulletins from its headquarters in Newington CT, first at 5 PM local (CST), and then again at 8PM (adjusted for DST, so it's always the same local time) on 3625, 7095, 14095 as well as other frequencies not usually heard here in KC. The bulletins are first transmitted in RTTY, followed by AMTOR, then in ASCII format if time allows. The most reliable method is the AMTOR mode, as it
uses FEC (Forward Error Correction) to fix errors, due to noise. A few years ago, the ARRL adopted the same format for its bulletins that the National Wx Service uses for its bulletins to ships at sea. This format is known as NAVTEX, and most multi-mode TNC's can decode and use this format to provide clean copy of bulletins.

What is NAVTEX.

NAVTEX is an international automated medium frequency (518 kHz) direct-printing service for delivery of navigational and meteorological warnings and forecasts, as well as urgent marine safety information bulletins to ships. NAVTEX messages begin with a header of ZCZC, and end with NNNN. Your multi-mode TNC can use these headers and footers to begin and end printing of the bulletins as well as using the ID after the header to ensure that a bulletin is only printed once.

Tuning in to ARRL bulletins.

First we must learn how to tune in to the RTTY broadcasts, I find the 40 Meter frequency works best for me. This is not as easy as it first sounds, as the frequency you tune to, depends on the mode your radio supports. If your radio has a RTTY or FSK mode, use it, and tune to 7095 KHz. If your radio does not have a RTTY mode, then use LSB, and tune 2.1 kHz higher. For 40 meters, tune to 7097.10 KHz during one of the two broadcast times. If your radio will let you use your CW (500 Hz) filter in FSK or LSB mode, use it, but start with a wider filter until you get used to tuning RTTY signals. Once you have the radio fine tuned to the signal, you can leave your tnc in NAVTEX mode and just view the bulletins each day. Details on how to set up each brand of multi-mode tnc follows.

How to set up the TNC for NAVTEX bulletins.

Kantronics KAMe or later.

First, set your TNC to RTTY mode (type RTTY <cr>), the KAM will enter RTTY 45 receive mode. You should now slowly fine tune your radio for the best copy. Even with S9 signals, you may not get solid (100%) copy. You should begin to see a well formatted bulletin. Now wait for the bulletins to end and the ARRL changes to AMTOR mode. The sound of the RTTY tones will change somewhat. It will not take long for you to learn, to distinguish RTTY, AMTOR, PACTOR, or HF packet tones by ear with a little practice as each has a unique sound on the air.

Type ^C X, (hold the control key down and type C, followed by X, do not hold the control key when typing the X), This will exit RTTY mode and return you to command mode.

AMTOR: Enter AMTOR mode, type AMTOR <cr>. Once the tones begin, or shortly after, you should begin to see the same bulletins print, only this time, without error! Now exit AMTOR mode with ^C X.

Now we will enter NAVTEX mode, but first we should clear any message sequence numbers stored in the TNC. The TNC remembers any NAVTEX bulletins printed so it will only print them once. So clear this memory with the command, NAVCLR. Do this anytime you want the next bulletin to print even if you have rx'd it before.

NAVTEX: Enter NAVTEX mode with the, you guessed it, NAVTEX command. Your TNC will DO NOTHING, until the start of the next bulletin, don't panic! Once it hears the ZCZC text at the start of the next bulletin, it will start printing, and stop when it sees the NNNN at the end, or if the number of uncorrected errors exceeds 5%. Your all set, you will automatically receive each bulletin once as transmitted each weekday. ENJOY!

--- To exit NAVTEX mode type ^C X.

MFJ 1278b Multi-mode TNC

As with the Kantronics above, we first tune into the RTTY broadcasts following the instructions above using RTTY or FSK mode if available, or in LSB mode if not. Yes, you use LSB even on 20 meters for RTTY.
HF Radio Port: The MFJ 1278b has two radio ports, you must select which one is connected to on your HF rig. Type RADIO 1 or RADIO 2 to select port 1 or 2 and set the front panel threshold control to the 12 o'clock position to begin.

RTTY: First, select the RTTY modem with the MODE HB <cr> command. HB means HF Baudot mode. Now type K <cr> to enter receive mode. Your screen will start printing, slowly fine tune your radio for best copy. Once you have good copy, hit ^C (hold the control key and hit C) to exit RTTY rx mode.

AMTOR: Change modes to AMTOR with the MODE AM <cr> command. You will now have a new command prompt. (A_CMD:) Type LISTEN to enter AMTOR rx mode. When the AMTOR FEC mode broadcasts begin, you will start printing bulletin text. Your almost there! Hit ^C to return to AMTOR command mode. (A_CMD:)

NAVTEX: Enter NAVTEX rx mode with NAVTEX ON <cr> The 1278b will respond with n_cmd: Once a new message begins with its ZCZC header, printing will begin and will stop when it receives the NNNN ending header. Don't panic if printing does not start right away, it must first see the ZCZC header. Now enjoy your daily error free bulletins.

---- To exit NAVTEX mode, Type NAVTEX OFF, then exit AMTOR mode with ^C ^C.

AEA PK-232 Multi-mode TNC

Again as with the Kantronics above, we first tune into the RTTY broadcasts following the instructions above using RTTY or FSK mode if available, or in LSB mode if not. Remember, you always use LSB for RTTY even on 20 meters.

RTTY: Lets first set all of the rtty mode commands and then jump into rtty mode.

Type: RBAUD 45 <cr> sets the rtty speed to 45 baud
RXREV OFF <cr> turns off receive bit inversion
TXREV OFF <cr> turns off transmit bit inversion (not that we will be transmitting anyway)
WIDESH OFF <cr> set to use the narrow (200 Hz) filter, rtty uses a 170 Hz shift on HF

Now type the BAUDOT <cr> command to start receiving the rtty bulletin. When the ARRL switches to AMTOR mode, type ^C to exit rtty mode and return to command mode.

AMTOR: Then enter AMTOR standby mode by typing, AMTOR <cr>. You should soon begin to see the same rtty bulletin being sent but this time it will be almost error free because of the FEC code being used. Now its time to set up for automatic reception. Type ^C again to exit amtor mode.

NAVTEX: Now enter navtex mode with the NAVTEX <cr> command. Once a new message begins with its ZCZC header, printing will begin and will stop when it receives the NNNN ending header. Don't panic if printing does not start right away, it must first see the ZCZC header. Now your all set to enjoy your daily error free bulletins.

---- To exit NAVTEX mode, type ^C to return to command mode.

Once I got this all working, I programmed my radio's memory to remember the frequency, radio mode and filter settings so I could quickly return it to bulletin rx mode whenever I was done using the radio and its always ready to rx a bulletin whenever sent. I hope you enjoy this new mode and let me know how it works out for you. 73  Jim Cordill KI0BK  ARRL Technical Specialist

If you need help with the above or any other ham operational or technical problems, contact me at: ki0bk@arrl.net e-mail
KI0BK@NW0I.#NEKS.KS.USA.NOAM packet 145.03 In the Olathe, Ks area (SW KC metro area).ver 8/04/03
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