

PRINTED CIRCUIT

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Volume 7 Number 9

Editorial Causes Quite a Stir

As president of the Joplin ARC, my duty is solely to the club and its business. On the other hand, ARES is Andy's (KAØTUD) job, he has been charged with the responsibility of establishing and maintaining a liaison with emergency services in Jasper County. Note that this is an appointed position, not just a lark, and demands a considerable amount of his time.

So, when it comes to the club's involvement with ARES, how do we define that? It is widely known that we operate and maintain an **open** repeater which offers wide area coverage with battery backup. It has always been the position of the club to support the emergency services. However, whenever anyone hears the weather net on the repeater, with **whom** do they associate that?

I for one, take great pride in the fraternity that ham radio has afforded me, but to think that any emergency net should appear *disorganized* or *informal* (whether it is or not), in my mind, projects an image that reflects on each and every one of us.

I had to read the editorial that

MS150 BIKERS to RETURN in SEPTEMBER

Once again the annual two day 150 mile Bike-A-Thon event for Multiple Sclerosis is coming southwest. The MS-150 is scheduled for the weekend of September 6th, originating near Springfield and will travel through Carthage then on toward Baxter Springs. The riders will overnight at Carthage, then after a big breakfast will continue along the backroads of the area into Kansas.



On Tuesday August 12th, **ED Griesbaum (KBØGSV)** will come from Springfield to speak to the members at the JARC regular business meeting. He will be on hand to answer any questions and enlist all volunteers. Ed had commented about the success of last year's event and is encouraged that local hams have shown such interest in making this event such a success.

The club received a communication from ED requesting our assistance once again to provide communications for both days. Ed confirmed that he will be at the meeting Tuesday August 12th, so please try to make it if you are interested in helping with this event.

Wes (KGØYH) wrote last month *four times* to grasp what he was saying, and I believe it raises important issues and questions, some of which are addressed and answered in letters included on other pages in this issue.

I believe that the people involved in ARES and spotting are trying to do the right thing. For this they need too be commended. But, this is only one part of a bigger picture.

Imagine the chaos of a real emergency. Can you honestly say to yourself that you would know how to respond? Would we all be ready and organized when human lives were on the line?

Constructive criticism is healthy because it attacks the problem not the person...

Jim Scott WBØIYC

(Letters begin on page 3.)

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The World of VHF/UHF

John Tudenham, WØJRP

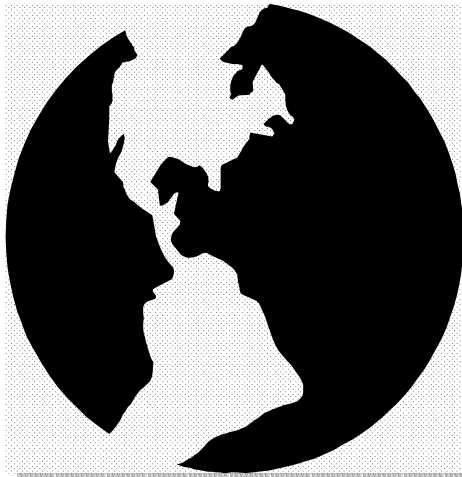
Here it is the month of June, and the summer sporadic E season should be going full blast. While six and ten meter openings are fairly frequent, they have been very spotty, and not as good as the past three years. The past weekend was the annual June VHF contest. KØETC and WØJRP operated six meters and worked stations in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Florida, Arizona, Idaho, Nevada and California on E skip, plus Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas and Oklahoma on tropo or groundwave. Also there was a short opening to Canada on Saturday afternoon. On Sunday, Father's Day, Church and other social events cut short my operating time. On two meters, average June tropo conditions brought contacts as far away as Dallas Texas and Des Moines, Iowa. On 222 MHz, SSB, WØJRP had a QSO with NØYKR in Great Bend, KS in grid EM-08.

One thing you can count on in a VHF contest is a lot of activity. I was surprised at how much activity there was in *Parsons, Kansas*. Wish we could say that about Joplin! WØPW informed me that he worked Chicago on two meters this morning. Of course, with Don, that's just an everyday contact!

Have heard a lot of hams using the new MFJ sideband rig. It is 10 watts SSB only and seems to do a good job at a reasonable price. A lot of hams are also using the new ICOM 706. All the talk about 50 Mhz and 440 Mhz these days, and one of

our better VHF bands is hardly mentioned. 222-225 Mhz, the 1 1/4 meter band, is much the same as the overcrowded 2 meter band and all classes of licenses, including a Novice, can operate all modes on this band. A novice is limited to 25 watts, all other classes 1500 watts. Sideband and CW is worked into the 222.000 to 222.150 Mhz portion, while FM and repeaters have the rest of the band. Lots of commercial equipment is becoming available and activity is growing. This is another one of our VHF bands where we can say "use it or lose it". Remember even a Novice can work this band.

73 es CU on VHF



**QRP for the Radio
Amateur** by WØJRP

A QRP station is usually considered a power limit of 5 watts on CW and 10 watts PEP voice. What you can do operating

QRP depends on radio propagation conditions, antenna and operating skill. During the recent WPX CW contest sponsored by CQ magazine, I decided to see what I could do with my small MFJ 20 meter rig, operated on battery at 5 watts with a simple half-wave dipole antenna.

Conditions were excellent on 20 meters that night, and in three hours time, I managed to work about 50 stations, including many DX stations, some in Europe.

My own thought is "Why not run QRP battery power on field day? CW will do much better, but even with sideband, under good conditions, you can make many contacts. I say to those who are afraid to work CW-just to get in there and make some contacts with out-of-town stations. You will enjoy it! They will go your speed... just remember-*don't send any faster than you can receive*, and use a hand key first. Don't even think about trying an automatic keyer (Ed: often called a "bug") until you have mastered the *hand key*.

Remember that when you make a mistake in sending, send seven dits in rapid succession (.), we all do that (make mistakes) regardless of speed and this is how you indicate that the previous characters were in error. You will soon learn all of the operating shortcuts. More QRP news next month.

Paste Letter from Judy here

Rebuttal on the Editorial about Discontinuing the Weather Net

Discontinuing the weather net and ARES would not be in the best interest of the community! Who else is going to get up in the middle of the night to go out and watch the weather and make sure that if it gets severe or dangerous authorities can be notified so the public can be alerted with sirens or however. Most of the spotters that go out in the middle of the night or stay out watching the weather as long as needed should be commended instead of hassled or complained about. They are doing it possibly to save lives if the case should arise. (It hasn't yet Thank God, but who's to say it won't). If it be on a work night they still have to get up and go to work in the morning. It is discontinued, who's going to watch the weather then? Every Tom, Dick and Harry most not knowing what to look for. It will very quickly and easily turn into being like the little boy who cried "wolf". Those interfering with the nets will also be the first to complain and point fingers any place but their direction if something bad does occur during their interference and foolishness, or child's play.

As far as it being a "noncontrolled net", whoever is saying that is obviously not a spotter, doesn't go out on weather watches and doesn't listen very closely when able to as to what is going on! Positions are stated as to where spotters are and if they move, new positions are also stated. Any change in conditions is also reported. It is a supervised net by different authorities and is monitored by the National Weather Service. If anything was out of hoyle, I am sure it would have been brought to the attention of those running the net because I am sure they know a little bit more than those finding faults.

As far as finding separate frequencies is concerned, that would do no good. The interferences would follow. They are doing it for attention and don't care how many lives are put in danger because of their stupidity. ARE YOU ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE????

You want to talk about what scanner listeners think about our activities? The Joplin Amateur Radio Club has big activities, like breakfast at Smitty's on Saturday mornings and drinking coffee at Hardy's weekday mornings. The Ares weather spotters have very little to do with those jokers that are too lazy to help when help is needed. Why don't they help organize the communications between the Ares spotters and the net control. They are experienced in flapping their jaws.

Controlling people who are calling in reports has been done quite efficiently. If those that are complaining about the so called "sunshine reports" know so damn much about it, why then aren't they out there in the field helping those that are least trying? As the saying goes "either put up or shut up!" A call in from 50 miles away wanting to know what direction the storm is headed sometimes comes from sources that may help in determining what the storm really is doing. This information can be passed on to authorities in the path of the storm who may not be as lucky as we are to have spotters that care about people. These spotters are not only for Joplin, but all of Jasper County and have upon occasions gone to other counties also who need help. It's known as being human, caring and concerned with public safety.

We work with and under the direction of the Emergency Management Agency for the Jasper County areas, the Agency being backed by the Federal Government not the local yocals or the State Government that I know of. Thank Goodness! If the agency was under the State Government we would all be dead. GOT YOU!!!!

So far as I see it your article is only part right. Ham radio is a hobby, that is true!!! But it is also useful in emergency management issues such as weather. The National Weather Service has relied on its spotters reports to support the radar images that can't always be seen. In other words, the eyes of the weather service..... Apparently we are doing the job right and to their satisfaction because they are the ones asking for our help.

For the scanner listeners/ham operators that complain about us and don't get out and help, you can turn the on/off knob to take care of the noise coming from such radios. OR BETTER YET HELP!!!! Cber's are sometime like that but jealous because we have superior communication equipment when it deals with a storm.

The only reason amateur radio clubs in other parts of the state play a greater and more defined role in the local SKYWARN or WX is because they have members who are not afraid to participate and possibly give something of themselves other than sitting around drinking coffee and finding faults with those who participate. We, as weather spotters for the weather net, are a very important link for Jasper County and surrounding areas with the National Weather Service. The federal agencies DO NOT tolerate "keystone cops" activities nor do they just tolerate people. It may be pointed out that these activities expenses are not out of anyone's pocket but the weather spotters. The time and effort of these people putting their lives in danger should be given recognition, not punishment of faults.

So, in closing, if you don't care about your safety try thinking of others for a change and BEAR WITH IT!!!!

Dedicated to Public Awareness
Wendy L. Boyd KBØYXD

Floobydust

ARES Meetings Schedule

Amateur Radio Emergency Service meetings since the 2nd 4th Saturdays in Jan . As of May , for the summer months the group will hold meetings once per month on the 4th Sat. Anyone interested in ARES activities , join in contact Andy KAØTUD.

Hamfest and Picnic Scheduled

The Ozarks Amateur Radio Society is having a Hamfest and Picnic on Sunday Sept 14, 1997 at Monett City Park (Highways 60 and 37 in Monett, MO). There will be free tailgating (8 AM) and free bingo(10 AM). The Potluck dinner starts at 1200 NOON (Please bring dish and serviceware). Drinks are supplied. Talk in on 146.97 MHz. There will also drawings for a Kenwood TM_261A (50W 2m rig) and an Astron KRS-20A regulated power supply.

GOOD BYE CALL BOOKS!!

Callbook has announced that will no longer publish the Amateur Callbooks, They will make the information available on CD Disk only ! If you can find a set, buy them quickly, they will soon become collector items.

AG
Credit, PHD NEWS

FCC Revises Form 610

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT May 22, 1997

The FCC has just released a new Form 610, dated March 1997, that includes a space for your Internet address. The new form is available via the FCC's Internet site (<http://www.fcc.gov>) and via the FCC's fax-on-demand service at 202-418-0177, to obtain Form 610, the form number to request is "000610."

The form is much the same as the previous Form 610, dated March, 1995, except that item 3A asking for the applicant's "Internet Address" is included on the same line as the street address. The environmental impact question, formerly item 6, has instead become a statement in the applicant certification section where the applicant certifies that "the construction of the station would not be an action which is likely to have a significant environmental effect (see the Commission's Rules 47 CFR Sections 1.1301-1.1319 and 97.13a)." The former item 7 has become item 6 on the new Form 610.

According to staff members at the Gettysburg FCC office, the FCC will continue to accept any of the three Forms 610 (dated November 1993, March 1995 and March 1997) until further notice.

DF Hunt Planned for August 23rd

The JARC will sponsor a 2m Rabbit Hunt Saturday morning at 10 am. August 23rd at Smitty's parking lot on S. Maiden Lane in Joplin. This practice hunt will be slightly more difficult than the last one.

Open House Scheduled

On Thursday August 21st, the City of Joplin Fire, Communications, and Police Departments, will be hosting an **Open House** from noon until 8 pm. There will be refreshments served and tours hosted by members of each agency.

This will be an opportunity for the public to see, firsthand, the many changes that have taken place in the public safety field, and also view the new **Enhanced 911 System**.

All citizens are encouraged to attend. There will be entertainment for the children.

HAMFESTS and Other Events

- August 17** — Central Kansas Amateur Radio Club hamfest (location not given)
- September 14** — OARS Picnic, Monett Missouri
- September 20** — Chanute Kansas Hamfest
- October 4** — Warrensburg MO Hamfest '97
- January 17, 1998** Northwest Missouri Winter Hamfest

Minutes of July Meetings

CLASSIFIED ADS

Joplin Amateur Radio Club July 8, 1997

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Scott at 7:30 PM. The pledge of allegiance and self-introductions were completed. The minutes and treasurers report were given. It was noted that there will be no VE testing in July . It was also noted that our repeater was not listed correctly in Midwest Severe Weather Spotting in the Aug. '97 issue of Popular Communications. Jim Scott sent the author e-mail noting the error and got a reply. It was also noted that a rabbit hunt was schedule for the following Saturday. It was reported that we had a very good field day. A motion was passed that the newline tapes be kept for future use.

Mark Mitchelson
Secretary.

Joplin Amateur Radio Club July 22, 1997

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Mark Mitchelson at 7:30pm. The pledge of allegiance and self-induction were completed. The minutes were read and there was no treasurers report. We then discussed the rabbit hunt. We also discussed in some detail the editorial in the newsletter about the weather net. It provoked a strong discussion and resulted in us deciding that we should do more to help Andy with the net. Jack Huber KB0WFE indicated that he was especially interested in helping and suggested the creation of a committee for that purpose.

Mark Mitchelson
Secretary

For Sale:

Heathkit 20 meter SSB single band HF rig (transceiver). Works great, w/power supply, built in speaker, manual. \$75.00

Also Hallicrafters SX-111 HF receiver, works great, used recently. \$100.00. Will sell as a set for \$150.00. Call 782-5667

Jack, WØBZT

Wanted: Commodore 64 to use w/packet. Call **Jim Scott WØIYC** at (417) 781-2211 7/19/97

The following articles are For Sale from the estate of Bill Harrington.

Tower, Crank-up heavy duty; Tri-band beam; 2 meter beam; Rotor and rotor control; Kenwood TS530S Transceiver; Craig 27mhz 4201 Transceiver; Sony solid-state 10" TV; Betley portable 4" TV; Sanyo 12" TV; Pal Ø-100/0-1000 watts SWR Indicator; Sanyo Calcuator; Jeanie Rub Mrofam Massager; Box of misc connectors, cables, wires, transformers, power plugs, etc.

If you are interested please contact :

Mrs. Betty Harrington
611 Belle Aire, Carthage , Mo
64836 417-358-6669

Howard Gravitt NØHG (358-6276)
or Larry Sparks NØBHU
(358-9183) can help you further .

Calendar here

Meeting Times, Testing, Events, other Club Information

The **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 7:30 PM. The facility is accessible to the handicapped.

The club supports and promotes annual operating events, assists area agencies with communications when requested, and offers training classes for advancement in amateur radio. It also sponsors the JARC HamFest each year in April, and maintains a wide area coverage OPEN 2m repeater on 147.21 MHz.

Several club members meet every weekday morning for coffee at Hardee's, 804 S. Rangeline in Joplin about 8 AM. Members also meet

for breakfast on Saturday morning around 9AM in the restaurant at Smitty's on South Maiden Lane in Joplin.

1997 CLUB OFFICERS:

| | | |
|-----------------|------|--------|
| President: | Jim | WBØIYC |
| Vice-President, | Russ | NØQLT |
| Treasurer, | Jim | NØZSQ |
| Secretary, | Mark | NØZPD |

Testing is offered for Amateur Radio

licensing by volunteer examiners on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The tests are given at the St. Paul's Methodist Church at 2423 West 26th St. in Joplin, with sign up at 6:30 PM and testing at 7 PM.

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Items for the newsletter, including classified ads as well as amateur radio related articles, are solicited. Please send to Wes Thorn, 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 will be run on a space available basis and will be run more than one month, if desired. Articles do not have to be typewritten, but should be legible.

Refer to previous editions for our editorial policy. The club 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 late-breaking stories at 629-3244. Thanks!

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