

# December QSP



## Business Name

### December Test Session

The December 13th Test session had Five candidates, Philip Bowman, WDØGBQ, of Salina passed his General Exam, Michael McCarney, KEØPPQ, of Haysville, Passed his Technician and General Class Exams, David Porter, KEØPPR, of Beloit Passed his Technician, Mark Eilert, KEØPPO, of Beloit, Passed his Technician, and Brent Eilert, KEØPPP, of Beloit, Passed his Technician. All 5 attempted the Next Higher Exam than what they passed. Congratulations to ALL!

VE's in Attendance were: Sid, NØOBM, Ron, WAØPSF, Richard KØRCJ (of McPherson), and Leon, WAØJFC.

#### Special points of interest:

- December Testing Session
- November & December Minutes
- New Format for QST
- Hamvention Changes
- ARRL/TAPR DCC Set
- Dying Wish GRANTED to Nam Vet



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## Reminders

Siren Test scheduled for **January 8th. No Siren Test on Jan 1!** In the event the weather does not cooperate, we will try again the following Monday!

January Test Session is on January 10th at 7:00 PM at the Saline County Sheriff's Office Classroom. Board Meeting at 6:30 PM, on the 13th. The January

CKARC meeting is scheduled for the 26th of January at **7:30 PM** at KWU's Peters Science Hall in Room 211.

## CKARC Minutes Not Found for Nov or Dec

Due to the fact that I was unable to locate the Minutes for either the November or December 2017 CKARC Meetings, they are NOT included here.

Sorry,

Sid NØOBM



These are “routinely” held on the First Monday of every Month—**Except September** - provided that the Weather is in a cooperative mood. If there are too many clouds in the sky, or if it happens to be too Cold (Winter in Kansas can be Very cold) Less than +32 Degrees, the Test will usually be postponed until the following week.

### Siren Test Nets

In the event that the Weather still is not in a cooperative mood on the 2nd Monday, the test will be Cancelled for the Month.

Those folks that do check in, we would like the following information: Your Call Sign (obviously), your current location (street intersections are good enough) and if you heard

a Siren (or more than one). This helps cut down on the number of folks that the Emergency Management Office has to call to see if the Sirens went off or not.

Our help on this event **IS** Greatly appreciated!

**All of the New Sirens Have been Installed at this time.**

## January 2018 QST Debuts Fresh, New Design

12/08/2017

*QST* -- ARRL's monthly member journal -- is more than a century old, and with the major exception of color printing throughout the magazine starting in December 2000, it's remained mostly unchanged for the past couple of decades. Starting with the January 2018 issue of *QST*, **now available** to members in digital form, several noticeable changes are being made to the journal's format, design, and size. *QST* Editor and Publications Manager Steve Ford, WB8IMY, said member feedback over the last few years, has hinted at "significant shifts in media preferences within the Amateur Radio community." Extensive research undertaken late last year, "revealed an undeniable mandate for change," Ford said.

"The majority of you told us that the 'look' of *QST* was becoming stale, that it wasn't in step with modern publications," Ford said in editorial remarks in the January 2018 issue. "You also told us that you desired different types of articles that spoke more to the needs of the average amateur. We've heard you – and we are responding."

Ford said that starting with the January 2018 issue, *QST* will sport a modern, eye-catching design, and will be easier to read. The journal has been trimmed slightly to 144 pages per issue (in addition to covers), plus a smaller size to match the 8 × 10.5-inch publishing industry standard. The current *QST* trim size is nonstandard.

"These changes will create significant savings for us in the cost of ink and paper, and will save even more on postage, which is one of our largest expenses," Ford explained, adding that cost savings will fund the development "of more of the types of the articles you've told us you want" as well as to provide more engaging social media content. In addition, fewer pages will let the editorial staff focus greater attention on each issue's content.

Ford said League members have indicated a preference for articles that provide practical, immediately usable information, guide readers to new activities, and tell more about what radio amateurs are doing — with an emphasis on personal stories that inspire.

"While we will continue to publish *QST* in digital form each month, our research, and the research conducted by other publishers, has shown that a clear majority of readers still prefer books and magazines printed on paper, and so do our advertisers," Ford said. "So, thanks to the support of our advertisers, we will continue to publish *QST* on paper for the foreseeable future." Ford said additional changes are possible. "As your needs change, we will, too," he concluded.

## More Room to be Available for Hamvention® at Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center

12/20/2017

Hamvention® reports that the Greene County Commissioners and the Greene County Fair Board have approved the construction of a new building at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center, the new Hamvention venue in Xenia, Ohio.

"Greene County officials have decided to move forward with construction of a new building, as it will continue to expand their presence in the region as a world-class Exposition Center," Hamvention Spokesperson Michael Kalter, W8CI, said in a news release. "Hamvention certainly benefits from the decision to expand the Expo Center footprint. Construction is planned to be complete ahead of Hamvention 2018, and [the new building] will be used for the event."

In addition to the new structure, another building on the property, previously known as Fairgrounds Furniture, is being vacated and will be available for use by Hamvention in May 2018. Additional details are forthcoming. Kalter said Hamvention has been told that the additional floor space will cover an area larger than the tents Hamvention used for some activities in 2017.

"Although this decision was made to expand opportunities at the Expo Center, Hamvention is grateful for the support Greene County, Xenia Township, and the city of Xenia," Kalter added.

## 2018 ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference Set for September in Albuquerque

12/21/2017

The 37th annual ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference (**DCC**) will take place September 14-16 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at the Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel. Make reservations now for 3 days of learning and enjoyment.

The Digital Communications Conference schedule includes technical and introductory forums, demonstrations, a Saturday evening banquet, and an in-depth Sunday seminar. This conference is for everyone with an interest in digital communications, from beginners to experts.

Visit the TAPR website for more information or call (972) 671-8277.

The conference is seeking technical papers for presentation at the conference and publication in the *Conference Proceedings*, published by ARRL. Presentation at the conference is not required for publication. Papers are due by July 31, 2018, to Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 or via e-mail to [maty@arrl.org](mailto:maty@arrl.org).

The conference website has **full details** and **submission guidelines**

## Vietnam Vet, Radio Amateur Granted Dying Wish to Get on the Air One More Time

12/20/2017

Vietnam War veteran John Nugent, WA2EQJ, got on the air for what likely will be his final time earlier this month, thanks to help from the Amateur Radio community. The 75-year old US Army Signal Corps veteran, who has cancer, lives at the James A Lovell Federal Health Care Center in North Chicago, Illinois. Licensed since he was 16, he told a social worker at the facility that one item on his "bucket list" was to operate on ham radio one last time. Staffers at the facility got in touch with the Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission, and replies came from the American Legion Amateur Radio Club, the North Shore Amateur Radio Club, and **Lake County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service** (RACES), among others.

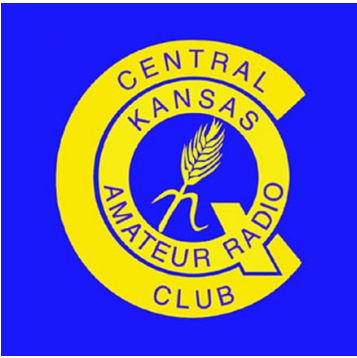
"He was just over the moon," social worker Alesia Behnke **told** the *Chicago Tribune*. "We had no idea we were going to pull it off."

The various Amateur Radio volunteers did, however, setting up an antenna outside the facility and a simple HF station inside. David Hartnett, K9DRH, and crew Don Whitney, K9DRW; James Nelson, K9QF; Harry Hahn, WB9R, and Scott Campbell, KC9SJP, were among those who made it happen. ARRL Illinois Section Manager Ron Morgan, AD9I, spread the word that WA2EQJ would be on the air.

"John is terminally ill and wanted to make some 20-meter radio contacts one last time," a post on the Lake County RACES page recounted. "He has been in the [Lovell Center] for more than 3 years." Nugent volunteered to serve in the Army and was wounded during his Vietnam service. On December 5, Nugent — with help from his family members and Lovell Center staff — turned on his radio and worked stations in California, Illinois, and Texas. After the contacts were in the log, Nugent's son Chris thanked the Lake County RACES and other volunteers who facilitated his dad's last wish.

Among the stations Nugent worked was special event W9F, operated by members of the Fermilab Amateur Radio Club (WB9IKJ) to mark the 50th anniversary of the National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab).

"We were able to add dying Army vet John Nugent, WA2EQJ, to the W9F special event log because of the rapid e-mail alert from the ARRL Illinois Section Manager, notifying ARRL members that it was Mr. Nugent's dying wish to make a final radio contact," Michaline Przekop, KC9ARP, told ARRL. "It was truly touching and unforgettable experience."



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**Your issue of QSP is Here!**

## **CKARC, Inc.**

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We are on the Web

[www.w0cy.org](http://www.w0cy.org)

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**January Meeting is January 26th at 7:30 PM at KWU's Peters Science Hall  
in Room 211**

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