



# QSP



December 2008

## December VE Report

The **December 18, 2008**  
CKARC Meeting will be  
at  
**Western Sizzlin Steak  
House on  
West Crawford  
at 6:00 PM**

For the December 10th session, we had 6 Candidate take 8 Exams, and 5 VE's in attendance. 1 New Technician, 1 Upgraded to Extra Class.

Our new Technician is **Logan Lytle** of Medicine Lodge, Ks. Logan did attempt the General exam, but did not pass.

The following upgraded to General:

**Heidi Paul**, KDØFUA of Roxbury, Ks. (XYL of incoming President Robert Paul, WBØWTM) is our new Extra. She passed both the General and Extra Exams.

Andrew Boss and Robert Paul, WBØWTM, attempted exams, but did not pass.

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Upgrades have not yet been posted to the FCC ULS Site as of publication of QSP.

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

Next Exams are as follows:

**Wednesday January 14th**, at 7:00 PM, at the Saline County Sheriff's Office Classroom. This will be our first session with the ARRL's new Exam Fee of \$15.00

Sid NØOBM VE Team Leader

## Minutes of the November Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Terry, KCØKCO, at 7:31 PM on November 28th with 16 members and guests present at KWU Peter's Science Hall Room 211. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Terry started off with a round of introductions.

Minutes of last meeting approved as printed in QSP.

No Treasurer's report  
No EC Report

Terry, KCØKCO, gave a report on the CERT Class.

Terry, KCØKCO, reminded everyone about the December Christmas Party / Installation of Officers for 2009 that will be on December 18th, 2008 at 6:00 PM at the Western Sizzlin Steak House on West Crawford.

Motion to adjourn made and seconded.

Host for the November Meeting was Virgil, NØXRS

## Reminders

Thursday **January 1, 2009** Open House at "The Hill" - a New Year's Tradition.

**Salina City Siren Test Net**, January 5th at 4:30 PM on the NØKSC Repeater or on 146.730 Simplex if the Weather cooperates!

ARES Net **January 6th at 8:00 PM** on the NØKSC Repeater (or on 146.730 Simplex if it's not running).

**ARRL-VEC Test Sessions** on Wednesday January 14th at **7:00 PM**.

**Board meeting** follows the exam session on January 14th at 8:00 PM (or after Testing—which ever is later) in the Saline Co. Sheriff's Office Classroom.

**ARES Meeting is January 15th at 8:00 PM in the EOC.**

**CKARC Meeting January 30th** at 7:30 PM at **Kansas Wesleyan University**.

Full Calendar of events on the CKARC Web site <http://www.centalksarc.com>

## Get Ready for the ARRL Triple Play WAS Award



As of January 1, 2009, the ARRL will offer another award: The Triple Play Worked All States Award. This new, exciting award is available to all amateurs who confirm contacts with each of the 50 states using three modes for each state: CW, phone and RTTY/digital. All 150 contacts must be made on or after the starting date and must be confirmed via Logbook of the World (LoTW). All bands -- with the exception of 60 meters -- may be used in pursuit of the Triple Play Award.

In their July 2008 meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors, decided to implement this new award. Based on a suggestion by former ARRL Dakota Division Vice Director Hans Brakob, KOHB, the League's Programs and Services Committee referred the award's parameters to the Board where it received enthusiastic approval.

According to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, the Triple Play Award is a one-time award -- once you have made the required 150 confirmed

contacts via LoTW, you're done. "Even so," Sumner writes in "It Seems to Us" in the January issue of *QST*, "there are many possible variations on the theme. You can try to be the first (or at least the first on your block) or you can set your own pace. Think it's too easy? Limit yourself to QRP while operating your favorite mode (or all three). Maybe you prefer to be the quarry; it will quickly emerge which states are the most difficult to find, offering opportunities to earn the gratitude of your mates by activating the ones you can get to with your portable or mobile rig."

The Triple Play Award is not a contest, but Sumner points out that the ARRL RTTY Roundup takes place the first weekend in 2009, with the North American QSO Party (CW and Phone) following soon after. "Contesters are among the most loyal devotees of LoTW," Sumner writes, "so participating in these three events should take care of all of the easy states, as well as some of the more difficult ones." He warns that it can be addictive once you begin making your contacts for the Triple Play Award!

The rules for the Triple Play Award state that two-way communication must be established on the amateur bands with each state on each mode (the District of Columbia may be counted for Maryland). There is no minimum signal report required. Contacts must be made from the same location, or from locations no two of which are more than 50 miles apart. Club station applicants must include their club name and call sign of the club station or trustee on their application. The Triple Play Award will be issued on sequentially numbered certificates, starting with #1, as determined by the time stamp of the electronic application as submitted via LoTW. There are no endorsements for this award.

Contacts made through repeater devices or any other power relay method may not be used for WAS confirmation (a separate WAS award is available for satellite contacts). All stations contacted must be land stations; contacts with ships, anchored or otherwise, and aircraft, cannot be counted. The only exception to

this rule is permanently docked exhibition ships (such as the *Queen Mary*) and other historic ships will be considered land based.

Triple Play Award applicants who reside in the US must be ARRL members to be eligible to receive the award. DX stations do not need to be ARRL members. Any attempt to falsify data, logs or other application operations may be grounds for disqualification. The decision of the ARRL Awards Committee is final.

*From the ARRL Web Site*

## FCC Calls on Amateur Radio Service for Assistance with Digital TV Conversion



Earlier this week, the ARRL received a request from the FCC asking that ARRL members to provide technical educational assistance to their communities concerning the FCC-mandated digital television (DTV) conversion scheduled for February 17, 2009.

According to ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, WIAGP, Amateur Radio clubs across the country are being asked to develop and implement plans to provide information throughout January and February about the DTV conversion in their areas. The FCC is leaving it up to the clubs to decide how to do this, as local groups understand the communities in ways that the FCC does not. Each community is a little different, Pitts said, so plans carried out by the clubs will vary from community to community. Interested groups should contact their ARRL

Section Manager.

Pitts stressed that hams should *not* make "house calls," sell any equipment or do actual installations; the request is only to distribute technical information and FCC materials. He commented: "As we all know, some folks just never get the message until too late. Materials for presentations, education and many other activities are available online. Beginning early January, FCC staff will contact Section Managers and leaders of interested clubs and, where possible, arrange to meet to share even more information, audio, visual and printed materials, as well as and training aids, with the clubs involved this effort. We know the time is short, but your aid in this now will be appreciated."

In early January, Pitts said that the FCC will ask Section Managers for the names and contact information of the volunteering groups. The FCC staff will then make contact with the groups, learn their plans and provide them with the media, brochures or other materials groups may need in this effort. Materials also can be downloaded from the DTV Conversion Web site. FCC regional staff members may even come and visit with larger groups to aid in implementation of the group's plans.

"I really appreciate the willingness of the ARRL to actively participate in helping Americans with the transition to DTV and your helpful suggestions," said George Dillon, FCC Deputy Bureau Chief for Field Operations. "The DTV transition will be an historic moment in the evolution of TV. Broadcast television stations can offer viewers improved picture and sound quality and new programming choices. All-digital broadcasting also will allow us to significantly improve public safety communications and will usher in a new era of advanced wireless services such as the widespread deployment of wireless broadband. Our goal is to engage the amateur community on a cooperative basis to help with the DTV outreach and to educate consumers."

Dillon continued that local Amateur Radio clubs might consider offering technical advice to consumers via telephone to those consumers who may encounter difficulty with the installation and setting up of their converter box. "Any assistance...will greatly help in the efforts of the FCC to ensure a smooth transition to DTV on February 17, 2009."

Pitts advises interested groups to keep in mind that they are to provide technical educational help only: "At no time should the hams enter someone else's home or install equipment. They should not broker or sell conversion boxes in any way. Clubs can provide such things as a call-in telephone number for technical help, make presentations at meetings, do demonstrations at malls or give talks to other groups -- whatever works in their community."

*From the ARRL Web Site*

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*Your issue of QSP is Here!*

**January Meeting is Friday, January 30, 2008**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE  
JANUARY QSP IS JANUARY 21, 2009**

## **CKARC January Birthdays**

<b>KBØNOV</b>	<b>Neil</b>	<b>Cox</b>	<b>1/4</b>
<b>WBØWTM</b>	<b>Robert</b>	<b>Paul</b>	<b>1/6</b>
<b>WAØJFC</b>	<b>Leon</b>	<b>Gray</b>	<b>1/8</b>
	<b>Patty</b>	<b>Yost</b>	<b>1/11</b>
<b>F/Member</b>	<b>Phyllis</b>	<b>Shurts</b>	<b>1/12</b>
<b>KØRY</b>	<b>Harvey</b>	<b>Tewes</b>	<b>1/16</b>
<b>NØOBM</b>	<b>Sid</b>	<b>Ashen-Brenner</b>	<b>1/19</b>
<b>KDØVA</b>	<b>Stephen</b>	<b>Haly</b>	<b>1/19</b>
<b>KCØSMG</b>	<b>Robert</b>	<b>Sheehy, Jr.</b>	<b>1/26</b>
<b>NØOY</b>	<b>Pete</b>	<b>Sias</b>	<b>1/27</b>
<b>WAØPSF</b>	<b>Ron</b>	<b>Tremblay</b>	<b>1/30</b>