

PRINTED CIRCUIT

February/March 1998

Newsletter of the Joplin Amateur Radio Club

Volume 8 Issue No. 2&3

Volunteers Needed for Hamfest '98

Now is the time for all good hams to come to the aid of their HamFest (sound familiar).

March is almost here and the JARC HamFest has been advertised with a mass mailing of flyers to more than 3500 hams over a 100 mile radius, plus all regional clubs in four states. Don't expect a flyer sent separately if you are a member of the JARC, a copy of it is attached to this newsletter. Be sure to make your reservations early, space will go fast. We have only about 200 tables total for this event, and several are already committed.

Think of what you are willing to do to help with the hamfest this year. This one event has gained a wide reputation throughout the ham community, and promises to be bigger than ever.

Since the first hamfest in April of 1991, the JARC club has had tremendous success with this event. Now more than ever, the club needs your support with this activity. Andy will have a list posted throughout the month to get volunteers, so please look it over and sign up!

Remember, Uncle TUD wants You! Lets Look Forward to 98...

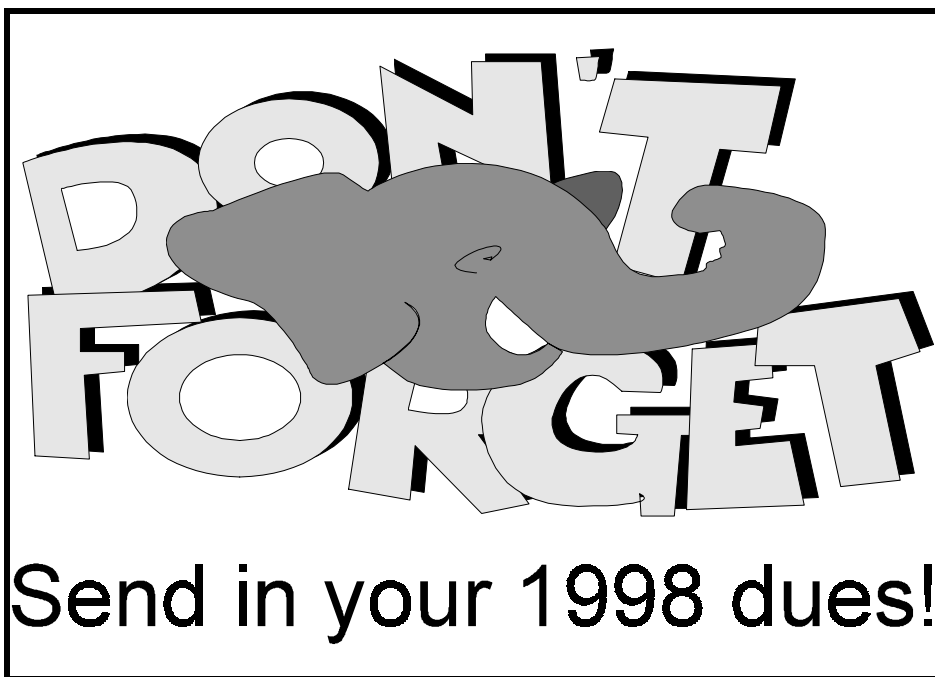
JARC ON DISPLAY THRU MARCH

The Joplin Public Library was the site of quite a bit of activity Sunday March 1st when several members converged carrying all sorts of paraphernalia from radio equipment to license plates. Betty Miller (KBØTKX) organized this display to be both informative and promote the club and many of its activities. On display are a variety of items, both old and new, indicative of various aspects of ham radio.

The display will be showing through the month of March, and you may view it during normal library hours (9am-6pm daily, 9pm Thurs). It is located inside of the main entrance of the library, 3rd and Main St. There is ample parking in the rear, as well as on Main St. Be sure to check it out!

JARC CHILI COOKOFF SCHEDULED

Mark your calendars for the 3rd annual Chili Cookoff. This event will preempt the **2nd meeting** scheduled for the 24th of March and will start at 6:30pm., **one hour earlier** than usual. Members are asked to bring a pot of their favorite chili, and/or a covered dish. Utensils, bowls, condiments, refreshments and entertainment will be provided. Please bring your own BEANO.



inside...

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THE WORLD OF VHF/UHF

The month of January produced a few good sporadic E openings on six meters. The winter E season which usually ends around January 15th, was better than last year. The January VHF contest produced a two hour six meter opening to South Texas, otherwise, not much doing. A fair two meter Tropo opening to IA and IL occurred Sunday night. Local stations NØIGZ, KØETC, KBØSTN, and WØJRP were among those getting into the action.

Several new stations have been getting on two meter sideband and six meter FM. WTØY and KBØPBK are now on two meter sideband, and KAØTUD now has a six meter FM rig. We will be hearing Andy soon after he gets an antenna up.

I finally worked a fellow named Wayne NØPOH in Aurora, CO on six meters. His signal was fairly weak, but then we discovered that he was using only ten watts and transmitting on an indoor dipole. NØPOH is a friend of club member "Larry" KCØAUY. He knew Wayne when he lived in Colorado. Wayne publishes the "Rocky Mountain VHF Report", a very interesting monthly VHF newsletter to which I subscribe. The story about the mountain rescue of four people which was published in the **Printed Circuit** came from their news letter. If you are interested in subscribing, I can give you the information you will need.

For the months of February and March we can usually expect VHF propagation to be minimal because of the lack of Tropo or E skip. Openings due to the **Aurora** can occur, and although they are usually limited to the Northern Latitudes, they can extend south. Try checking WWV at 18 minutes past the hour, when the **K-index** has a magnitude of at least 4, point your beam North. If the weather permits, check the northern horizon to see if the Northern Lights are visible. Now for something new on two meters.

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NEWS FOR SCANNER ENTHUSIASTS

The FCC is warning individuals and companies that offer to modify scanners or any other receivers which permit them to listen in on cellular telephone frequencies that this activity is prohibited by federal laws and FCC rules. The directive says that scanning receivers must be FCC-certified and incapable of being readily altered by the user to pick up the cellular bands.

The FCC went on to say that the modification of scanners on a substantial scale to receive cellular frequencies will be considered to constitute manufacture of such equipment. This, says the regulatory agency, is in direct violation of federal law and FCC rules. The FCC added that any entity engaged in such activity is cautioned to cease advertising and/or performing such activity immediately or face tough punitive action.

(From an FCC news release published in Worldradio, Sep. 1997, used with permission. All other rights reserved.)

WWW.JOPLIN-ARC.ORG

The JARC now has a domain name. Jim WBØIYC introduced a motion January 27th which was overwhelming passed to have Mark KBØVVQ apply for the domain name on behalf of the club. Mark announced the new name at the February 24th meeting. Links will be added to our site so that anyone browsing Joplin will find our Club listed. Try it!

If you are a member of the JARC and have an email address, contact Mark and he will link you to the membership list.

NEWS Happenings with ARES

The Emergency Management Organization has taken on a new name to reflect the inclusion of counties in Arkansas. Called the Four Corners Emergency Management Association, it encompasses all the bordering counties of the four state area and is responsible to the National Weather Service in Springfield and indirectly to Tulsa via Miami OK, and Wichita via Bartlesville.

This last summer Judy Johnson (Director of Emergency Preparedness) asked Andy KAØTUD to instruct the hams with regard to their role in emergency preparedness in this new organization. Additionally, practice sessions were to be implemented to help the hams prepare and organize. Drills have been scheduled throughout the first three months of 1998 as preparation for the spring storm season.

Drilling schedules can be obtained from Andy, or at any ARES meeting. Your participation is solicited so that the showing of the ham community will enhance our position with the emergency services. It takes dedication of the hams involved, and to those who participate we appreciate them.

Andy Gabbert KAØTUD
County Emergency Coordinator

Jack Huber KBØWFE
Assistant Emergency Coordinator

JARC JUDGES VICA COMPETITION

Thursday March 5th, several hams from the JARC will judge the annual VICA Electronics Competition held at Crowder College in Neosho. Our representatives include Bruce KFØTD, John KBØTKL, and Jim NØZSQ. They have represented the club for the past several years.

EDITORIAL

THE FUTURE OF AMATEUR RADIO

by John Tudenham, WØJRP

Many Amateurs have heard the News Line on our Monday night net or read in recent issues of QST about a problem facing Amateur Radio. After many years of growth, there is now a decline in the total number of Amateur licenses in the United States. This decline is of the total in all classes of license, in spite of a record number of new Codeless Tech Licenses being issued. A lot of this can be blamed on the internet, which also has caused a decline in TV viewing. The ARRL is also concerned about their advertising revenue being down, you may notice that the big companies are not running many one page ads in QST anymore because their sales of equipment are way down. Another problem is that many of the amateurs are not renewing their licenses, and many of

the older hams have become silent keys. Also, I know many hams here in the Joplin area, even extra class, that don't own equipment or operate on the ham bands anymore. Last year, most of the major hamfests, including Dayton, reported a drop in attendance. We (JARC) advertised ours well, and the attendance stayed about the same.

The point I am trying to make is that this is leading to a serious problem. If we don't use all of our ham bands, we are going to lose them. This also goes for some of our VHF/UHF bands in this area.

I would like to see a recruiting campaign to increase membership in our club. Call some of these people, invite them to our meetings and try to get them back on the air. ¶

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NØMST and KBØWEY are trying Slow Scan TV on about 144.175 MHz. Also WØPW and a few other hams are getting on six meter AM around 50.400 MHz. Although some hams think AM stands for "Ancient Modulation", it has been gaining popularity again, although mostly on 75 meters.

The Monday night S W O T net that is called by WB5GVP in Henryetta OK, is trying something new. The net, which usually started at 9 PM with WB5GVP's beam aimed towards Dallas, is going to begin one half hour earlier at 8:30 PM with beam now pointed toward Joplin. Later he will make a second call in our direction around 9:45 or 10 PM. This net meets on 144.250 MHz USB, and has so many check in's from so many directions that it takes over an hour to make the rounds!

cu on VHF,
73 WØJRP

A LITTLE HUMOR

The President needed to determine which organization, the LAPD, FBI, or CIA, was the best at apprehending criminals. To find out, he decided to test their abilities. He released a rabbit into the forest and instructed each of them that they had to catch it.

The CIA gets first crack. They place informants throughout the forest, then question all plant and mineral witnesses. After extensive investigations over three months, they conclude that rabbits do not exist in the forest.

The FBI is next. After two weeks with no leads they burn the forest, killing everything, including the rabbit. They make no apologies, and explain "The rabbit had it coming."

Finally, the LAPD gets their turn. They return in two hours with a badly beaten bear. The bear is yelling over and over, "Okay! Okay! I'm a rabbit! I'm a rabbit!"

Buy/Sell Trade

For Sale - Kenwood TS-430, Power Supply, Antenna Tuner, Mini Quad Antenna (80-10 m), Keyer \$1000 cash.
Kent Jones NDØZ (417) 623-3668

For Sale - Alpine #3505 Power Amp, 12VDC-neg gnd. Motorola Mostar Base, Model #D35TLA5B00BK. Motorola Mobile, Model #D35TLA5B00BK. Motorola Power Supply, Model #HPN1004A. 120VAC, 60 Hz 2.0A, Output 14.2 VDC.
Doug Torson KM5JM (918) 782-2976

For Sale - KENWOOD TR751A
2m All Mode 25W output. Excellent sensitivity GasFet front end. \$450.00 will ship in the US. Jerry Martin NØBWA
jmartin@alt.net (417) 624-8918

For Sale - ICOM 761-AT
Asking \$850 or trade.
Frank NØLEG (417) 781-7933

A.M. Vacuum Tube Technology
Is there anyone (old timer) in this area that is interested in A.M. (vacuum tube technology)? 3885 kc.
Donald Hilliard WØPW (417) 451-5892

For Sale - HAM/Computer Stuff
ESS-1869 Plug-n-Play Sound Cards
New in the box, with instructions and driver disk for Win 95, Win 3.x, and DOS. I have several available, \$25 each.
S3 Virge DX 2MB PCI Video Card
3D Graphics/Video Accelerator CD with drivers for Win 95, Win 3.x, Win NT, and os/2. New in the box with Instructions \$50
5lbs. of Capacitors
Quite an assortment of both new and some used. Leftover inventory - \$20
Jim Scott WBØIYC
(417) 781-2211

Calendar on this page

INsert JARC Hamfets sheet 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.

Club members often meet weekday mornings in Joplin for coffee at either Hardee's (804 S. Rangeline) or

Target (7th St. East of Rangeline) around 8 AM. Members also meet for breakfast on Saturday morning around 8:30 AM in the restaurant at Smitty's (18th and Maiden Lane) in Joplin.

1998 CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Larry NØMST
Vice-Pres., Jackson KBØWFE
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. Sign up at 6:30 PM, testing begins promptly at 7 PM.

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

This club newsletter provides an open forum for the Four-State area amateur radio community, and *your* comments and contributions are always invited. Items for publication, including classified ads and amateur radio related articles, may be sent to the **JARC Printed Circuit**, P.O. Box 2983, Joplin, MO 64803-2983, or send email to: jimscott@janics.com

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month preceding the month of publication. Non-Commercial Classified ads are free and will be run on a space available basis whenever requested. Submissions may be typed, handwritten, ASCII text files attached with email, or on disks formatted for IBM. *All items* are subject to editing for spelling, content, and space limitations as required. '73 and Thanks. **Jim WBØIYC ¶**

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