



QSP



September 2009

September VE Report

The **September 25, 2009**
CKARC Meeting will be
at
Jerry Ivey Park
At 6:00 PM
Picnic

For the September 9th Session:

We had 3 Candidates, all were successful in their efforts.
New Technician is: Kelly Moore, KDØIXR, of Hutchinson.
Newly upgraded to General is: Alton Harris, KDØITZ, of Manhattan.
Newly Upgraded to Amateur Extra is : Michael Moore, KCØCNG, of Hutchinson.

Congratulations to all!

VE's in attendance: Sid, NØOBM, Larry, NØGSL, Ron, WAØPSF
Leon, WAØJFC, Alvin, WØME, and Harvey, KØRY.

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Don, KAØEIC was absent, due to being in the Hospital on Exam Evening.

Since the September 26th session has not been held yet at “press time” no results are available yet.

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 Exam session is **Wednesday October 14th**, at 7:00 PM, at the Saline County Sheriff's Office Classroom.

Sid NØOBM VE Team Leader

Minutes of the August Meeting

Robert, WBØWTM called the meeting to order 7:29 pm. The August meeting was held at Jerry Ivey Park for the annual watermelon feed.

We had 29 members and guests present. Former Salina residents (and former CKARC Member) Larry White, KBØBH and his XYL were in town and stopped to join us for the evening. Also present was Tanner, KDØIRW, of Salina, who was awarded a 6 month membership to the CKARC was also present.

Secretary's Report:

Alvin WØME asked that the minutes be accepted as printed in QSP, moved, seconded, and passed.

Treasurers Report:

Virgil, NØXRS, read treasurers report total \$4,815.66 in checking and saving, which was moved to accept, seconded and passed.

EC and VE Report:

Sid, NØOBM, There will **NOT** be a Siren Test on Labor Day, but that there "may" be one the following Monday, September 14th at 4:30 PM—***IF the weather co-operates***. The **Kansas QSO Party** is this weekend. September 17th will be the ARES meeting, and the CKARC Club Picnic will be on September 25th, Same Location as Tonight's meeting. On Saturday September 26th, there will be a **W5YI-VEC** Test session at the Saline County Sheriff's Office Classroom at 1:00 PM. August VE Results were posted in the QSP.

The New Emergency Management Director starts his job on January 11th, 2010.

Hamfest Report by Ron WAØPSF:

374 paid attendance at the Hamfest this year, as opposed to last year's 420. There was a \$845.03 net profit from this year's Hamfest after expenses were all paid.

No new business meeting adjourned 7:45

sec/WØME

Reminders

ARES Net **October 6th at 8:00 PM** on the NØKSC Repeater (or on 146.730 Simplex if it's not running) [Alternate repeater is 147.270+ no tone].

ARRL-VEC Test Session on Wednesday **October 14th at 7:00 PM**.

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

City of Salina Siren Test Net, October 5th at 4:30 PM on the NØKSC Repeater (or on Simplex) if the Weather cooperates! *[If it's above 32 degrees!] {NO Guarantee of Cloud Cover, however!} Ed.*

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

CKARC Meeting October 30th at 7:30 PM at KWU's Peters Science Hall. **ELECTION NIGHT**

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

Manufacturer of Texas Bug Catcher Antenna to Cease Operations

(Sep 3, 2009) -- After October 31, 2009, GLA Systems -- the manufacturer of the Texas Bug Catcher antennas -- will cease taking orders for new antennas; according to their Web site, all orders received before that date will be filled. "Effective November 1, only orders for items that are in stock at the time will be accepted. Effective December 31, 2009, the toll free line, 1-800-588-2841, will be discontinued." No reason was given for the closure, but on GLA's Web site, owner Henry Allen, K5BUG, said "It has been a fun 30 years, but it is time to hang it up. I would like to thank everyone who has made this experience possible."

From the ARRL Web Site

Nominations Now Being Accepted for the George Hart Distinguished Service Award



George Hart, WINJM, operating with the Newington Amateur Radio League on Field Day 1989. [Steve Ewald, WV1X, Photo]

At its July 2009 meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors established the George Hart Distinguished Service Award to be given to an ARRL member whose service to the League's Field Organization is of the most exemplary nature. The Distinguished Service Award is named in honor of George Hart, WINJM. Hart was a long-time Communications Manager at ARRL Headquarters and chief developer of the National Traffic System (NTS). Upon learning that the ARRL Board of Directors had established this award named after him, Hart called his namesake award "a great honor."

Selection criteria include:

- Operating record with the National Traffic System; or
- Participation within the Amateur Radio Emergency Service[®] (ARES[®]); or
- Station appointments and/or leadership positions held within the ARRL Field Organization.

Nominations for the George Hart Distinguished Service Award shall be accepted from anyone and shall be submitted to the Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager at ARRL Headquarters by November 1. Nominations should document as thoroughly as possible the nominee's lifetime activities and achievements within the ARRL Field Organization. It is expected that nominated candidates will have 15 or more years of distinguished service. The Programs and Services Committee will serve as the Review Committee, with the Board of Directors making the final determination at its Annual Meeting in January. Recipients will be given an engraved plaque and cover letter, and will be profiled in *QST*.

Nominations for the George Hart Distinguished Service Award, including any related supporting material and letters of recommendation, may be e-mailed to ARRL Headquarters to the attention of ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, or to ARRL Field and Public Service Team Supervisor Steve Ewald, WV1X. Nominations and supporting materials must be received no later than November 1, 2009 to be considered.

From the ARRL Web Site



Alpha Radio Products Now RF Concepts (Sep 16, 2009) -- On Sept. 15, Michael Seedman, AA6DY, announced that his company, RF Concepts, had purchased Boulder, Colorado-based Alpha Radio Products. Seedman explained in a press release that when he contacted Alpha to purchase a new amplifier, he was "disappointed to learn that I would not receive it for months." He was told that as each amplifier is made by hand, there was not enough shelf inventory to send a new one right away. Working with Alpha Products president Molly Hardman, WØMOM, "we created a way to capitalize the company in order to put amplifiers in inventory for immediate availability. Customers will no longer have to wait weeks or months to add an Alpha product to their station." Seedman said that RF Concepts "will focus on shipping our backlog of Alpha amplifiers and building sufficient product to ship from stock. We will honor our existing customer commitments -- including warranties, customer and technical support and repairs -- and keep our extensive parts inventories to support the more than 10,000 Alpha amplifiers in the market." Hardman will be staying on as Vice President of Sales for RF Concepts.

From the ARRL Web Site

National Safety Council Responds to ARRL: No Evidence of "Significant Crash Risks" While Operating Mobile

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, wrote a letter to National Safety Council (NSC) President Janet Froetscher in July expressing the ARRL's concerns that Amateur Radio not become an unintended victim of the growing public debate over what to do about distracted drivers. Froetscher has now replied, saying the NSC does not support bans or prohibitions on the use of Amateur Radios while driving.

Noting that there is significant evidence that talking on cell phones while driving poses crash risk four times that of other drivers, Froetscher observed that the NSC position calling for bans on the use of cell phones while driving is grounded in science. "We are not aware of evidence that using Amateur Radios while driving has significant crash risks," Froetscher wrote in her August 24 letter. "We also have no evidence that using two-way radios while driving poses significant crash risks. Until such time as compelling, peer-reviewed scientific research is presented that denotes significant risks associated with the use of Amateur Radios, two-way radios or other communication devices, the NSC does not support legislative bans or prohibition on their use."

Froetscher said that while "the specific risk of radio use while driving is unmeasured and likely does not approach that of cell phones, there indeed is some elevated risk to the drivers, their passengers and the public associated with 650,000 Amateur Radio operators who may not, at one time or another, not concentrate fully on their driving." She points out that the "best safety practice is to have one's full attention on their driving, their hands on the wheel and their eyes on the road. Drivers who engage in any activity that impairs any of these constitutes an increased risk."

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the ARRL "appreciates NSC President and CEO Janet Froetscher's clear statement that the NSC does not support legislative bans or prohibitions on the use

of Amateur Radio while driving. We applaud the NSC for taking positions that are grounded in science. At the same time, all radio amateurs should heed her call to concentrate fully on driving while behind the wheel. It is possible to operate a motor vehicle safely while using Amateur Radio, but if it becomes a distraction we owe it those with whom we share the road, as well as to our passengers, to put safety first."

On January 30, 2009, the ARRL Executive Committee adopted the ARRL's Policy Statement on Mobile Amateur Radio Operation that states "Amateur Radio mobile operation is ubiquitous, and Amateur Radio emergency and public service communications, and other organized Amateur Radio communications activities and networks necessitate operation of equipment while some licensees are driving motor vehicles. Two-way radio use is dissimilar from full-duplex cellular telephone communications because the operator spends little time actually transmitting; the time spent listening is more similar to, and arguably less distracting than, listening to a broadcast radio, CD or MP3 player. There are no distinctions to be made between or among Amateur Radio, public safety land mobile radio, private land mobile radio or citizen's radio in terms of driver distraction. All are distinguishable from mobile cellular telephone communications in this respect. Nevertheless, ARRL encourages licensees to conduct Amateur communications from motor vehicles in a manner that does not detract from the safe and attentive operation of a motor vehicle at all times."

In his letter, Harrison explained to Froetscher that Amateur Radio operators provide essential emergency communications when regular communications channels are disrupted by disaster: "Through formal agreements with federal agencies, such as the National Weather Service, FEMA and private relief organizations, the Amateur Radio volunteers protect lives using their own equipment without compensation. The ability of hams to communicate and help protect the lives of those in danger would be strictly hindered if the federal, state and local governments to not ensure that Amateur Radio operators can continue the use of their mobile radios while on the road."

Froetscher replied that she "appreciate[s] your focus of Amateur Radio for emergency communications during disasters. I encourage ARRL to adopt best practices for the safe operation of vehicles that confines use of Amateur Radios while driving only to disaster emergencies."

The Policy Statement asserts that the ARRL "is aware of no evidence that [mobile] operation contributes to driver inattention. Quite the contrary: Radio amateurs are public service-minded individuals who utilize their radio-equipped motor vehicles to assist others, and they are focused on driving in the execution of that function."

From the ARRL Web Site

October 2009 Contest Calendar

From the WA7BNM Contest Calendar

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

SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Oct 1
TARA PSK Rumble Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Oct 3
German Telegraphy Contest	0700Z-0959Z, Oct 3
EU Autumn Sprint, SSB	1600Z-1959Z, Oct 3
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 3 to 2159Z, Oct 4
Makrothen RTTY Contest	0000Z, Oct 10 to 1559Z, Oct 11
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
EU Autumn Sprint, CW	1600Z-1959Z, Oct 10
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 10 to 2200Z, Oct 11
FISTS Fall Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Oct 10
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Oct 11
Worked All Germany Contest	1500Z, Oct 17 to 1459Z, Oct 18
Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 18
Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 18 to 0100Z, Oct 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 19
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 24 to 2400Z, Oct 25
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	0001Z, Oct 24 to 2359Z, Oct 25

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Your issue of QSP is Here!

**October Meeting is Friday, October 30, 2009
@ 7:30 PM**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE
OCTOBER QSP IS OCT. 21, 2009**

CKARC October Birthdays

KCØVDX	Jerry	Mallon	10/7
WØNO	Alan	Shurts	10/20