



QSP



February 2010

February VE Report

The February Meeting is
Friday, February 26,
2010
@ 7:30 PM, at KWU
Peters Science Hall
Room 211

Host: Virgil, NØXRS

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For the February 10th Session:

We had NO Candidates, so the Board meeting was held a little early. On February 11, at KWU’s Peter’s Science Hall in Room 211, there was a “special” test session for some members of the KWU Physics club. That test session has a much better turnout! We had 7 present for testing. Mark Boyle, KBØMQX, upgraded to General, and yes he did attempt the Extra, but was a bit short of passing — better luck nex time Mark! Also testing was John Burchill, KCØJNK, who also passed his General. Others testing were: Justin Thacher, who will try again soon for his Technician, Guoce Chen, (Still pending), who passed both his Tech and General, Nick Isely, KDØKIR, a new Tech, Dean Klenda, KDØKIQ, another new Tech, and Andrew Gabel, KDØKIS, also passing his Tech. Most who passed their Technician Exams also attempted the General Exam as well.

VE’s in attendance were: Sid, NØOBM, Leon, WAØJSC, Alvin, WØME, and present for all but his brother’s exam—Eric, NØYET.

I suspect that there will be some additional exam sessions in the near future for the KWU crew. Watch out for their impending Balloon Launch.

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 March 10th, 2010**, at 7:00 PM, at the Saline County Sheriff’s Office Classroom.

Sid NØOBM VE Team Leader

Minutes of the January Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Leon, WAØJFC, in the absence of President Robert, WBØWTM, who was home and under the weather. The meeting started at 7:32 PM with a round of introductions with 27 members and guests present.

Secretary's Report: The minutes were read by Sec. Alvin, WØME, and approved as read, seconded and passed.

Treasurers Report: Reported by Mitch, KAØIFW, with a total \$4144.72, approved and seconded, Passed.

Repeater Report: Eric, NØYET, reported that both repeaters working but that there is an antenna problem. It was moved and second to replace the single Dual Band antenna with a pair of Single Band Commercial Grade antennas, one for the 147.030 machine and one for the 443.900 machine. They will also get a relay to run both repeaters on Emergency Power.

EC Report: Sid, NØOBM, reported that there was no one to test at the January session. On Feb. 22 the National Weather Service's Storm Spotter Class will be held in the **4-H Bldg** this year at 7 PM.

This Sat. Jan 30th there will be a Club/ARES contest, all are invited to participate, and come down to the EC and see the new Emergency Management Communications Room and operate. (get acquainted with the equipment)

Dues are due "Now"

The Hosts for this evening are Ron, WAØPSF, and Kathleen with a birthday cake for Ron. Happy Birthday Ron.

Program: Mark, KBØMQX, and Eric, NØYET, presented their interview with KSAL. About a ten minute spot promoting ham radio on the air.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06PM Sec/WØME

Saline County Emergency Management Amateur Radio Contest

When: Saturday, February 27, 2010

What: While we had “promised” to do something every month on the Saturday after the CKARC Meeting, as it turns out this month there is already another event scheduled — The KWU Physics Club is having a Balloon Launch. This will involve most of the new Hams listed on Page 1 as part of the “Chase” team.

The package will be running APRS on 2 meters and ATV on 440. The package is expected (near press time) to track mostly Southward—this is of course subject to change, as things usually are with Balloon Launches.

Anyone who would like to participate, please contact Pete, NØOY.

Reminders

City of Salina Siren Test Net, March 1st at 4:30 PM on the NØKSC Repeater (147.270+) if the Weather cooperates! *[If it's above 32 degrees!]*

ARES Net **March 2nd at 8:00 PM** on the NØKSC Repeater (147.270+ no tone)

ARRL-VEC Test Session on Wednesday **March 10th at 7:00 PM.**

Board meeting follows the exam session on **March 10th** at 8:00 PM (or after Testing—which ever is later) in the Saline Co. Sheriff's Office Classroom.

ARES Meeting is March 18th at 8:00 PM in the EOC.

CKARC Meeting March 26th at 7:30 PM at KWU's Peters Science Hall.

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

Subject: Make Your Own Loading Coils DE KØFF

OR: "If they look like DUX and walk like DUX and quack like DUX, maybe they
ARE DUX"
(then again maybe not)

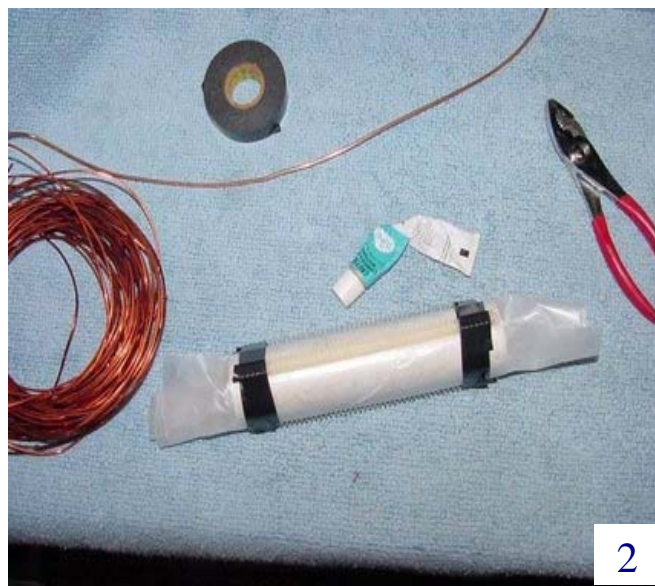
"Air Dux" inductors were once plentiful and inexpensive. Not so today. Even if they were, HAMs like to make their own apparatus when possible. Here is one method that I have long used to make evenly spaced, nice looking coils of all sizes.

Make your own loading coils for antenna projects using Caterpillar Grommet strips. Also called flexible grommets, flexible bushings etc. These are used by installers to form protective bushings around the edges of holes cut into sheet metal, and come in strips that are cut to desired length then snapped into the hole to cover the raw edge. We used to use them when installing 2-way radios to line the holes we made in the firewall to pass the heavy 12V wires. The evenly spaced notches make an ideal form and support for AIR DUX knockoffs. Use Duco or Testors model cement to secure the wires in the strips before removing from the temporary forms. Nylon Grommet strips can be purchased at McMasters, as well as many other supply houses.



1

Fig 1 is the caterpillar grommet material as purchased from the supplier:



2

Fig 2 - Next Wrap the form (whatever size you need) in wax paper and temporarily tape the plastic strips on there:

Fig 3 - Wind the coil using the notches as a guide. Seat the wire all the way down into the notch and wrap the coil tightly. Spread plastic cement down the strips when the coil is wound:

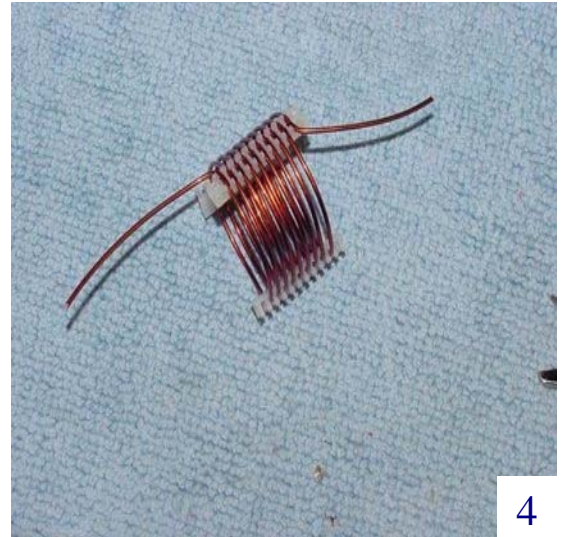
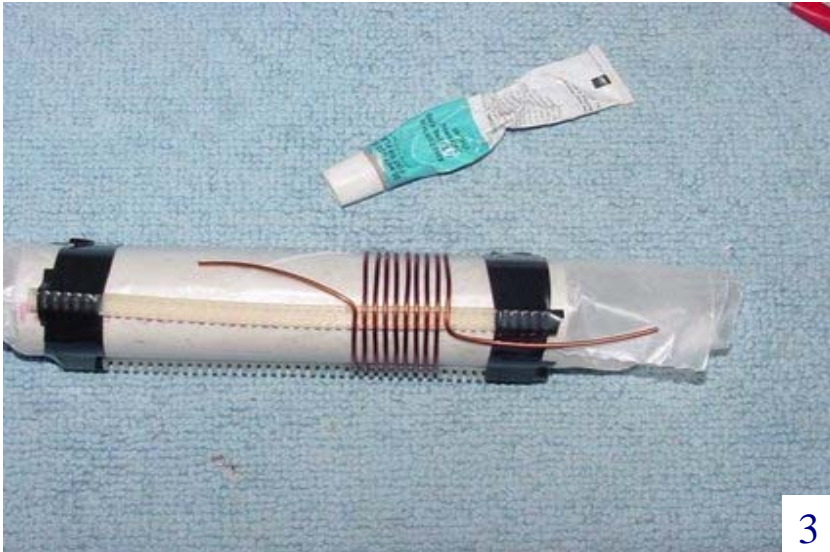


Fig. 4 - When the glue is dry, slip the assembly off the form and trim the strips to correct length:

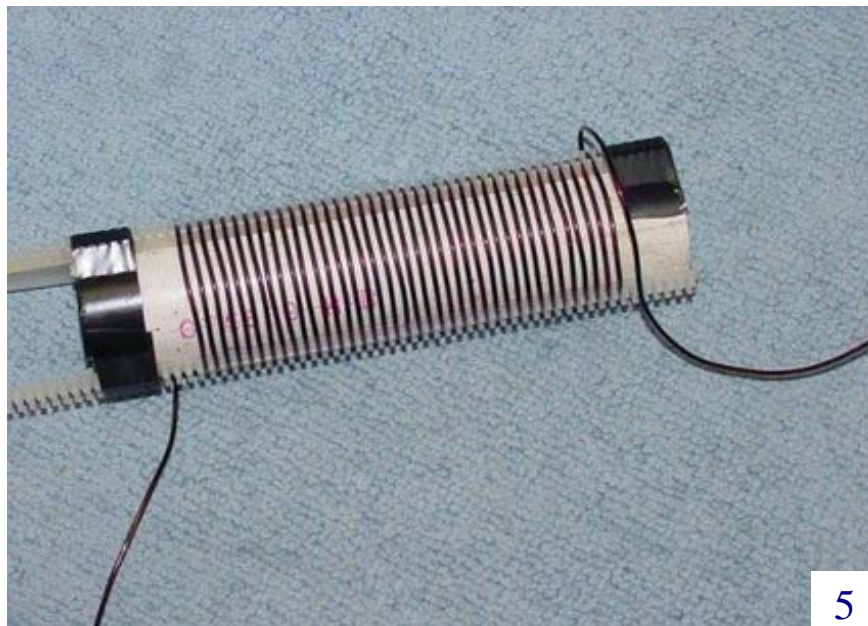


Fig 5 - Any size diameter or length can be wound, just use bigger forms and more strips:

Happy Building, Geo>KØFF

Courtesy of Eham.net [Ed.]

March 2010 Contest Calendar

From the WA7BNM Contest Calendar

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

| | |
|--|---|
| ARS Spartan Sprint | 0200Z-0400Z, Mar 2 |
| AGCW YL-CW Party | 1900Z-2100Z, Mar 2 |
| ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB | 0000Z, Mar 6 to 2400Z, Mar 7 |
| Wake-Up! QRP Sprint | 0600Z-0629Z, Mar 6, 0630Z-0659Z, Mar 6 and 0700Z-0729Z, Mar 6, 0730Z-0800Z, Mar 6 |
| Open Ukraine RTTY Championship | 2000Z-2159Z, Mar 6 (Low Band) and 2200Z-2359Z, Mar 6 (Low Band) and 0800Z-1159Z, Mar 7 (High Band) |
| UBA Spring Contest, CW | 0700Z-1100Z, Mar 7 |
| DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest | 1100Z-1700Z, Mar 7 |
| SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg Contest | 1200Z-1400Z, Mar 7 |
| CLARA HF Contest | 1700Z, Mar 9 to 1700Z, Mar 10 and 1700Z, Mar 13 to 1700Z, Mar 14 |
| CWops Mini-CWT Test | 1100Z-1200Z, Mar 10, 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 10 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 11 |
| HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest | 1830Z-1900Z, Mar 12 (80m) and 1900Z-1930Z, Mar 12 (40m) |
| RSGB Commonwealth Contest | 1000Z, Mar 13 to 1000Z, Mar 14 |
| AGCW QRP Contest | 1400Z-2000Z, Mar 13 |
| ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint | 1500Z-1800Z, Mar 13 |
| Feld Hell Sprint | 1600Z-1800Z, Mar 13 |
| EA PSK31 Contest | 1600Z, Mar 13 to 1600Z, Mar 14 |
| Elecraft QSO Party | 1800Z, Mar 13 to 1800Z, Mar 14 |
| SOC Marathon Sprint | 1800Z-2400Z, Mar 13 |
| Idaho QSO Party | 1900Z, Mar 13 to 1900Z, Mar 14 |
| North American Sprint, RTTY | 0000Z-0400Z, Mar 14 |
| SKCC Weekend Sprint | 0000Z-2400Z, Mar 14 |
| UBA Spring Contest, 6m | 0700Z-1100Z, Mar 14 |
| NSARA Contest | 1100Z-1500Z, Mar 14 and 1700Z-2100Z, Mar 14 |
| Bucharest Contest | 1600Z-1729Z, Mar 15 and 1730Z-1859Z, Mar 15 |
| Wisconsin QSO Party | 1800Z, Mar 14 to 0100Z, Mar 15 |
| NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint | 0030Z-0230Z, Mar 18 |
| 10-10 Int. Mobile Contest | 0001Z-2359Z, Mar 20 |
| BARTG HF RTTY Contest | 0200Z, Mar 20 to 0200Z, Mar 22 |
| SARL VHF/UHF Analogue Contest | 1000Z, Mar 20 to 1000Z, Mar 21 |
| Russian DX Contest | 1200Z, Mar 20 to 1200Z, Mar 21 |
| Oklahoma QSO Party | 1300Z, Mar 20 to 0100Z, Mar 21 and 1300Z-1900Z, Mar 21 |
| AGCW VHF/UHF Contest | 1400Z-1659Z, Mar 20 (144) and 1700Z-1759Z, Mar 20 (432) |
| North Dakota QSO Party | 1800Z, Mar 20 to 1800Z, Mar 21 |
| Virginia QSO Party | 1800Z, Mar 20 to 0100Z, Mar 22 |
| 9K 15-Meter Contest | 1200Z-1600Z, Mar 21 |
| Run for the Bacon QRP Contest | 0100Z-0300Z, Mar 22 |
| SKCC Sprint | 0000Z-0200Z, Mar 24 |
| CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB | 0000Z, Mar 27 to 2359Z, Mar 28 |
| UBA Spring Contest, 2m | 0700Z-1100Z, Mar 28 |

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

Your issue of QSP is Here!

February Meeting is Friday, February 26, 2010
@ 7:30 PM, at KWU

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE
MARCH QSP IS MAR. 17, 2010

CKARC March Birthdays

| | | | |
|----------|---------|------------|------|
| F/Member | JoAnn | Matthews | 3/1 |
| KAØEIC | Don | Fitzgerald | 3/5 |
| F/Member | Mary | Constable | 3/9 |
| WØUB | Vance | Eckstrom | 3/14 |
| F/Member | Crystal | Boyle | 3/23 |
| WØUTS | Bert | Voth | 3/26 |
| KCØVDV | Barbara | Mallon | 3/28 |
| KAØLTQ | Dennis | Kelley | 3/29 |