

PRINTED CIRCUIT

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Newsletter of the Joplin Amateur Radio Club

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CQ CQ CQ

By J C ALEXANDER, K5DMI

Asking a person why he or she became a ham is like asking someone where to trade for groceries; you will get a variety of answers.

For myself, I was fascinated with communications for several years. I was turned off by the propagation limits of AM CB radio, not to mention the frequent foul language. Ham radio, on the other hand, offered more frequencies, operating modes, and a friendship with others whom wanted to foster development of the hobby.

Development is a vague term. For many, promoting amateur radio means enticing more people in the hobby. I am not against anyone entering the hobby; I was always against the Morse code requirement to keep "undesirables" from being general and extra class hams. On the other hand, I supported the higher speeds since many long time operators sent faster code, and the license was *one* means to measure operating proficiency.

But so much of the "development" and "promotion" of our hobby leaves me wondering if we are not really *demoting* amateur radio. This observation comes after several years of noticing how many higher class operators do not live up to their class. I'm speaking of extra operators (pre-2000) using profane language, advanced licensees reporting tornadoes without looking outside their windows at home, and technicians that break in on

(Continued on page 2)

NEW ISS ANTENNA INSTALLATION

There's been another switch in plans to install the last two Amateur Radio antennas aboard the International Space Station. NASA and Russian officials announced this week that the second space walk by members of the Expedition 5 crew was rescheduled for Monday, August 26. It had been set to happen August 23.

Installation of the new Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) antennas on the Service Module--the crew's living quarters--paves the way for two separate ham stations in space. At least in the short term, one station would be for VHF operation, the other for UHF--on 70 cm. The antennas to be installed are capable of handling both VHF and UHF. Similar flexible tape antennas for VHF-UHF and for HF were installed in January by the Expedition 4 crew.

NASA and Russian sources indicate the schedule shift was made to accommodate tasks that did not get done during the crew's first space walk on August 16. At least for now, the two Amateur Radio antennas are on the planned timeline for installation during the space walk or "EVA" (extra-vehicular activity).

Expedition 5 Commander Valery Korzun, RZ3FZ, and Flight Engineer Sergei Treschev, RZ3FU, are slated to begin the six-hour spacewalk at 0500 UTC on August 26.

A scheduled ARISS QSO August 24 with Scout Jamboree station PI4RIS in The Netherlands by US Astronaut Peggy Whitson, KC5ZTD, was postponed. It's not known if the change in space walk schedules was a factor, however.

The two VHF-UHF flexible tape antennas--
(Continued on page 3)

ARRL CHANGES SECTION NEWS

Starting next January, "Section News" and contest line score results will appear on the ARRL Web site rather than in QST. Meeting July 19-20 in Windsor, CT, the ARRL Board of Directors voted 9-6 to approve a resolution formally relocating "Section News" to the ARRL Web site. The "Section News" has appeared in the League's official journal at least since 1919. The "Section News" Web sites will provide the officials of each ARRL section "the capability of an up-to-date information resource that can be tailored to the needs of their section," the resolution said.

The space freed up by relocating "Section News" will allow more in-depth coverage of general news, public service activities and "how-to" articles. Members unable to use the Web can request their section's reports in hard-copy format.

The Board first considered the issue at its January meeting but postponed action until July to give members the opportunity to better understand the reasons for relocating "Section News," to discuss alternatives, and to better understand and see the advantages of the expanded content available on the Web site.

Voting for the change were Directors Dick Isely, W9GIG (Central); Jay Bellows, KØQB (Dakota); Frank Fallon, N2FF (Hudson); Wade Walstrom, WØEJ (Midwest); Tom Frenaye, K1KI (New England); Dennis Bodson, W4PWF (Roanoke); Walt Stinson, WØCP (Rocky Mountain); Art Goddard, W6XD (Southwestern); and Coy Day, N5OK (West Gulf).

Directors Bernie Fuller, N3EFN (Atlantic); Rick Roderick, K5UR (Delta); George Race, WB8BGY

(Continued on page 3)

inside...

WØJRP VHF Report: Alaska - YES Alaska on 6m
Remembering NØHG
Upcoming Events / Hamfest Calendar/Classifieds

Page 2
Page 2
Page 4

VHF REPORT

Summer E-SKIP Surprise!

August usually spells the end of the summer E-skip season, even though this has been a fairly poor year it has been full of surprises.

Jay KØETC was still up and alert at 1 a.m. on August 22nd. Six meters appeared dead, but suddenly two Alaska stations were heard. Jay went on to work both KL7NO in grid BP54, and NL7F in BP64. There had been some Aurora in the northern latitudes so it is possible that part of the propagation was Aurora E-skip. Working Alaska from the Midwest is *very rare* in August. Usually our KL7 contacts are made from November through January by F2 skip, and only during daylight hours. As I write this - the night of August 23, we have an E-skip going on to Arizona, so even though it is late August the skip is still hanging on.

One might ask "Will we have long skip F2 openings again this fall and winter on six meters"? Last year was great for long haul DX openings, but we were near the top of the 11 year solar cycle with solar fluxes over 200 on most days. It appeared that this cycle was on a fast decline with numbers in June and July, down as low as 130. About the time we were going to say goodbye to this cycle it started up again with numbers as high as 247 on at least one day this week. This is good news, since the north/south path to South America usually starts in September. A preview of what might be coming this week occurred when Japanese stations were able to work into Australia and New Zealand on 50MHz!

I would like to welcome to a couple of newcomers on 6 meters here in Joplin. John, NØGMD is back on six. Also, we wish to congratulate Bob, ABØVB (ex KBØNRD) on getting his Extra Class license. Bob already has 10 states worked on six with just a dipole antenna.

That's all the VHF news from here - and mostly six meters.

73 John
WØJRP

(Continued from page 1)

severe weather nets to ask for "directions away from severe weather." These are real examples. Do we want more operators or hams with the technical know-how and appropriate on-air behavior?

One of the primary reasons that I upgraded from technician to general is because I had elmers who taught me operating skills. In fact, my first planned upgrade was to take the general-advanced-extra exams along with the 20 word per minute code test in one sitting. My elmer advised me against that because it would be embarrassing for me to break a pile-up in the extra class on HF and not even know what I was doing. He suggested that I upgrade to general and gain experience working HF or whatever bands I wanted. I feel fortunate that a long-time ham cautioned me about what I was stepping into. Ultimately I stopped at general class, and I have been pleased ever since.

Elmers have helped me learn HF CW, packet radio, and APRS. Lately, I've been learning SSTV; Martin Matarazzo has been invaluable. Even though I have much more to learn, the point is that I received this help from *club members*. By joining and becoming active in a local club, I was able to tap into a resource that *no* study guide could give me: live help with ham radio projects.

Clubs, I found, is what really set ham radio and CB apart. I know that there are some CB clubs, but I never heard about them on air. In fact, I can't name all the times CBers "ordered" me off "their" frequency. Hams, on the hand, were different. I have always been welcomed when visiting clubs out of state, and local hams have offered on-air advice, ranging from technical discussions to driving directions. Had it not been for a club, the repeaters that I used would not have been available. Clubs foster the hobby by helping newcomers and old-timers alike.

I find that the real tragedy in our hobby is a decline in elmering. New hams are not seeking out help from experienced operators, and in many cases, act offended if help is offered. At the same time, it appears that more operators do not join

(Continued on page 4)

SILENT KEY

NØHG

It is with deep regret that I announce the passing of a local ham whom I have known for most of my life, Howard Gravitt. Howard died August 21st.

I first met Howard when I was about twelve years old. At that time, I knew nothing of him or his interest in Amateur Radio. He worked in the office at Flex-O-Lators in Carthage where my father was employed as a machinist. However, it wasn't until I joined the Carthage Amateur Radio Society (CARS) some 15 years later, that I was to be reacquainted with him and discover that he and I were both members of that great fraternity of radio operators.

Howard always called me Jimmy, and he had a persuasive way about him. He was very active in the Carthage Club, and encouraged me to participate in club functions, projects, and events. I can recall that on more than one occasion, when I would come to a meeting, he would introduce me as the program for that evening - to speak to the club on some technical topic. He made the evenings fun for me with his little surprises. Howard, wanting to know more about digital logic, even arranged for me to teach a digital logic class to himself and several others who were wanting to know more on the subject. What fun we had!

He loved to operate on the air, both HF and later VHF. He had a youthful curiosity about electronics, and although not expert, he built some kits and equipment. Amateur Radio was a hobby for him, and he played in it.

To all of us who knew him, Howard was a kind and thoughtful man. A fine ham, and a good friend.

I will miss him.

Jim Scott
WBØIYC

JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

Every year, hams across the country introduce scouts to Amateur Radio by participating in the "Jamboree On The Air" (JOTA). Recently, Ray Brown, KBØSTN contacted SMARC's secretary Erik Weaver, NØEW about the event.

This year JOTA will take place the weekend of October 18-20. The local Ozark Trails BSA Council, will be having a "Camporall" on the same weekend as the JOTA, at Branson, at the College of the Ozarks. Ray says that it will probably be near Point Lookout, just south and across the river from downtown Branson.

Ray is considering taking the trip to Branson for the event itself. However, plans are not firm, and setting up a local JOTA station is a possibility. This is a great opportunity to gain the interest of the youth in the area and expose them to our hobby. JOTA is open to both boy and girl scouts, and can earn them Merit Badges in Electricity, Electronics, and Radio. Besides operating, they can learn a myriad of things, from the basics of antenna construction and how radios work, to the use of phonetics and CW. They can even discover new friends in other countries.

If you would like to learn more about JOTA, or participate in this event, you are encouraged to contact Ray at 781-4967.

(Continued from page 1)

designated WA1 and WA2--will be installed along the perimeter of the aft end of the Zvezda Service Module, near the Soyuz docking port.

The August 26 space walk is scheduled to be covered live on NASA Television, which is available via cable in many areas. NASA Television also is available via the Web at <<http://www.nasa.gov/ntv/ntvweb.html>>.

The live NASA Television coverage will include commentary on the space walk, which is expected to last about six hours. ARISS is an international project sponsored

ROUTE 66 ON THE AIR!

U.S. Highway 66, established in 1926, was the first major improved highway to link the west coast with the nation's heartland. Through stories, songs, and TV shows, the highway came to symbolize the spirit of



freedom of the open road, inspiring many to see America. However, the demise of Route 66 began in the 1950s as the US began building its interstate highway system, and the

highway was officially decommissioned in 1986. Nonetheless, many small portions of Highway 66 still exist in towns and rural areas in several states.

To offer hams a fun way to relive their own memories of Route 66 and to celebrate the highway's 76th anniversary, hams all along the route have put together the **Route 66 On the Air!** event.

Amateur Radio clubs across America, using 1x1 call signs, will operate from twelve cities along the highway during the special event period, 7 September (0000Z) through 15 September 2002 (2400Z), aiming to contact as many hams as possible who would like to take part.

Joplin has been assigned the special call sign **K6D** to use in this event. Last year over 1500 contacts were made with the Joplin station. For more information on the internet see: <http://www.qsl.net/w6jbt/Route66/index.htm>

Jay Rupar, KØETC is the Joplin coordinator for the event this year. ¶

jointly by ARRL, NASA and AMSAT. A paper entitled "2001: an Amateur Radio Space Odyssey on the International Space Station," which details the development of ARISS and discusses the four new ARISS antennas, is available via the ARISS Web site <<http://ariss.gsfc.nasa.gov/EVAs/amsat01.pdf>> ¶

(Continued from page 1)

(Great Lakes); Greg Milnes, W7OZ (Northwestern); Jim Maxwell, W6CF (Pacific); and Frank Butler, W4RH (Southeastern), voted against the change.

In a separate resolution approved by voice vote, the Board agreed that the ARRL Web site now provides a better medium to report the results of ARRL-sponsored contests. As a result, contest line scores no longer will appear in QST. The change does not affect ARRL Field Day results, which will continue to be published in the magazine. QST coverage of ARRL-sponsored contests will continue with expanded writeups, photos and soapbox submissions. QST also plans to carry more feature articles about contesting.

A contest Web site established earlier this year now includes, among other features, a searchable database of line scores for members and the ability to easily analyze individual and club scores. There's also an on-line Soapbox to post comments and photos immediately after a contest, as well as an expanded narrative for each event. The ARRL also now offers members the free Contest Rate Sheet newsletter <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet>>, which focuses specifically on contesting.¶

ARES EVENTS AND SCHEDULE

The Jasper County/Tri-States ARES will hold an area wide drill on September 21st at 09:00, in Joplin at Cunningham Park, 24th and Maiden Lane. Andy is asking that you contact him to "sign up" if you intend to participate because he needs a count before the event. The only equipment required is a 2m radio. Certificates will be awarded to all participant. You can sign up before the event, but be there early to get your instructions.

Anyone interested in learning about ARES is encouraged to attend JARC meetings where ARES announcements are given. In addition, regular ARES announcements are also made weekly at 19:30 on the JARC Monday night net for the benefit of the membership. Andy can be reached at 417-673-8371, on the air, or email at ka0tud@arrl.net ¶

(Continued from page 2)

and participate in local clubs.

Our exam system may be partly to blame, but that's all the more reason that clubs need to elmer new hams. A friend of mine earned his license in 1997 and is no longer active. To him, he thought ham radio was a two-meter walkie-talkie to key up repeaters (his own words). He looked at the technician test as a "science test." He has since started a medical residency and was overwhelmed to learn that some physicians participate in maritime nets, especially when a medical emergency arises. He did not know such opportunities were available, and no one pointed out that hams come from all walks of life. He merely studied and passed his exam and never took interest in joining a club, meeting new people, or learning new communication techniques.

The VE system is great in that hams have more control in licensing; however, it mandates that we train and educate our fellow hobbyists.

Elmering opportunities exist in a variety of situations. Offering polite suggestions on air, participating in community activities, such as the MS-150, and demonstrating our hobby to schools are three such examples. Non-hams are often fascinated to hear us talking around the world, sending packet, or relaying Morse code; it is not uncommon for them to ask about club meetings or license requirements. Kit-building parties, nets, club station operation, and program meetings help foster our hobby as well.

Recently I was involved in a discussion on QRZ.com about the role of packet radio in emergencies. One ham voiced the opinion that hams could not "compete" with professional dispatchers. This ham did not know about ARES, RACES, or the various nets that are held during emergencies. You would have to read his comments to understand that one of our fellow hobbyists thought talking to his buddy (this ham's own words) was the *only* purpose for amateur radio.

Unless we can offer the support that newcomers and other operators need, there is no way that we can expect them to talk

BUY - SELL - TRADE

NOTE: INDIVIDUAL LISTINGS ARE FREE TO THE AMATEUR COMMUNITY, AND SPACE IS ALLOCATED ON A FIRST COME BASIS. COMMERCIAL AD

For Sale - Clearance items: Intel 8748, 8749 single chip controllers, Z80A CPU, Z80-DMA/CTC, Z805T, Z8-ROMLESS, LM393, LM307, LM324, LM358, GAL16V8 choice 2/\$1. Various Carbon Film Resistors 1/4W 5% - 100/\$1. 2N4401/2N4403/2N2222 choice 10/\$1 Also large assortment of SK parts - all 1/2 price. Jim WBØIYC (417) 781-2211, email wb0iyc@arrl.net
7/2002

Wanted - VFO to use with Globe Chief 90 CW rig. The Heath HG-10 will work, probably others as well. Bill Collins,

up our hobby. If we do not help them learn good operating skills, then they will isolate and anger other hams with inappropriate, albeit unintentional, on air behavior. This is not conducive to ham radio. We will continue to hear bad operating procedures and see fewer people enter our hobby.

But how does one elmer? Setting a good example on air is perhaps the best way. Organizing and participating with club activities and VE sessions is another gesture to promote our hobby. Teaching a licensing class works but without practical experience, it is difficult to elmer exam applicants. When I lived in Oklahoma, the local club had us build a W1AW receiver (1) to demonstrate simple electronic principles and (2) to have access on on-air code transmissions.

I am grateful for the experienced operators who have assisted me through the years. My concern is that today's newcomers are missing this important link. ¶

FOR LINKS, PICTURES, AND INFORMATION

JARC WEBSITE

<http://www.joplin-arc.org>

AREA HAMFEST

NOTE: LISTINGS ARE PROVIDED FROM THE ARRL.ORG SITE AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE. TO SUBMIT AN ENTRY, SEE BACK PAGE.

24 Aug 2002 Columbia, MO - Central Missouri Radio Association
<http://www.qsl.net/cmra>
Contact Dale Huffington, AEØS 573-875-6170
Email: dale@tranquility.net

6-7 Sep Mena, AR - Queen Wilhelmina Hamfest. Held at the state park 13mi west of Mena on Hwy. 88. Friday night BBQ. Event runs from 6a.m. - 4p.m. Admission free. \$5 - \$10 to sell, and bring own tailgating tables.
Email: clee1948@yahoo.com
<http://www.qwha.org>

7 Sep Springfield, NE
AK-SAR-BEN ARC
<http://www.aksarbenarc.org>
Contact Pat Joseph, NØHPP 402-492-9156
Email: n0hpp@arrl.net

13-15 Sep Peoria, IL
Peoria Superfest hosts the Illinois State Convention - Central Division Convention Exposition Gardens, 1601 W. Northmoor Rd. Adm. \$5 advance, \$7 door.
Contact: John Coker N9FAM 309-692-3378

5 Oct 2002 Joplin, MO - Joplin ARC
The annual JARC TailGater begins at 08:00 at the newly remodeled EWERT PARK Pavillion located just north of 7th St. and Murphy Blvd. Convenient parking and bathrooms available. The event, donuts, coffee, and sodas are FREE. Bring your items to sell, table, a chair, and money! Contact is Dave Ferguson, NØKMP 417-781-3154 or on 147.21 MHz (+)

5 Oct Warsaw, MO - Twin Lakes ARC
Community Center 181 W. Harrison. NW Hwy. 7 from 65 to Casey's Store at Main St. Turn South to stop sign, turn right, go one block. Free parking, refreshments.
Doors open 8a.m.-2p.m. Adm. \$1, tables \$5
Talk In 147.30+
Contact Robert "Gene" Payne, KCØDRL 660-438-8650
Email: gpo@advertisnet.com

6 Oct West Liberty, IA - Muscatine & Iowa City ARCs <http://www.qsl.net/kc0aqs>
Contact Mike Hayden, KBØTFT 563-262-8790
Email: kb0tft@arrl.net

SEPTEMBER 2002

Joplin Amateur Radio Club Meetings and Events

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 14:30 -16:00 JARC SLOW SCAN NET	2 19:30 JARC MONDAY NITE NET	3	4	5	6	7 ROUTE 66 ON THE AIR - BEGINS 0000Z 09:00 BREAKFAST -
8 14:30 -16:00 JARC SLOW SCAN NET	9 19:30 JARC MONDAY NITE NET	10 19:30 JARC BUSINESS MEETING	11	12	13	14 ROUTE 66 ON THE AIR - ENDS 2400Z 09:00 BREAKFAST -
15 14:30 -16:00 JARC SLOW SCAN NET	16 18:30 VE TESTING@ ST. PAULS METHODIST CHURCH 19:30 JARC MONDAY NITE NET	17	18	19	20	21 09:00 BREAKFAST -
22 14:30 -16:00 JARC SLOW SCAN NET	23 19:30 JARC MONDAY NITE NET	24 19:30 JARC CLUB MEETING PROGRAM - TBA	25	26	27	28 09:00 BREAKFAST -
29 14:30 -16:00 JARC SLOW SCAN NET	30 19:30 JARC MONDAY NITE NET	<p>DON'T FORGET THE JARC TAILGATER SATURDAY - OCTOBER 5TH!</p>				

Meeting Times, Testing, and 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 (+).

Some club members can be found weekday mornings around 8:30 a.m. meeting for coffee at the Ramada Inn at 34th and Rangeline Road. On Saturday mornings, area Hams also

gather for breakfast around 9:00 a.m. at the restaurant next to Smitty's Grocery located at 1820 Maiden Lane in west Joplin.

For details contact Martin, WD6FIC at (417) 623-6618

2002 CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Martin Matarazzo	WD6FIC
V. P. Dan Mouldin	KCØBBU
Treasurer: Jim Johannes	NØZSQ
Secretary: Mark Mitchelson	NØZPD

Amateur Radio VE Testing

License testing by volunteer examiners takes place on the 3rd Monday of each month at the St. Paul's Methodist Church located 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 offers 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: **wb0iyc@arrl.net**

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.

Last Page

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Joplin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 2983
Joplin, Missouri 64803-2983