



# QSP



April 2010

## April VE Report

The April Meeting is  
Friday, April 30, 2010  
@ 7:30 PM, at KWU  
Peters Science Hall  
Room 211

Host: Traci, KDØHVA

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### For the March 23rd Session:

Jackson Chen, now KOØK passed his Extra, as did Mike Bieberle, KBØLZQ, Nick Isely, KDØKIR, upgraded to General, Grant Linder, KDØKYG, Robert Hite, KDØKYF, Justin Thacker, KDØKYE, and Michelle Vought, KDØKYD became new Technicians. VE's were: Sid, NØOBM, Ron, WAØPSF, and Eric, NØYET.

### For the April 14th Session:

We had Seven Candidates: Daniel Hogan, KDØLGI, Salina, Mathew Tottle, KDØLGJ, Russle, Ks., Rhonda Elvin, KDØLGK, LaCross, Ks., Robert Elvin, KDØLGL, LaCross, Ks., and Traci Soldan, KDØLGM, Hillsboro, Ks. are all New Technicians. 3 of the 5 also attempted the General exam as well, but did not pass. Also testing was Tanner Colvin, KDØIRW, Salina, who gave it two good attempts at General, and "just" missed it. Better luck this month Tanner!

VE's present were: Sid, NØOBM, Larry, NØGSL, Harvey, KØRY, Leon, WAØJFC, Ron, WAØPSF, Alvin, WØME, Don, KAØEIC, and Eric, NØYET.

There will be another KWU Test Session on April 27th, but that is after this issue of QSP goes to "press" - we will report on that session in next month's QSP.

Thanks to all the VE's who helped with the Exam Sessions. I appreciate the help, and so do those who take the exams.

Next Exam session is **Wednesday May 12th, 2010**, at 7:00 PM, at the Saline County Sheriff's Office Classroom.

Sid NØOBM VE Team Leader

## Minutes of the March Meeting

The March meeting of the Central Kansas Amateur Radio Club was called to order by President Robert, WBØWTM at 7:30 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a round of Introductions with 31 Members and Guests present.

Reports:

The Secretary's minutes were approved as printed in QSP.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking Account Balance:	\$ 546.86
Savings Account Balance:	\$3736.30
Total	\$4283.16

EC & VE Report:

Pending activities for the month of March were listed by the EC Sid, NØOBM. He also reminded us of other upcoming events this spring & early summer—Eisenhower Marathon in Abilene on April 10, ARC Bike-a-Thon on May 1, Smoky Hill River Festival June 11—13th, and of course Field Day June 26 & 27.

VE Testing on March 10 one Gen and one Tech and on March 23 at KWU testing 2 extra, 4 new tech 1 new general.

Repeater report by Eric NØYET working due to the new antenna not up yet. He did get the time changed and the 443.900 Repeater net now being called at 7:30 pm on Monday evening. Requested that a check be issued for the new antennas.

No actives report.

Mark KBØMQX reported that the January Exercise winner was Tanner, KDØIRW.

Mark reported KWU has a need for two or three HT's for newly licensed Students. A motion was made and seconded for the Club to buy three new FT60R Hand Held Radios for the KWU club.

Don, KAØEIC, turned in a bill for \$6.43 for 100 copies of the Hamfest flyer to take to area hamfests. Alvin, WØME, paid this bill.

Thanked the hosts for the goodies, hosts were WBØWTM and KDØJKO. Still have several dates for hosts to be filled.

Glen, WØYVR, requested that if there were no other objections that the meeting be adjourned. 8:25 pm

Alvin wØme

## Reminders

**City of Salina Siren Test Net, May 3rd** at 4:30 PM on the NØKSC Repeater (147.270+) if the Weather cooperates!

ARES Net **May 4th at 8:00 PM** on the NØKSC Repeater (147.270+)

**ARRL-VEC Test Session** on Wednesday **May 12th at 7:00 PM.**

**Board meeting** follows the exam session on **May 12th** at 8:00 PM (or after Testing—which ever is later) in the Saline Co. Sheriff's Office Classroom.

**ARES Meeting is May 20th at 8:00 PM in the EOC.**

**CKARC Meeting May 28th** at 6:30 PM at KWU's Peters Science Hall. **Silent Key Pot-Luck Dinner—One Hour EARLIER** than normal.

There is a full **Calendar of Events** on the CKARC Web site <http://www.centralksarc.com>

## Saline County Emergency Management Amateur Radio Event

This month's activity isn't a contest. It's the American Red Cross's Bike-a-Thon. Mark, KBØMQX, & Eric, NØYET, are taking the lead on this event, because Sid, NØOBM, is tied up this weekend with other work for his Wife's Dance Studio. Please lend a hand if you can!

## On the Air: Moonbounce for Everyone -- Courtesy of the Arecibo Radio Telescope!



Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico was the site of some major moonbounce activity this month. [Photo courtesy of the NAIC-Arecibo Observatory, a facility of the National Science Foundation]

Sending Amateur Radio signals to the Moon and back has never been easy. After roundtrip journeys of nearly half a million miles, even the most powerful signals generated by hams are exquisitely weak on arrival. Because of the equipment and expertise necessary for successful "moonbounce" operating, this facet of Amateur Radio generally has been confined to a small audience. But this past weekend, even hams with very modest stations had the opportunity to experience the thrill of moonbounce, thanks to the giant radio telescope at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico.

**One Station that did successfully make contact was NØOY, with several of the KWU Radio Club members present for both the CW and the SSB Contacts.**

### Got something you'd like to see in QSP?

**Get it to the Editor before the 3rd Wednesday of the month, and we will work it in if we can.**

**Copyrighted material must have a release.**

**Got Pictures? If there is room we will print them.**

Not getting notifications of QSP being Published? Your Birthday not listed on the back page of QSP? Getting your copy of QSP by Mail—and don't need it? Want your copy of QSP delivered by Mail? Then it is most likely that the Editor does not have:

- A.) Your current email address.
- B.) Your Birthdate. (I don't need the YEAR, just the Month & Day—and the Treasurer needs to know IF you just happen to be over 65—Something about ARRL Membership rates (I think).
- C.) Let the Editor know, and we can save the CKARC some \$\$
- D.) I'll add your name to the mailing list if you really need it that way

Sid Ashen-Brenner QSP Editor NØOBM    obm@centralksarc.com or n0obm@n0obm.org or sashen@swbell.net    Phone (after 5 PM and before 10 PM) 785-823-6560

## FCC News: FCC Looks to Lower Fees for Vanity Call Signs



The FCC released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order (NPRM)* on April 13 seeking to lower the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. Currently, a vanity call sign costs \$13.40 and is good for 10 years; the new fee, if the FCC plan goes through, will go down to \$13.30 for 10 years, a decrease of **10 cents** [*a penny per year*]. The FCC is authorized by the *Communications Act of 1934 (as amended)* to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable **not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term**. The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 13 years of the current program -- from a low of \$11.70 in 2007 to a high of \$70 (as first proposed in the FCC's 1994 *Report and Order*). In 2007, the Commission lowered the fee from \$20.80 to \$11.70. The FCC said it anticipates some 14,800 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year, collecting \$196,840 in fees from the program.

*From the "New" ARRL Web site*

## Find Your Way Around the New ARRL Web Site

When the new ARRL Web site launched on April 13, we received an overwhelming, enthusiastic response to it. But along with that, we have also received a few questions on how to find certain features on the new site. Here is a quick guide to find some of the more popular features on the new ARRL Web site.

- **ARRL Periodical and Archive Search:** This can be found in the "Technology" section of the Web site. Once you are in the "Technology" section, look on the left-hand side of the screen for "ARRL Lab" in a grey-blue box; click it. On the left-hand side of the screen, you'll see another grey-blue box listing eight items, beginning with "The Lab Staff." On that list you will see "ARRL Periodicals Archive Search." When you click it, you will be taken directly to the *QST*, *QEX* and *NCJ* electronic archives (see photo).
- **Logbook of The World:** LoTW is located in the "On the Air" section. Once in that section, look on the left-hand side of the screen for the grey-blue box, listing 10 items, one of which is "Logbook of The World." When you click on it, you will be taken to the LoTW page. You will see the LoTW logo on your screen; next to the logo, it says "Log in to your Logbook Account," accompanied with a hyperlink that says "Go Now." When you click on "Go Now," you will be taken to LoTW's log-in page. Underneath the logo, you will see "Want to log into your LoTW Account? Log in here" (see photo). By either clicking on "Go Now" or "Log in here," you will be directed to the LoTW log-in page.

Have you forgotten your password? You can easily retrieve your password by clicking on the “Forgot Password?” link, located directly under the log-in box at the top of the page (see photo). You can either request a temporary password via e-mail (you must use the e-mail you originally used to register for the previous ARRL Web site), or you may retrieve a temporary password immediately by providing your user name (your call sign) and your ARRL member ID number (found on your *QST* mailing label). You must also provide either your call sign or your last name.

We have also received inquiries regarding the “Favorites” function on the new Web site. Once you successfully log in to the Web site, you will see a drop-down box that says “Your Favorites” right underneath your name (see photo). Go to any page on the new ARRL Web site. Would you like to find it in just one step? The “Your Favorites” feature will do just that! When you are on the desired page, just click on the “Your Favorites” drop-down menu, click “Add to Favorites” then click the “Go” button. Now you have stored that Web page as one of your favorites; each time you wish to go to that page, you can just access it through the “Your Favorites” drop-down menu (see photo).

Of course, with a project as large as the new ARRL Web site, there are still some bugs to be worked out. Our IT Department is busy fixing them, so please know that we are trying to solve these problems as quickly as possible. **One such bug concerns ARRL Amateur Radio license exam sessions. Unfortunately, all future exam listings will read “no walk ins” and some contact information may be missing or be incorrect until our programmers find a solution to the problem. In the meantime, we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you, your VE team or your examinees.**

## Eisenhower Marathon 2010

I’d like to say “Thank you!” to all those who helped out with the Eisenhower Marathon in Abilene, Ks. this year. Everyone did a great job, and we were very appreciated by the Marathon staff. The KWU’s Radio Club assisted with a live Video feed this year that was “Very Popular” with a large number of folks.

We need to work out a few bugs (we messed up the picture—every time we keyed up the transmitter), but aside from that minor issue, the picture quality was great! They are already talking about what they might do to improve the Video service for next year (Motorcycle mobile anyone?)

The race started at 7 AM, and the leader finished in a little over 2 1/4 hours. We wrapped up our activities about the same time that the Highway Patrol opened K-15 back up to traffic at 1:30.

A special Thanks to Dirk Speed, NØKSC for finding a site in-town for the NØSLN portable Repeater for the race. I’m told that it will be back in that location for the Bike-a-Thon. The 440 machine did a fine job of covering the entire route.

Sid, NØOBM

# Eisenhower Marathon 2010



## May 2010 Contest Calendar

### From the WA7BNM Contest Calendar

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

Araucaria <b>VHF</b> Contest	0000Z, May 1 to 1600Z, May 2
<b>MARAC SSB QSO Party</b>	0000Z, May 1 to 2359Z, May 2
<b>MARAC CW QSO Party</b>	0000Z, May 1 to 2359Z, May 2
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, <b>Digital</b>	0001Z, May 1 to 2359Z, May 2
SBMS 2 GHz and Up WW Club Contest	0600 local, May 1 to 2000 local, May 2
Microwave Spring Sprint	0600-1300 local, May 1
<b>7th Call Area QSO Party</b>	1300Z, May 1 to 0700Z, May 2
<b>AGCW QRP/QRP Party</b>	1300Z-1900Z, May 1
<b>Indiana QSO Party</b>	1600Z, May 1 to 0400Z, May 2
ARI International DX Contest	2000Z, May 1 to 1959Z, May 2
<b>New England QSO Party</b>	2000Z, May 1 to 0500Z, May 2 and 1300Z-2400Z, May 2
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, May 3
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, May 4
MIE 33 Contest	1100Z-1500Z, May 4 and 2300Z, May 4 to 0300Z, May 5
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 7
VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, May 8
<b>EUCW Fraternizing CW QSO Party</b>	1000Z-1200Z, May 8 and 1800Z-2000Z, May 9
VOLTA WW <b>RTTY</b> Contest	1200Z, May 8 to 1200Z, May 9
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z, May 8 to 1159Z, May 9
Portuguese Navy Day Contest	1500Z, May 8 to 1500Z, May 9
FISTS Spring Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, May 8
Nevada Mustang Roundup	1700Z, May 8 to 1700Z, May 9
50 MHz Spring Sprint	2300Z, May 8 to 0300Z, May 9
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, May 9
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1100Z-1200Z, May 12 and 1900Z-2000Z, May 12 and 0300Z-0400Z, May 13
RSGB 80m Club Championship, <b>Data</b>	1900Z-2030Z, May 12
QRP Minimal Art Session	1900Z-2300Z, May 13
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 15 to 1200Z, May 16
<b>Feld Hell Sprint</b>	1600Z-1800Z, May 15 and 2000Z-2200Z, May 15
WAB LF Phone	1000Z-1400Z, May 16
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, May 17
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, May 20
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, May 20

*Continued on next page*



## Contest Calendar, Continued ..

NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 21
Slobozhansky Sprint Contest	1800Z-1959Z, May 21 (SSB) and 2000Z-2059Z, May 21 (CW)
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 28
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 29 to 2359Z, May 30
ARCI Hootowl Sprint	2000 local - 2400 local, May 30
MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z, May 31 to 0300Z, Jun 1

## CKARC Field Day 2010

Field Day 2010 is “just around the corner” (June 26th & 27th specifically), and this year is going to be a bit different than in the past. This year, we are going to be teaming up with the KWU Radio Club at Coronado Heights.

NØOY is working with the KWU Club on trying to obtain the use of a US Tower portable tower again—similar to the one we used the last time the CKARC did Field Day at Coronado Heights. Either way, with the “new blood” of the KWU operators, we should manage to get some good scores. Looks like we will be operating either 3A or maybe even 4A this year. KWU has agreed to take on “most” of the set-up duties, so this could really be a fun year. The antennas are currently being test assembled and tuned, so that the setup crew should have an easier time of getting things up in the air.

Of course, we still need **YOUR** help to make this a Great Field Day, so come on out and join us. We can use Operators, Loggers, Set-up Crew, “Tour Guides” (for the general public that shows up) a Cook? (or two?) and some folks to cheer on those that are working like crazy. Come on out and have some **FUN!**

**Central Kansas Amateur Radio Club**  
P. O. Box 2493  
Salina, Ks. 67402-2493

**QSP Editor:** Sid Ashen-Brenner, NØOBM  
Phone: 785-823-6560  
Fax: 785-823-6560  
Email: OBM@centralksarc.com



[Http://www.centralksarc.com](http://www.centralksarc.com)

Your issue of QSP is Here!

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**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE  
MAY QSP IS MAY 18, 2010**

## **CKARC May Birthdays**

KCØUBM	Michael	Draggett	5/18
NØGSL	Larry	Cornwell	5/28