



# QSP



May 2010

## May VE Report

### For the April 27th Session:

The May  
Silent Key Pot Luck  
Dinner Meeting is  
Friday, May 28, 2010  
@ 6:30 PM, at the  
American Red Cross  
Office, 149 S. Broadway

Nick Isely, KDØKIR, upgraded to Extra, Tanner Colvin, KDØIRW upgraded to General, and Hollie Gordee, KDØLMT passed her Technician. Congratulations to all three KWU Students! Two others (not-KWU Students) tried for Extra, but “just missed” it.

VE’s were: Sid, NØOBM, Ron, WAØPSF, Harvey, KØRY, Larry, NØGSL, and Eric, NØYET.

Host: American Red  
Cross

### For the May 12th Session:

Inside this issue:

We had Three Candidates: Andrew Ratzlaff, KDØLSO, of Galva, Terry Stout, KDØLSP, of Manhattan who both are new Technicians, and Eric Sader, KDØLSQ, of Lawrence, who passed both his Technician and his General Class exams. Congratulations to all three!

VE’s present were: Sid, NØOBM, Larry, NØGSL, Leon, WAØJFC, Alvin, WØME, and Don, KAØEIC.

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 June 9th, 2010**, at 7:00 PM, at the Saline County Sheriff’s Office Classroom.

Sid NØOBM VE Team Leader

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## Minutes of the April Meeting

The April 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 33 Members and Guests present.

The Minutes were approved as printed in QSP.

Mitch, KAØIFW, gave the treasurer's report, with \$1740.36 in checking, \$1864.27 in savings, for a total of \$3604.63, moved and seconded

EC & VE Report:

The Eisenhower Marathon was a success and the live video that was provided by the KWU Club was also enjoyed. The American Red Cross Bike-a-thon is tomorrow and Sid can not be there (due to prior commitments), but Mark, KBØMQX and Eric, NØYET are going to help out.

Up coming events in the near future include: the Smoky Hill River Festival June 11--13th and Field Day June 26 & 27th.

VE Testing on April 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:

The old repeater controller was sold on line. The new antenna for the repeater is not up yet. (weather has been an issue)

Actives report:

Mark, KBØMQX, said that he would be working with KWU's group on a joint Field Day this year. Field Day will be at Coronado Heights with KWU club helping. Set up 8AM and Operating starting at 1PM. The Club moved to spend up to \$100 for FOOD for Field Day. The host list still has several dates if someone would like to be host for the unfilled dates, August and September are covered as they are the usual watermelon feed and the fall picnic.

Hamfest Report:

Ron, WAØPSF, said that we have been asked (by the Midwest Division Director) to consider hosting the Midwest Div. Convention. Tabled to next meeting – to give Ron a chance to work up some numbers with the Bicentennial staff.

New Business

Anyone wanting a CKARC jacket or shirt should contact Mark, KBØMQX, he is checking on prices. Vance, WØUB brings greetings from Al, WØBBO from Lindsborg.

A group from KWU club (plus a couple of CKARC Members) are going to the Dayton Hamvention - have fun!

Thanks to the host, Traci, KDØHVA

The NEXT CKARC MEETING: May 28th **Silent Key Pot-Luck Dinner** will be HELD AT the **AMERICAN RED CROSS BUILDING, 145 S. BROADWAY.**

Meeting adjourned 8:10

Alvin, WØME

## Reminders

ARES Net **June 1st at 8:00 PM** on the NØKSC Repeater (147.270+)

**City of Salina Siren Test Net, June 7th** at 4:30 PM on the NØKSC Repeater (147.270+) if the Weather cooperates!

**ARRL-VEC Test Session** on Wednesday **June 9th at 7:00 PM**.

**Board meeting** follows the exam session on **June 9th** at 8:00 PM (or after Testing—which ever is later) in the Saline Co. Sheriff's Office Classroom.

**Smoky Hill River Festival JAM** on Thursday **June 10th** 6—10 PM Eric Stein Stage in Oakdale Park

**Smoky Hill River Festival** runs Friday **June 11th**—Sunday **June 13th** in Oakdale Park

**ARES Meeting** is **June 17th** at **8:00 PM** in the EOC.

**CKARC Meeting June 25th** at 7:30 PM at KWU's Peters Science Hall.

**Field Day** at Coronado Heights on **June 26th & 27th**.

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 a "Clean—up/Truck & Trailer Wash" party. We need to make sure the Trailer (and "Red") are "ship shape" for the River Festival and Field Day in June. Meet at the storage building at the Airport around 10:30 AM and help us clean up the vehicles. Bring a Bucket and a Sponge!

## The Last Tech-Plus License to Expire in June

05/06/2010

In February 1991, the FCC dropped the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for new Technician licenses, and in 1994, it created a new class of Amateur Radio license: the Technician-Plus, also called Tech-Plus. This new license differed from the Technician license in that Tech-Plus licensees had passed the code test and had more operating privileges on HF. Patricia Phillips, N3IGI, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, received her Technician license on June 12, 1990. On March 21, 2000, she upgraded her license to Tech-Plus, and, at the same time, renewed her license, now set to expire June 12, 2010. This makes Phillips the last Tech-Plus in the FCC database. If she renews her Amateur Radio license, she will be a Technician.

In 2000, the FCC restructured the license classes, and where there were six classes -- Novice, Technician, Tech-Plus, General, Advanced and Amateur Extra -- only the Technician, General and Amateur Extra survived. Novice and Advanced class licenses could still be renewed and modified, but Tech-Plus licensees would be classified as Technicians upon renewal, but still retain their code credit and HF operating privileges.

According to the FCC's Bill Cross, W3TN, the Tech-Plus licenses came about when those who had earned their Technician licenses when the Morse code requirement was still in effect wanted a way to distinguish themselves from the new Technician licensees (who did not have a Morse code requirement). In 1994 -- and effective December 20, 1994 -- the FCC issued an *Order called Amendment to Amateur Service Rules to Change Procedures for Filing an Amateur Service License Application and to Make Other Procedural Changes* that instituted the Tech-Plus license class: "*Technician Plus* means that a Technician class licensee has also passed a telegraphy examination. We believe that showing this information in our licensee data base and license document as a separate class rather than continue to treat it as a category of the Technician class is consistent with current licensing procedures."

## For Sale 2 - Towers

1 Ea. - Rohn 25 H.D. steel self supporting 45 foot. Legs are 16 1/2 inches center to center. 18 inches outside to outside, with one half inch steel base plate. **\$65.00**

1 Ea. - Glasco Ks built, M.D. 37 foot self supporting tapered. 22 inch c to c at base. Great for VHF or UHF. **\$35.00**

Both have pipe in top for mask pipe, G1 has a rotor plate. Both are down in sections for hauling.

Also house for sale. See in Salina Journal paper 05-09-2010 785-827-5280 or vyost@cox.net

## FCC Proposes Additions, Changes to Amateur 5 MHz Allocation

05/08/2010

Acting on a [2006 Petition for Rulemaking filed by the ARRL](#), the FCC has issued a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)*, ET Docket No 10-98 to modify the rules that govern amateurs' secondary use of five channels in the 5 MHz frequency range known as 60 meters. The proposed changes would substitute a new channel for one that is seldom available because of occupancy by the fixed service, which is primary in this range. Also proposed is an increase in power from 50 to 100 W effective radiated power (ERP) and the addition of CW, PSK31 and PACTOR-III modes with provisions to ensure that such operations would be compatible with the primary service. The proposed changes can be found beginning on page 8 of the *NPRM*.

“The ARRL is pleased that the Commission has opened this proceeding to increase the usefulness of the limited 5 MHz Amateur Service allocation,” said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. “We are gratified that the Commission and the NTIA agree that the responsible manner in which amateurs have been using the five USB channels warrants some expansion of privileges so that the Amateur Service can be even better prepared for service to the public.”

### Background

The 60 meter band is part of the larger 5060-5450 kHz band that is allocated to the fixed service on a primary basis for Federal and non-Federal use, and to the mobile (except aeronautical mobile service) on a secondary basis for Federal and non-Federal use. Per footnote US381 to the Allocation Table, this makes five frequencies in this band -- 5332 kHz, 5348 kHz, 5368 kHz, 5373 kHz and 5405 kHz -- available to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis. In addition, footnote US340 authorizes Federal and non-Federal maritime and aeronautical mobile stations to use the 2-30 MHz band (which includes the 60 meter band) for measuring the quality of reception on radio channels on a non-interference basis; however, actual communication by these stations is limited to frequencies specifically allocated to these services.

In 2003, the FCC added the Amateur Service secondary allocation to this band after determining that such frequencies could be useful to the Amateur Radio Service for completing disaster communications links at times when existing frequencies in the 80, 75 and 40 meter bands are not available due to ionospheric conditions. The FCC concluded “that such an allocation represented the best compromise available to give the Amateur Radio Service access to new spectrum for a wide range of radio communications, while assuring that incumbent operations are protected.”

At the request of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the FCC restricted the use of these five channels to single sideband suppressed carrier voice using only the upper sideband transmission, and a maximum effective radiated power (ERP) of 50 W peak envelope power (PEP). The Commission adopted these operating restrictions to decrease the interference potential between amateur stations and federal stations.

On October 20, 2006, ARRL filed a *Petition for Rulemaking*, seeking certain modifications to the rules governing Amateur Radio use of the 60 meter band. Seven weeks later, the FCC issued a *Public Notice* to seek comments on the ARRL's *Petition*, but none were received. In its *Petition*, the ARRL requested that the FCC make three modifications to the existing rules governing Amateur Radio use of the 60 meter band, specifically Section 2.106, footnote US381 of the Rule and Section 97.303 of the Rules, in order to increase the flexibility in the use of the band and to facilitate emergency communications provided by the Amateur Radio Service:

- One of the available channels, 5368 kHz, be replaced with 5358.5 kHz.
- Three additional emission designators -- 150HA1A, 60H0J2B and 2K80J2D -- be authorized in the 60 meter band, provided that the operators using these modes utilize great care to limit the length of transmissions so as to avoid interference with Federal operations.
- The maximum ERP on channels in the 60 meter band be increased from 50 to 100 W PEP, provided that amateurs utilize Voice-Operated Transmit (VOX) while in the single sideband emission mode, so as to permit the amateur operator to bear an attempt by another station, which may be a Federal user, to utilize the channel.

The ARRL *Petition* argued that a successful history of sharing with Federal users -- together with its amateurs' strong desire to improve Amateur Service use of the band -- merited a grant of greater flexibility in the use of these frequencies: "Because of strong admonitions provided by ARRL to Amateur Radio operators relative to their obligations vis-à-vis Federal agency primary use of and access to these few channels, the access provided for the Amateur Service with the assistance of NTIA in the past three years has been successful without qualification. Neither ARRL, nor, apparently NTIA, is aware of a single reported instance of interference to a Federal user by a radio amateur operating at 5 MHz to date." The proposals contained in the ARRL *Petition* were based on these discussions and a May 12, 2006 letter from the NTIA, indicating that it would "look favorably" on the above-described modifications should ARRL choose to pursue rule changes with the Commission.

On March 11, 2010, the FCC adopted a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order* that made certain amendments to correct the Amateur Service rules and to conform the rules to prior Commission decisions. The FCC's proposals are based on the current rules, as modified by that action.

## Discussion

The existing Amateur Service use of the 60 meter band represents what the FCC calls "a balancing of important interests -- the desire to provide amateur operators with frequencies that could be used to complete disaster communications links when other bands are not available, and the need to protect important primary Federal operations in the 60 meter band." The ARRL's *Petition* seeking to modify "the existing spectrum sharing scenario in a manner that appears to be consistent with the interests of both Federal and amateur users in the band, and we tentatively conclude that the changes to footnote US381 and Section 97.303 of our Rules that are proposed by ARRL should be adopted."

### *One of the available channels, 5368 kHz, be replaced with 5358.5 kHz*

The ARRL, in its *Petition*, pointed out that its request to replace the 5368 kHz channel with 5358.5 kHz is based on reports from amateur operators of frequent interference from a digital signal on the existing authorized channel. "Based on this information, we tentatively agree that the proposed modification would



eliminate interference and enhance Amateur Radio operations and that it should be implemented.” The FCC noted that most non-Federal licensees in the 60 meter band are licensed across the larger band 5005-5450 kHz and that many are also licensed across other bands, as well: “Therefore, we believe that our proposal to exchange one amateur channel for another in the 60 meter band will have a *de minimis* impact on these licensees, while benefiting Amateur Radio users who have a limited number of channels in the band on which they may operate and reducing the potential for interference from amateur operations to the primary Federal stations operating in the 5330.6-5406.4 kHz band.”

*Three additional emission designators -- 150HA1A, 60H0J2B and 2K80J2D -- be authorized in the 60 meter band, provided that the operators using these modes utilize great care to limit the length of transmissions so as to avoid interference with Federal operations.*

In its *Petition*, the ARRL explained that it had conducted a survey of Amateur Radio operators who use the 60 meter band. The League found that there is significant demand for modulation techniques that would allow telegraphy and data transmissions in addition to the one that is currently permitted for voice transmissions (single sideband suppressed carrier upper sideband, emission type 2K80J3E). Specifically, ARRL maintained that Morse code telegraphy by means of on-off keying (emission designator 150HA1A) continues to be used by amateur stations, due to its reliability in difficult propagation conditions. The ARRL also stated that the other requested emission designators -- 60H0J2B (generally known as PSK31) and 2K80J2D (generally known as PACTOR-III) -- are popular narrowband data modes.

In its *NPRM*, the FCC proposed to add these three emission designators that would allow four permissible emission types to be used in the 60 meter band. It also proposed to permit “any additional modulation techniques that we adopt to be used on all assigned frequencies within the 60 meter band, including the assigned frequency 5368 kHz in the event that we do not adopt our proposal to replace the assigned frequency 5368 kHz with 5358.5 kHz.”

The ARRL pointed out that FCC could require amateur operators to limit the length of transmissions in the two data emission modes “in order to better position amateur operators to avoid causing harmful interference to primary operations and suggests adopting a rule that incorporates a general requirement to limit the duration of data transmissions.”

As such, the FCC is seeking comments as to whether a rule addressing transmission limits “would help ensure that in the currently infrequent instances in which Federal agencies exercise their primary use of the 60 meter band frequencies, those amateur licensees who have been operating on a secondary basis will be better positioned to avoid causing harmful interference, which is prohibited.” If commenters support a specific time limit, the FCC wants to know whether a transmission length of three minutes would be sufficient; if not, what limits should the Commission adopt?

In addition, the FCC is also seeking comment on whether “amateur stations should be permitted to transmit emission types in addition to the four discussed above in the 60 meter band without increasing the likelihood of interference to primary users.” To the extent that commenters identify such emission designators, the FCC would like them to discuss their “use and benefits and, in particular, how the use of those emission designators can be balanced with our continuing interest in protecting primary stations in the 60 meter band.”

*The maximum ERP on channels in the 60 meter band be increased from 50 to 100 W PEP, provided that amateurs utilize Voice-Operated Transmit (VOX) while in the single sideband emission mode, so as to permit the amateur operator to bear an attempt by another station, which may be a Federal user, to utilize the channel*

The ARRL asserted in its *Petition* that the typical transmitter output power in modern Amateur Radio transceivers is 100 W PEP, and that the present 50 W PEP transmitter output power limit compromises communication reliability in the 60 meter band. At certain times of the year, and more often in the southern latitudes, there are high static levels in this frequency range. It is the ARRL's position that a slightly higher transmitter power output would bolster reliability, especially in connection with emergency communications.

The ARRL also suggested that amateur operators be required to use Voice-Operated Transmit (VOX) in the phone emission mode, saying that by adopting this requirement in conjunction with an increased transmitter output power limit would permit a Federal user to interrupt an amateur station's transmission quickly and easily without waiting for an unpredictable end of the transmission. The FCC is seeking comments on these proposals, specifically comments on "whether a VOX mode of operation might increase the potential for interference because of its susceptibility to keying a radio to transmit under high surrounding noise environments such as might be found in an emergency operations center."

In its proposed rules to implement the changes as discussed above, the FCC has, in some cases, incorporated editorial revisions intended to make the rules easier to read and to ensure that control operators have the necessary information to easily determine their proper operating requirements on the 60 meter band frequencies. Also, at the request of NTIA, the FCC is soliciting comments on whether amateur operators who provide emergency communications using the 60 meter band should be encouraged to add a sound card-generated Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) capability to their stations.

The commenting period for this *NPRM* will begin once it is published in the *Federal Register* and end 30 days later. The period for reply comments begins once the *NPRM* is published in the *Federal Register* and ends 45 days later.



## May 2010 Contest Calendar

### From the WA7BNM Contest Calendar

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

NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 4
DigiFest	0400Z-1200Z, Jun 5 and 2000Z, Jun 5 to 0400Z, Jun 6 and 1200Z-2000Z, Jun 6
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Jun 5 and 0630Z-0659Z, Jun 5 and 0700Z-0729Z, Jun 5 and 0730Z-0800Z, Jun 5
UKSMG Summer Contest	1200Z, Jun 5 to 1200Z, Jun 6
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 5 to 1200Z, Jun 6
IARU Region 1 Field Day, <b>CW</b>	1500Z, Jun 5 to 1459Z, Jun 6
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 5 to 1500Z, Jun 6
Alabama QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 5 to 0400Z, Jun 6
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Jun 6
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 7
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 8
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 9
CW ops Mini-CW Test	1100Z-1200Z, Jun 9 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jun 9 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jun 10
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 11
Portugal Day Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 12
Bill Windle QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Jun 12
VK Shires Contest	0600Z, Jun 12 to 0600Z, Jun 13
DRCG Long Distance Contest, <b>RTTY</b>	0800Z-1559Z, Jun 12 and 0000Z-0759Z, Jun 13 and 1600Z-2359Z, Jun 13
VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, Jun 12
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 12
GACW WWSA <b>CW</b> DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 12 to 1500Z, Jun 13
REF DDFM 6m Contest	1600Z, Jun 12 to 1600Z, Jun 13
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Jun 12 to 0300Z, Jun 14
BARTG Sprint 75	2000Z-2359Z, Jun 12
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 13
WAB 50 MHz Phone	0900Z-1500Z, Jun 13
SARL Youth Day Sprint	0900Z-1000Z, Jun 16
RSGB 80m Club Championship, <b>CW</b>	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 16
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 18
SMIRK Contest	0000Z, Jun 19 to 2400Z, Jun 20
All Asian DX Contest, <b>CW</b>	0000Z, Jun 19 to 2400Z, Jun 20

## Contest Calendar, Continued ..

AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1659Z, Jun 19 (144) and 1700Z-1759Z, Jun 19 (432)
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 19 to 0200Z, Jun 20
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2400Z, Jun 19
Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Jun 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 21
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 23
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 24
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	1200Z, Jun 26 to 1200Z, Jun 27
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 26 to 1200Z, Jun 27
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jun 26 to 1400Z, Jun 27
ARCI Milliwatt Field Day	1800Z, Jun 26 to 2100Z, Jun 27
<b>ARRL Field Day</b>	<b>1800Z, Jun 26 to 2100Z, Jun 27</b>
SARL Digital Contest	1300Z-1600Z, Jun 27

## 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.

With the “new blood” of the KWU operators, we should manage to get some good scores. Looks like we will be operating 4A this year. The KWU club 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. Still no news on the Tower, but Pete has purchased a “Deuce and a half” (2.5 Tom Military Truck) with a Communication Shelter on the back. Work has been started on the Communications Shelter to get it ready for Field Day! He has also put in a bid on a “Surplus” 10 KW Generator set. We may be seeing lots of “new to us” stuff at Field Day this year.

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) and some folks to cheer on those that are working like crazy. Come on out and have some **FUN and some Good Food!** Great chance also to get on the Air.

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

Your issue of QSP is Here!

**May Meeting is Friday, May 28, 2010**  
**@ 6:30 PM, at the Salina American Red Cross Office**  
**149 S. Broadway**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE**  
**JUNE QSP IS JUNE 15, 2010**

## **CKARC June Birthdays**

<b>KAØIFW</b>	<b>Mitch</b>	<b>Johannes</b>	<b>6/5</b>
<b>KCØJNK</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Burchill</b>	<b>6/18</b>
<b>WØYVR</b>	<b>Glen</b>	<b>Eaton</b>	<b>6/26</b>