

# JARC REPEATER

September 1996

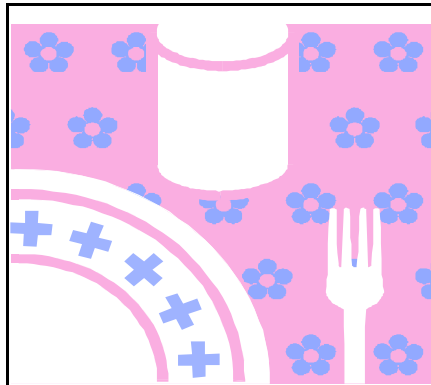
Volume 6 Issue 9

## Club to sponsor first annual "tail-gate" fest!

**The** Joplin Amateur Radio Club announces that it will hold a "tail-gate" hamfest on October 12, 1996. Reservations have been made at **Ewert Park**, located at 7th and Murphy Boulevard. This is the same location as where the Field Day event was held, and is centrally located and easy to find.

The park has been reserved for 9AM to 5 PM, and we will be having a **cookout** as well. Club members will get hot dogs, hamburgers and possibly other items free, and the cookout will be available for visitors at a nominal fee. If you want additional information about the event, please contact one of the officers.

This promises to be a fun event, so round up all those items you have been wanting to pawn off (er, excuse me, liquidate) on someone, and bring them on down! There will be someone there early to guide you on where to park or set up. We would like to make this an annual event perhaps, so I know the officers will really be looking at the attendance, etc. to see whether this is a worthwhile event. I remember the



*Bring your own place settings and a dish that goes along with hotdogs and burgers. Club will furnish the meat.*

tailgate hamfest the Pittsburg Repeater Organization (P.R.O.) put on a couple of years ago at *Big*

*Brutus*, and I thought it was a

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***Hot dogs and hamburgers (maybe even some road kill?) will be served at the tail-gate hamfest. Yum, Yum. Come and get it!***

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good one. If you have any comments or suggestive criticism after the event, I know they will be wanting some feedback on that, as well. Thanks to WBØIYC and KAØTUD for information for this story.

## GATE 2 of FCC Vanity Calls to Open in Sept.

**At** news time, we have learned that the FCC will open Gate 2 of the Vanity Callsigns to **Amateur Extra** class operators on September 23, 1996. If you have a form ready to mail, the time is getting very close now.

Several of you may remember that the club is also going to seek a vanity club callsign to replace our current call, **KBØSYD**. John, N3JM, and others spent some time last year in getting the possible calls ready for the request, and let's keep our fingers crossed that we will get a nice call for CW! I know John, WØJRP, would like that- if we do.

If anyone has any questions, remember that the FCC has a toll-free number at **1-800-322-1117** that may be able to help you, or to request the forms. Single copies of the 610-V are also available from the ARRL. If anyone else out there is going for a vanity call, we wish you the best of luck, and hope that you get the call you are wanting!

**inside...**

Tail-gater Hamfest and FCC Gate opening  
Summer VHF/UHF openings continue  
Senator responds (Kinda) to letter

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# World of VHF/UHF: Summer Openings

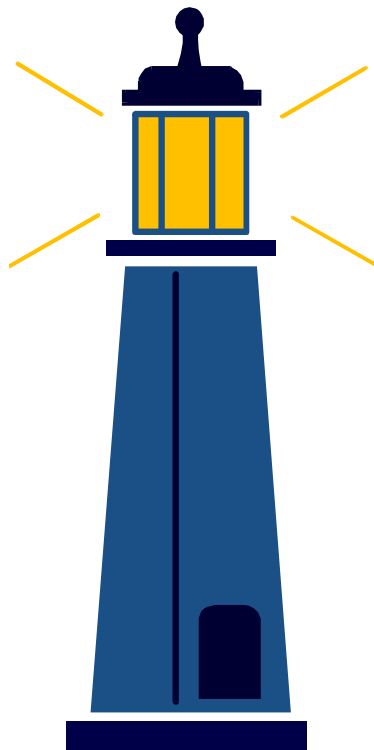
**S**ix-meter openings continue in the first half of July, although down slightly. Some of the higher power stations and those with good antennas in the eastern part of the United States have managed to work into Europe on multi-hop sporadic-E skip. These signals are usually weak, so CW is used in most cases. I have heard one report that one station in St. Louis area managed to work Portugal on six with just 100 watts and a three element yagi. On six meters most of the skip is worked between 50.1 Mhz and 50.125 Mhz. It is suggested that U.S. stations use this portion of the band for working DX stations only. Most of the rag-chewing on Six is usually done above 50.130 when the bands open. Also, 50.125 Mhz is used as a domestic calling and short contact frequency. I have heard many hams report that six-meter hams are usually polite and friendly compared to some of the hams on the HF

If anyone is interested in a good six-meter set up, contact Steve, WFØG, in Neosho, Missouri. Steve has an ICOM 551D 80 watt rig with a receive pre-amp. and a five element beam (yagi) for sale. Steve was in the Navy and operated as *KG4SM* from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (**EDITORS NOTE:** What a QTH! Hope he brought back some good Cuban cigars Hi, Hi.). Several of our area hams, including myself, worked him on six a few years ago, using that rig. Steve is now retired and lives near Neosho. Several hams have asked me

about TV about television interference on Six. The answer is: If you run low or moderate power, or you are on cable, you have very few problems. A lot depends on the set. A coax high-pass filter with a 54 Mhz cutoff to put on the set is available at **Radio Shack**.™ Speaking of TV interference, you may have a problem on two meters. Cablecom of Joplin has just recently moved ESPN® to Cable Channel 18, which is right smack in the middle of the Two-Meter band. Checking my own set, my handie-talkie running, I found that only 1 watt knocks out the picture in the same room. This is not our problem, but try telling that to your neighbor! If you get any complaints, you had better refer them to your local cable company and maybe they can do a better job of shielding, which is almost impossible.

I would like to hear your comments about having a two meter SSB rag-chew net—maybe even one on six meter sideband or FM. Let me know what you think.

‘73, DE John, WØJRP, your regular VHF columnist for the *JARC REPEATER*. (**EDITORS NOTE:** Do you have expertise in a particular area of hamdom? You could be seeing your name as a regular columnist like John...we’ll take packet, ATV, satellite, whatever...it’s pretty much wide open!)



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***Interested in a 2-meter SSB ragchew net? See John's comments at the end of the article.. Maybe even a net on Six-Meter SSB or FM?***

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bands. I hope this continues! Jay, KØETC, hopes to get his beam up soon, as he is still using his 3 element yagi at 10 feet. He reports that he had so much fun with the band openings, he hasn't found time to put his regular antenna in the air. He hopes to have stacked five element beams up soon.

# Club pondering a 6m FM Repeater...

**A**t the first meeting in August, a motion was made to refer the issue of a repeater on 6 meters **to the club as a whole**. Jim, NØZSQ, will be devising either a ballot, or some way to get this issue in front of the whole club. More information will follow as it becomes available, but club members need to be aware that some action on this issue is *likely to be taken in the very near future*.

The cost of the equipment needed for the repeater is approximately \$650.00. As you may recall, the repeater would be provided through the courtesy of Dave Crayne, NØJEQ, and the club would have to purchase other items to make the system work. There seems to be a somewhat even split as whether this is a desirable thing or not. Many members note that we would be providing a good service to the amateur radio community as a whole, by getting a 6m repeater. This would also counter the oft-heard criticism that we are nothing but a *2-meter repeater group*. Six meters is commonly thought of as either the lowest of the VHF bands, or as the top of the HF bands, since it shares characteristics of both bands. Conversely, there will indeed be some cost associated with the venture, and we certainly want everyone to be able to make an informed decision on the matter. There are some issues and concerns, and the club has voted to allow all members to have a chance to provide input.

## CLASSIFIED AD

**WANTED:** Vintage amateur radio equipment, tubes, parts, components, etc. **MILITARY EQUIPMENT,** SP600 a plus. 7360 balanced mod tube, finals, 4700 pf. ceramic disc @ 1KV, etc., etc.,—also wanted—*mentors*, for discussion of radio theory. Old-timers and former signal corps members a plus also. Requirements too numerous to list. Contact: Lloyd Williams, KAØZCX, RR 1, Box 248, Baxter Springs, KS 66713

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## Senator Bond (R-Mo.) responds...

**I**n a letter dated August 13, 1996, Missouri Senator Christopher S. “Kit” Bond responded to a letter your editor sent regarding the frequency grab planned by the LEO industry. I found his response a bit humorous, and for those of you who do not do a lot of writing to your congressmen, enlightening. As you know, Congressmen deal with a lot of correspondence, and they employ *technology to answer their mail*. If a person is writing about amateur radio issues, for instance, the secretary punches in issue #43, and *shazam*-out comes a canned response letter about amateur radio. Remember, I was writing about the 2m/440 proposed grab, and enlisting his support on that topic....

**Following is his response:**

*“Thank you for contacting my office regarding S.J.Res. 90. I appreciate you taking the time to share your views. The resolution states that Congress supports and encourages the Amateur Radio Service. It also states that government agencies should avoid any action which would reduce amateur radio frequency allocations. In addition, it recognizes amateur radio operators for the voluntary service they have provided over the years. Frequently in emergencies, amateur radio operators have been the first contact between a stricken area and the outside world. The Red Cross and civil preparedness agencies have relied heavily on the abilities of volunteer amateur operators. Given the expenditure of funds to set up operations and the dedication which amateur radio operators have exhibited in becoming licensed, along with the voluntary service they have provided to the public, they have*

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***Bond does say he wholeheartedly supports the resolution, but that’s not what your editor was writing about! At least he likes hams...***

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*earned our admiration and appreciation. The willingness of our citizens to lend assistance freely in times of need is a manifestation of the American spirit...” /s/, Senator Bond.*

# Meeting Times and other Club Information

**T**he Joplin Amateur Radio Club, Inc., a Missouri *not-for-profit* organization, meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Joplin Municipal Building, on the lower level in the Civil Defense dining room, at 7:00 PM.

All members and prospective members are invited to attend.

There are also several other functions taking place for members as activities, one of which is club breakfasts. Members meet at anywhere from 8AM on, at the *Blue Moon Cafe*, at 1619 Main Street in Joplin, Missouri, and congregate there until they run

out of tall tales to tell, or until they get thrown out, whichever comes first. (Hi, Hi).

## CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Jim, WBØIYC  
Vice-President, Dave NØKMP  
Treasurer, Jim NØZSQ  
Secretary, Mark NØZPD

## ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Items for the newsletter, including classified ads and amateur radio related articles, are solicited. Please send to Wes T., ARS **KGØYH**, at P.O. Box 554, Carl Junction, Missouri 64834-0554.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month preceding the month of publication. Classified ads are **free**; run on a space-available basis and can be ran more than one month, if needed. Articles do not have to be type-written, but should be legible. Refer to previous editions for our editorial policy. This newsletter is an open forum for the Four-State area amateur radio community, and your contributions are sorely needed and invited. You may also call the editor with any late-breaking stories at 629-3244. Thanks!

Joplin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2983  
Joplin MO 64803-2983  
KGØYH, Newsletter Editor  
NØZSQ, Collator/Mailer

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## inside...

Tail-gater Hamfest Scheduled for October 12th in Ewert Park; FCC Gate 2 opens. Club pondering sponsorship of a Six-Meter Repeater.