Printed Circuit

The Voice of the Joplin Amateur Radio Club

2006.10

JOPLIN HAMFEST 2006: Success!

J C ALEXANDER, K5DMI, EDITOR AND REFLECTIONS BY CLUB MEMBERS

August and September turned out to be busy months for the club. This year was the first year that our hamfest was held in August. Hopefully this date will offer the security of a permanent contract with the Holiday Inn while not being too inconvenient for amateurs to attend.

As might be expected, a number of members told the editor about their concerns: Will we get enough attendees? What will happen to our commercial vendors? How about the room night at local motels? Why did the Holiday Inn make us switch?

This was the first time that I was unable to attend, but I can answer the last two questions. Some club member reflections will answer the first set of questions.

From the very beginning, the grant we've received from the Joplin Convention and Visitor's Bureau has been based on monies obtained from a motel tax levied on guests. Like others, the editor originally thought the sales tax funded the JCVB, but the Bureau depends on that guest tax to promote Joplin through advertising and supporting events that in turn will boost room nights (overnight

stays) in Joplin. So the Bureau wants to see more than lots of people dining in local restaurants, shopping at retail stores, and purchasing fuel.

So the only way we, or any other organization, can expect to receive future grants from the Bureau is to show that our event convinces people to stay overnight in Joplin *based on the event*. That's why the hamfest chair is concerned for room-night counts. While the Bureau has never mentioned a minimum "exact" number, the Bureau director does look at room night counts before recommending the grant, which in turn is sanctioned by the Joplin City Council.

As for the date switch, the Holiday Inn has wanted us to move out of "prime time" (January-May) of their calendar. While they appreciate our business, they want the Convention Center *and* hotel rooms full every weekend from January to May. To meet their goals, the local manager insisted that we move to another weekend, and the staff recommended the last weekend in August, after Jim Scott, WB0IYC, checked and verified that no other major regional hamfest met that weekend.

With those details behind, let's focus on what some members had to say. Only those who gave the editor permision will be acknowledged by name; nevertheless, all comments are appreicated.

Let's start off with some preliminary numbers provided by club treasurer Jim Johannes, NOZSQ (Page 3).

First, this was the first year that we received income from food services directly from a Friday night cookout. The JCVB provided the outdoor grill, and we kept the sales. A few club members reported that the cookout provided eyeball QSOs in a much friendier environment than inside a busy convention center.

Second, our attendance was down, both attendees and commercial vendors. Particularly frustrating with the move was the scheduling conflict with Gaylen WB0W. Gaylen committed to attend a Chicago-area hamfest on that date and could not attend ours.

Before blaming the Holiday Inn, though, we had a vendor from

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BOB HEIL: AN AMAZING PERSON

JOHN TUDENHAM, WOJRP

If you read the article in the recent *QST* about Bob Heil, you will understand what ham radio has done for him. Bob, now 65, has been a ham since the age of 15; if you meet him in person, though, he can pass for 15 or 20 years younger.

Growing up in a small town of Marissa, Illionis, across the river from St. Louis, he started on 6 meter AM with a technician license in 1956—like most hams did at that time.

While living in Amarillo, Texas, I often experienced frequent six meter openings to the St Louis area in the summer. Since I had grown up in St Louis, I was always looking for contacts there.

Starting in 1957, Bob and I had many contacts over the air for years, but I never met him till the Midwest ARRL convention in Lebanon, Missouri, a few years ago. Attending the Riley Hollingsworth Banquet, Bob was introduced as one of the guests. When it was over I intoduced myself to him.

It seems Bob never earned a college degree, but he became an audio engineer and musician. He was playing the organ at the Fox theater in St. Louis while in high school, earning more money than his teachers.

He started out fixing and modifying audio amps for rock groups such as REO Speedwagon, the Who, and the Eagles. Later, he started building microphones, and if you ever heard any ham using a Heil mike you will be surprised, it is about like comparing analog TV with high defintion TV.

At the theater in the Lebanon, Missouri, convention center, he gave several demonstations what good communication quality is and very entertaining. Actually he drew about 4 times the audience that ARRL president Haynie did..in the ARRL forum. (I still don't under-

stand why more people were not at the forum).

He was recently inducted into the Rock n Roll Hall of Fame, not because he is a musician but the good audio work he did. Bob still an active ham also use to appear on Jim White's talk radio show on KMOX Radio once a month, talking about new developments in electronics. Jim is also a ham call of KMOX.

Every year Bob would reserve a block of rooms in Dayton, Ohio, for his St. Louis friends at the Days Inn for Hamvention. My friend K0CD, now deceased, who worked for KMOX often rode with him to Daytron.

If you hear Bob K9EID on the air, be sure to give him a shout.. He still uses his old original tube type rigs a Collins, a Hallicrafter HT37 and Harvey Wells TBS50—all late 1950s equipment.

Editor's note: While serving as hamfest chair for the Joplin Hamfest 2003, I contacted Bob Heil, hoping that he could host a forum. Larry Linthicum, NOMST, advised me that Heil's forum would greatly increase attendance.

When I called Heil at his office, I amazingly got through to him personally with no delay. Like John said, he was very cordial but had a date conflict with our hamfest in 2003.

Heil microphones truly do stand out. Perhaps Heil's ingenuity came from the fact that he was a musician himself, and he knew firsthand how sound traveled in space. Nevertheless, John's comparison of a Heil microphone with analog vs. digital TV is true.

To answer John's question about the Heil forum attendance at Lebanon, a popular speaker should never be scheduled whenever it might conflict with someone like the ARRL President. •

SECRETARY'S REPORT

MARK MITCHELSON, NOZPD

The Secretary's Report was not submitted in time for publication of this issue. �

TREASURER'S REPORT

JIM JOHANNES, NOZSQ

Income during August included dues, hamfest income, VE testing fees, and a one-time donation.

Expenses included hamfest prizes, convention center fees, food for the hamfest cookout, hamfest brochures, change for the hamfest, electricity/use fees for the repeater site at Zimmer Radio Group, PO box fee, donation to the Joplin Exchange Club, newsletter postage, and a transfer of funds to the the money market account.

From the money market account, a CD was purchased. Both the checking and money market accounts have balances, along with the club's CD. �

CLUB ELECTIONS

Are you interested in directing club activities? Nominations are due in October for next year's elections. According to the club constitution, elections will be held in November.

EDITORIAL POLICY

- 1 Articles are due the first Monday by 4:00PM.
- 2 Submissions may be handwritten, typed, or emailed.
- 3 Readers are welcomed to comment but should focus on the article.
- 4 Buy-Sell-Trade items may be posted for no fee.

All articles are subject to editing. ❖

Hamfest 2006...

Table 1: Hamfest Data

Income	Amount
Tickets (679)	\$3942.00
Private Tables (89)	890.00
Comm. Tables (27.5)	550.00
Food Plates (115)	575.00
Drinks (132)	66.00
JCVB Grant	2500.00
Total Income	\$8523.00
Expenses	Amount
Convention Center	\$3240.00
Exchange Club	200.00
Flyer Postage	1234.56
Flyers (10,000)	651.00
College Press	635.27
Prizes	774.99
Total Expenses	\$6735.82
Estimated Profit	\$1787.18

Source: Jim Johannes

(Continued from page 1)

Lebanon, Tennessee (about 35 miles *east* of Nashville or about 500 miles east of Joplin), attend for the first time. He also purchased 15 tables, which really helped. Plus, fuel costs were high.

Between the date switch and fuel costs, it's hard to imagine *not* losing some numbers. A few, however, have reported that there was plenty of vendors and good deals to be found. I am not sure how 'significant' our drop in numbers is considering the two factors noted above.

We offered our three traditional prizes this year: grand prize Yaesu FT-857D HF radio, first runner-up Bird Model 43 wattmeter, and second runner-up office chair.

Hamfest chair Jim Scott reports the fol-

lowing winners:

Yaesu FT-857D	Janice Cochran (Valley Center, KS)
Bird Model 43	Lance Riffle, KQ0Q (Springfield, MO)
Office Chair	Glenda Greenwood, KB7ELZ (Joplin, MO)

By the way, Glenda is sister-in-law to John Tudenham, WOJRP. Congratulations to all winners!

Let's now compare our state numbers, once again compiled by Jim Johannes. These are for attendees (not commercial vendors) and are preliminary numbers as well.

Table 2: Attendees by State

State	Number
Missouri	352
Oklahoma	131
Kansas	94
Arkansas	86
Texas	6
Florida	2
Georgia	1
Iowa	1
Kentucky	1
Tennessee	1
Unknown	4
Total	679

Source: Jim Johannes

State attendance was well to be expected. In fact, well over 95 percent of our visitors were from the Four States. It'd be interesting to see whether the attendees from Florida and Texas knew and travelled with those Georgia and Oklahoma, respectively. Or perhaps these visitors were in town visiting family or traveling due to work.

Statistics cannot tell us the whole story of whether the hamfest was a success; the numbers do not indicate the massive drop in either number or profits. Like all members, the editor awaits to see the final numbers, as well as number of hotel nights, before making a definite decision.

Not all comments, received, however, were good. Two members noted that the Friday night food was cooked too hard and not a good value for the amount paid. As usual, complaints about the hotel setup (especially restrooms) were given. One member, though, noted that Holiday Inn staff responded quicker than in previous years. Also to be expected, a number of members kept questioning the two-day event and why the club was trying to please the bureau.

Having read all these comments, positive and negative, I really wish that I could have attended. Having worked on planning and consulting committees for years, I can tell you that the best results come from dissention, not unanimous agreement. Dissention prompts competition; total agreement often promotes apathy.

Members must *come* together, *discuss* all points of view, *listen* to all responses, *set* reasonable goals, and *work together* to reach the final goal. Naturally it's a time-consuming process, and no one person can (*nor should*) do the work alone.

Now is the time to plan for next year's event; it's our chance to showcase our club to the state since we'll be hosting the convention.

On a final note, Jim Scott wishes to thank the following for their work in the hamfest: Ray Brown, Jim Johannes, Mac McNally, and J C Alexander for planning. He appreciates all those who volunteered as VEs and as hamfest workers. •

DXCC Announces Accreditation Criteria Rule Change

ARRL WEBSITE

ARRL's DXCC program has added language to its Accreditation Criteria to minimize difficulties stemming from online DXpedition logs. The change, recently approved by the ARRL Board of Directors Programs and Services Committee, limits the level of QSO detail that DXpeditions may provide on Webbased log sites, search engines or other public forums and still qualify for DXCC accreditation. ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, notes that it's become accepted practice for DXpeditions to post QSO information on the Web.

"Although this information is generally limited to call sign, band and mode, it has been useful in reducing the number of duplicate contacts in the DXpedition log," Mills points out. "Publishing complete QSO information or information from which full QSO information can be derived, on the other hand, threatens the integrity of the QSLing process, and is unacceptable."

Mills says at least some key information a station provides when submitting a DXpedition contact for DXCC credit must be obtained solely by actually making the QSO. 'If complete contact information can be derived from information based on the DXpedition log, the QSL manager's job can be much more difficult if busted calls are involved," he

W3ACE SK

ARRL WEBSITE

Former US Ambassador Armin Henry 'Hank' Meyer, W3ACE, died August 13 following a long illness. He was 92. An ARRL Life Member, Meyer, an expert on the Middle East, served as US ambassador to Lebanon in the Kennedy Administration after postings in Iraq and Afghanistan. He later was the US envoy to Iran and Japan. In 1972, he headed President Richard Nixon's terrorism unit following the killing of Israeli Olympic athletes in Munich. Amateur

says.

Section III, Accreditation Criteria, Rule 5, of the DXCC rules states:

'The presentation in any public forum of logs or other representations of station operation showing details of station activity or other information from which all essential QSO elements (time, date, band, mode and call sign) for individual contacts can be derived creates a question as to the integrity of the claimed QSOs with that station during the period encompassed by the log. Presentation of such information in any public forum by the station operator, operators or associated parties is not allowed and may be considered sufficient reason to deny ARRL award credit for contacts with any station for which such presentations have been made. Persistent violation of this provision may result in disqualification from the DXCC program."

'In almost every case, the new accreditation rule will change nothing," said Mills, calling the new rule a 'reasonable compromise" in terms of its impact on the program's integrity. 'Publishing band and mode information for each call sign -- as is now done -- is perfectly acceptable. It is only the rare case where complete QSO information is published or can be derived from published data that we are concerned about."

Radio went around the globe with him. He operated over the years as YI2AN, OD5AX, YA1AM, EP3AM and JH1YDR, and he especially enjoyed operating on the low bands. Meyer was a member of the National Capitol DX Association. As W3ACE, he had 325 DXCC entities confirmed (mixed and phone) and at one point achieved No 1 Honor Roll. He also earned DXCCs as OD5AX, EP3AM and JH1YDR. ❖

HAMFESTS

13-14 October 2006. Springfield, MO. Missouri State Convention/Ozark Regional Hamfest, Remington's Entertainment Complex, 1655 West Republic Road. Southwest Missouri ARC. Talk-In: 146.64 (PL 162.2) and 146.91 (PL 162.2). Contact: Lee Brown (KE4VSK) and Mike Rains (K0RFI), PO Box 11363, Springfield, MO 65808. Phone: 417-831-3016

Email: hamfest@smarc.org http://www.smarc.org/

21 October 2006. Grandview, MO. Octoberfest 2006. Grandview Middle School, 12650 Manchester Avenue. South-Side ARC. Talk-In: 147.120+. Contact: Donna Quick, KB0YJN, PO Box 701, Grandview, MO 64030. Phone: 816-537-7464

Email: southsidearc@hotmail.com http://southsidearc.org

21 October 2006. Tulsa, OK. Green Country Fall Classic. Big Top, 700 South Frankfort. Green Country Hamfests, Inc. Talk-In: 146.88-(PL88.5). Contact: Merlin Griffin, WB5OSM, 11804 East 80th Ct. N, Owasso, OK 74055. Phone: 918-272-0066

Email: wb5osm@hotmail.com http://www.greencountryhamfest.org

28 October 2006. Saint Louis, MO. 15th Halloween Hamfest. Kirkwood Community Center, 111 South Geyer Road. St. Louis ARC. Talk-In: 146.910 (PL 141.3). Contact: Bob Sluder, NOIS, 47 Will Drive, Fenton, MO 63026. Phone: 636-349-6584. Fax: 314-569-3567

Email: bcsluder@msn.com

http://www.halloweenhamfest.org �

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October						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 6:30PM—VE Testing 7:30PM—Monday	3	4	5 5:30PM—Pizza Night	6	7 9:00AMBreakfast
8	Night Net 9 7:30PM—Monday Night Net	10 7:00PM—Club Meeting	11	12 5:30PM—Pizza Night	13	14 9:00AMBreakfast
15	16 7:30PM—Monday Night Net	17	18	19 5:30PM—Pizza Night	20	9:00AM—Breakfast 2:00PM—VE Testing (Neosho)
22	23 7:30PM—Monday Night Net	24 7:00PM—Club Meeting	25	26 5:30PM—Pizza Night	27	28 9:00AMBreakfast
29	30 7:30PM—Monday Night Net	31				
						2006

Note: W4VEC testing information is on the back page; those with questions should contact Martin Matarazzo, VE Manager.

Printed Circuit

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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CLUB INFORMATION

Meetings

The Club meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month, except December. Meetings are held at the Joplin Red Cross (4th and Jackson) and begin at 7:00 PM. All amateur operators welcomed at meetings and other club functions.

Club Repeaters - Open for all to use

WØIN - 147.210+ (No tone) WØIN South - 145.390- (91.5)

Weekly Net (Mondays at 7:30 PM, 147.210+)

All operators are welcome to check in the net. ARRL Audio News, ARES, buy-sell-trade, and other announcements are made.

W4VEC Volunteer Examining Sessions

On the first Monday of each month, exams are offered at St. Paul's United Methodist Church on W. 26th Street, west of Maiden Lane. Applicants need to bring 2 pencils, 2 forms of ID (including 1 photo ID), and the *original and 2 copies of any current license and/or Certificates of Successful Completion if applicable*. Registration begins at 6:30 PM. For questions, contact Martin Matarazzo, VE Manager.

Social Gatherings

On Saturdays, members gather at Steak n Shake (Hammons Blvd.) for breakfast, beginning at 9:00 AM. On Thursday evenings, members gather at a local restaurant. Check with John Tudenham (624-8058) for location.