



QSP



February 2013

QSP On-Line at: <http://www.centalksarc.com/qsppage.htm>

The February Meeting is
Friday February 22nd
at KWU's Peters Science Hall Room 211

7:30 PM

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February VE Report

For the **February 13th** session, we had 2 Candidates. Carol Christian, KDØRZO, of Russell, Ks. upgraded to General, and Randall Unruh KDØzzz, of Galva, Ks. passed his Technician Exam.

Randall's call has not yet been "released" as of the printing of this issue of QSP—due to the President's Day Holiday.

Update: Randall Unruh, KDØUKN.

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VE's in attendance were: Sid, NØOBM, Ron, WAØPSF, Leon, WAØJFC, Alvin, WØME, Don, KAØEIC, Paul, KS1P, and Eric, NØYET.

The next scheduled session is **Wednesday March 13th**, at **7:00 PM**, at the Saline County Sheriff's Office Classroom.

Sid NØOBM VE Team Leader

Minutes of the Meetings

January 25, 2013 Minutes, CKARC

Alvin, WØME, opened the meeting with Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a round of introductions. 22 members and guest present. The minutes from the last meeting were approved as printed in QSP.

With the Treasurer not present, no report was given

VE Report – 1 person tested at the last session, granted a tech license, the next testing session is on Feb. 13th.

EC Report – Storm Spotter classes coming up next month, Salina's is at South High School on February 21st at 6:30 PM. Also this year there is an **advanced spotter class** (Also at South High) 6:30 PM on April 3rd.

Alvin, WØME, suggested that we have some kind of sign up sheet at the storm spotter meeting, hoping to get a list of names that we can recruit for ham radio classes. Any suggestions are welcome.

Activities – Mitch, KAØIFW, passed around a list asking for ideas from the club members on what they would like to do for activities. He also showed a mobile power box that he and Paul (KS1P) made from a QST article.

Ron, WAØPSF, talked about the hamfest. It will be at Webster Conference Center this year. Some added activities include: A Wouff Hong (pictured below) Society; where there is a meeting at midnight and you are sworn to secrecy about what happened. It's a tradition at State conventions that we haven't done for quite a while.

He also mentioned that there is interest in a Sat. evening meal, which Webster can provide for a "reasonable" fee (12 bucks or so.) if we have 40 people there. He also mentioned that we may add a few bucks to the meal to get a speaker there, possibly an avid DX hunter from Colorado.

Webster can provide a lunch on Sunday for \$8.25. We also have several spaces available, meeting rooms upstairs, and rooms on the main floor.

Old Business: Dues are Due: Please fill out an application, including contact information and ARRL member # (though ARRL membership is not Required, it is recommended.) We hope to have a full club roster by March.

New Business: None

Announcements: Alvin read a letter we've had for several years, from ARRL congratulating CKARC on being an ARRL affiliated club for 50 years. He suggested we might frame it and / or display it somewhere, maybe at the hamfest. Alvin also talked a little about the ham radio operator's code of ethics, and how we need to remember that what we say and do as a ham affects everyone. We, as hams, need to keep an eye on what we say about other individuals, and who we say it to. We represent ham radio to everyone.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Hosts were Ron and Kathleen Tremblay. As a January tradition, Kathleen provided a birthday cake to celebrate Ron's birthday.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Mark, KBØMQX



The "dreaded awful Wouff Hong"

Reminders

City of Salina Siren Test Net, **March 4th** at 4:30 PM if the Weather cooperates!

ARRL-VEC Test Session on Wednesday **March 13th** at 7:00 PM.

Board meeting follows the exam session on **March 13th** after Testing in the Saline Co. Sheriff's Office Classroom.

ARES Meeting is **March 21st** at 8:00 PM in **Emergency Management**.

CKARC Meeting is **March 29th** at 7:30 PM at KWU's Peters Science Hall Room 211.

Advanced StormSpotter Class **April 3rd** at 6:30 PM at South High Auditorium.

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

A Request for Help to Demonstrate Ham Radio

I'm a amateur radio operator and at the last of March this year I'm going to setup a booth where I hope to have two radios setup and working. The reason I'm emailing you is to see if you or anyone you might know, might be interested and coming to help run a radio and get students, that are attending the Kansas-Technology Student Association, when they aren't competing, on the air as a third party operator (kind a like what is done on ARRL's kids day). I and anyone that wants to help will be setting up in the afternoon on Wednesday, March 27, running the booths on Thursday and Friday (28 & 29), and take down the evening of the 29th. If people can't come to the conference than be willing to talk to students when we get them on the air.

I would appreciate any help you or any one can give. Thank you very much.

David Rayson
KDØBGH

Rec'd via email.

Rotor Frustrations and Preparing the Cable

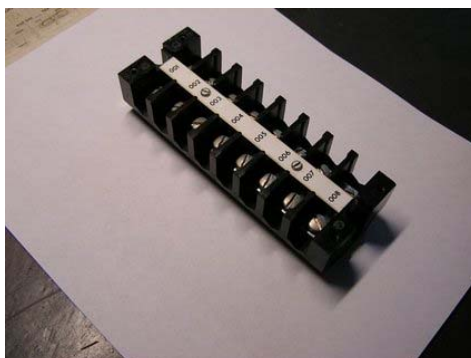
Raymond Swick (NØUY) on February 8, 2013
View comments about this article!

I have been a licensed amateur since 1992 and have always enjoyed the mechanical aspect of the hobby from the onset. I enjoy the fact that much of the outside structural things in this hobby for the most part can be built, assembled, and even created by the average person with a little ingenuity and mechanical know-how. A common goal in our hobby is to improve the station as we go so often we end up trying various ideas or products to see for ourselves what we prefer and what we don't.

That being said, many of us have tried several different types and brands of antenna rotors and controls to suit our needs not to mention the extremely wide variety of antenna types and manufacturers to consider. The antenna subject is a beast all of its own so I am going to leave that alone for now. On the subject of rotors, I have tried several types over the years and the one issue that is always difficult for me is the adapting of the rotor cable to be compatible with each connector type required. Almost none of them use the same connector system at either end of the cable. Rather than pulling the cable off the tower to deal with removing the old and soldering on a different connector I chose to put an eight connector terminal strip at each end of the main rotor cable. This terminal strip is housed in a weather resistant enclosure on the tower very similar to those used by many utility companies. The following picture shows the enclosure located near the Hy-Gain T2X.



I picked up the large terminal strips at a local hamfest for a few dollars. New ones can be purchased from most component suppliers. The addition of these strips hasn't made any noticeable changes to the function of the rotor or control but it has allowed me to build a short pigtail to run from the terminal strip to the rotor in the comforts of my shack rather than perched on the side of my tower. At the shack end of my main cable is another terminal strip mounted in an enclosure on the back wall. That one doesn't need to be weather resistant, just located in a convenient place. I have this system in use on two towers where rotors are used. The attractive thing about the terminal strip is you can connect and disconnect the wires to each terminal with a screw driver. The number of wires required varies from each manufacturer but usually is either 4, 6 or 8. With all eight wires connected at each end you can easily use the number required. The following picture shows the terminal strip I used but smaller versions of a similar type would do well also.



This was my solution to an issue that may, or may not have a ring of familiarity to the rest of you. My last bit of advice to all of you reading this short article is to make sure you take the time to enjoy this great hobby and all the different aspects of it while we are still allowed to do so.

CU on the bands,

Ray NØUY

From eham.net

March 2013 Contest Calendar

From the WA7BNM Contest Calendar

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

QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 1
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 2 to 2400Z, Mar 3
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0800Z, Mar 2
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Mar 3
SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg Contest	1200Z-1400Z, Mar 3
AGCW YL-CW Party	1900Z-2100Z, Mar 5
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 6
AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest	2300Z, Mar 6 to 2300Z, Mar 7 and 2300Z, Mar 9 to 2300Z, Mar 10
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 8
AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 9
EA PSK63 Contest	1600Z, Mar 9 to 1600Z, Mar 10
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 9 to 1900Z, Mar 10
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 10
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 10 to 0100Z, Mar 11
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 13
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 13 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 13 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 14
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	1800Z-2000Z, Mar 13
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 15
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 16 to 0200Z, Mar 18
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1000Z, Mar 16 to 1000Z, Mar 17
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 16 to 1200Z, Mar 17
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Mar 16 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Mar 16 (432)
Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1800Z, Mar 16
North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 17
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 20
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Mar 21
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 21
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 22
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 27
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 27 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 27 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 28
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 29
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 30 to 2400Z, Mar 31

Membership Renewal Form



CKARC, Inc.
P. O. Box 2493
Salina, Kansas 67402-2493

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ - _____ - _____ email: _____

Cell Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

ARRL Member No.: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Birthday: ____/____ (Month & Day ONLY)

Spouse Name: _____ Call: _____

ARRL Member No.: _____ Birthday: ____/____

May we publish your Phone & Email in the CKARC Rosters? Y N

Roster will **NOT** be published on the Web site

(Please circle Y for Yes or N for No)

QSP is the CKARC Newsletter, As of January 1, 2013, there will be a \$6.00 per year Surcharge for QSP delivered via the US Postal Service.

Check here if you want the Postal Version Add \$6.00

While ARRL Membership is not a Requirement for membership in the CKARC, Inc. **it is highly recommended.** In order to retain "Special Service Club" status, we must remain a minimum of 51% ARRL Membership.

CKARC Dues : \$20.00/Year Family Member: \$5.00

ARRL Dues : \$39.00/Year

* For additional years, or Family Membership Information, please contact the Treasurer.

Central Kansas Amateur Radio Club
P. O. Box 2493
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<http://www.centralksarc.com>

Your copy of QSP is Here!

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@ 7:30 PM, at KWU Peters Science Hall Room 211

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH QSP IS MAR. 21, 2013

CKARC March Birthdays

F/Member	JoAnn	Matthews	3/1
KAØEIC	Don	Fitzgerald	3/5
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