



THE PILOT KNOB AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

QRZ

QRZ VOLUME 1, ISSUE 6 JUNE, 2005

QST-FROM THE SHACK

By Mike Stewart, ABOVM

Summer is here and that means...Field Day!

When it comes to operating events, Field Day is in a class of its own. On what other weekend can you find wall-to-wall stations just waiting for your call? One feature of Field Day that makes it especially fun for newly licensed Hams is the ability to use bands and modes you normally wouldn't get to try with Technician privileges. In my case, Field Day was the event that pushed me to upgrade. I didn't want to wait all year for the next opportunity. A few hours of search and pounce from one end of 20 meters (and 15 and 6 and 40) was all it took to get the desire to go after General. If you want an introduction to HF operations, Field Day is a great chance to see what you can accomplish with HF rigs.

Remember that Field Day is about being prepared. Sure, we'll have a dinnertime spread that rivals most BBQ cookoffs, and we'll have fun staying up WAY later than we ought to trying to get more contacts. But take some time to reflect on why Field Day exists in the first place. What can you provide that no one else can? Reliable communications when no other mode will get through. Take some time as summer starts to look at how we as amateurs can assist when the need arises. Our site will give you the chance to learn about emergency power, message logging, field expedient antennas, and propagation. Make sure you drop by for at least part of the day the last weekend in June.

Don't forget to register for the CW Boot Camp the week leading up to Field Day. I know countries all over the world are changing the CW requirement, but the U.S. hasn't done so yet. Boot Camp promises to be a fun way to prepare for Element 1. You might even get the chance to try it on the air after you pass your test!

Hope you're having a great summer. See you on the bands.

73,

Mike

ABOVM

Special points of interest:

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PKARC TEST DATES

Club members and others interested in taking the FCC examinations for the various license classes should know that testing sessions for the Club have been set at the American Red Cross building on Shawnee Street, Leavenworth on the following dates throughout the year: 24 June, 26 August, 28 October, and 16 December. Please notify Martha Auchard at 772-7350 of your desire to take the test, so Volunteer Examiners can be notified and all the elements you need are on hand.

If you need assistance preparing, please ask any of the Club officers. Classes will be held also throughout the year depending on the number of those interested in devoting the time.

PKARC

2005

JUNE MEETING, ANTENNAS

REAL ESTATE GURUS KNOW IT'S LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION. SHARP AMATEURS KNOW WITH RADIO COMMUNICATIONS, IT'S ANTENNAS, ANTENNAS, ANTENNAS. JUNE'S PROGRAM WILL COVER THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF ANTENNAS. ANTENNAS CAN MAKE OR BREAK ANY RIG. THE LEAST EXPENSIVE (IS THERE SUCH A THING?) RADIO MAY WORK STATIONS AROUND THE WORLD, WHILE THE \$10,000 MULTI-TRANSCIVER WITH MULTI-FREQUENCY MODE CAN'T GET OUT OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD. AS MENTIONED LAST MONTH, WE'LL DEMONSTRATE HOW TO DESIGN, ASSEMBLE, TEST, AND TUNE SEVERAL DIFFERENT ANTENNA DESIGNS FROM THE SIMPLE TO THE MORE ADVANCED. WE'LL LOOK AT A FEW OPTIONS FOR STRINGING ANTENNAS AT A REMOTE SITE, TOO.

NOT EVERYTHING THAT'S GOOD COMES FROM A BOX! SEE YOU AT THE JUNE MEETING TO LEARN JUST HOW EASY IT IS TO MAKE YOUR OWN WORLD-WIDE COMMUNICATIONS ANTENNA.

LEARN ABOUT
ANTENNAS AT
THE JUNE CLUB
MEETING AT THE
RED CROSS.

BE THE BEST
HAM YOU CAN
BE.

**Put your hobby to good
use during the storm season in
the service of our community!**

Emergency Ready or GRAB Kit

2-METER HT

ARES ID CARD

•2-METER MAGMOUNT

ANTENNA AND COAX

EXTRA BATTERIES

EAR-PHONE • APPROPRIATE

CLOTHING

PAPER AND PENCIL • FOOD AND WATER

EXTENDED (72-HOUR) DEPLOYMENT EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

- Snacks • Liquid refreshments • Throat lozenges • Aspirin
- Prescriptions • Toilet articles • First aid kit • Message forms
- Log books • Shelter (tent and sleeping bag) • 3 day change of clothes • Foul weather gear • 3 day supply of water and food • Portable stove; Mess kit with cleaning kit
- Flashlight • Batteries • Candles • Water proof matches • Alarm clock • Toolbox
- Electrical and Duct tape • Soldering iron and solder • Safety glasses • VOM
- Additional Radios, packet gear • Microphones • Headphones • Power supplies, chargers
- RF Connectors • Antennas with mounts • Patch cords • SWR bridge (VHF and HF).
- Extra coax • ARRL Standardized Connectors (Molex 1545)

ABOUT YOUR “READY” KIT

Power -- Your radio 72-hour kit should have several sources of power in it, with extra battery packs and an alkaline battery pack for your HT. For mobile VHF and UHF radios, larger batteries are needed. Gel-cell or deep-cycle marine batteries would be good sources of battery power, and you must keep them charged and ready to go. It is also wise to have alternate means available to charge your batteries during the emergency. You can charge smaller batteries from other larger batteries. You can build a solar charging device. If you're lucky, you may have access to a power generator that can be used in place of the normal electrical lines. Have more battery capacity than you think you might need. Have several methods available to connect your radios to different power sources.

Gain Antennas -- You can expect to need some kind of gain antenna for your HT, as well as an additional gain antenna that can be used on either your HT or your mobile rig. The extra antenna might be needed by someone else, or your first antenna might break. For VHF and UHF, you can build a J-pole from a TV twin-lead, for an inexpensive and very compact antenna. Have several lengths of coax in your kit, totaling at least 50 feet and with barrel connectors to connect them together.

Personal -- Include staples: water, or a reliable water filtration and purification system; enough food for three days; eating utensils, a drinking cup and, if needed, a means of cooking your food. Shelter is also important.

Here, you are only limited by the size of your kit and the thickness of your wallet. Some hams plan to use their RVs as shelter, conditions permitting. Other disaster conditions may make the use of an RV impossible, so you should have several different plans for shelter. Light is important psychologically during an emergency. Make sure that you have several light sources available. Various battery-powered lights are available, and propane or gasoline-fueled lanterns are also good possibilities.

FROM THE KICKAPOO QRP OPERATING DESK

DAYTON HAMVENTION 2005

GARY, WB0MNA

By the time you read this, the 2005 Dayton Hamvention will be history. This is by far one of the best Ham fests in the country and it has been for a very long time.

I will be attending the Hamvention again this year and it will be my 16th year in a row. I always thought if I could just attend one Dayton Hamvention, I would be happy and could check that box off as one of the areas of interest in Ham radio I have managed to complete. Now, as I admit to attending 16 Hamventions in a row, I guess you could say I got hooked on the event.

What is the Dayton Hamvention? Probably the best swap fests for Ham radio, computers and general electronics you will find. Most of the major Ham radio dealers and suppliers will be there, all selling their wares to crowds of people sometimes five deep in front of their booths. Yes, it can be a real zoo at times, but it's the 'thrill of the hunt' that makes it happen.

Everyone will be looking for a good deal on a piece of equipment they have been wanting and usually Dayton is the best time to find it. A lot of the new equipment will be introduced there by the manufacturers and some equipment is so new it is not even on the market yet as being for sale. You will be amazed by the number of items you didn't know you needed for this hobby until you saw them, and you will most likely bring a few of them home. Remember, it's the 'thrill of the hunt' mentality kicking in.

The outside swap table area is huge and it will guarantee a day of long walking, carrying around your "Good Deals" in a backpack with the result that at the end of the day you will have very tired legs and probably an aching back. But, you will also be feeling good about the fun you've had that day being around so many other Hams, and getting to feel and touch all the neat gear you may have only read about in magazines and advertisements.

By the time you get an evening meal and get back to your hotel room you will be very tired, but still ready to play with the new toy(s) you picked up that day. After a good night's sleep, you should be ready to go back for a second or even a third day and do it all over again.

Will you spend a lot of money? You could. But that's not always the case. Yes, there's the cost of gasoline, meals, and hotel rooms, but if you caravan with a group those expenses can be cut down somewhat. After all, the idea is to save your money for the goodies you find at the Hamvention. Above all, just have fun, meet a few of the DX people you may have talked to on the radio and bring home a few new toys to keep you busy until the Dayton Hamvention rolls around again on May 19, 20 and 21, 2006.

Hope to see you there.

Gary A.

WB0MNA

CW Boot Camp

Are you looking to upgrade to General?

Is the code test standing in your way?

PKARC will sponsor a CW Boot Camp Monday to Friday, June 20-24, from 6:30 –8:30 p.m. The first four nights will be spent drilling the 40 CW characters. The last night will serve as a review and test. You will be immersed in dits and dahs. The class will be intense, but you have a high likelihood of passing the exam on Day 5.

- * You must have a computer with sound capability for use at home.
- * You must commit to attending all five sessions.
- * No excuses or whimpering allowed.

This method has worked when others won't. The cost is only \$10 which includes your Element 1 exam fee for the MO-KAN VE team test session on June 24.

More information to follow in the June QRZ.

Dah Dah Dih-dih-dit Dih-dih-dit Dah-dah

CW Boot Camp Registration

June 20-24, 2005, 6:30 –8:30 p.m.

Name _____ Callsign _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

PKARC Member _____ Yes _____ No

___ My \$10 registration fee is enclosed.

Mail to : PKARC, P0 Box 632, Leavenworth, KS 66048; or give to any PKARC officer.

ASSOCIATED RADIO
(913) 381-5900

2005 HAM CALENDAR

Jun 5 - UMKC Hospital Hill Run

Jerry Morrison, W0OCT - 816-741-2314- w0oct@juno.com

Jun 4,5,6 - MS Challenge Walk

Duane Haverty, WA0BVX - 816-223-5842- dhaverty@kc.rr.com

Jun 12 - KC Corporate Challenge

Mike Bellinger, K0UAA - 816-363-1118- mbbellinger@aol.com

Jun 19 - ADA Wheel to Weston

Steve Rainey, WD0DPB - 913-829-6438(H) - serainey@juno.com

Jul 1-3-Great Plains Super Launch-<http://www.superlaunch.org>

Mark Conner, N9XTN-n9xtn@cox.net-Amateur Radio High Altitude Ballooning Conference, Omaha, NE

Jul 16 - Lenexa Midnite Ride

Steve Rainey, WD0DPB - 913-829-6438(H) - serainey@juno.com

Jul 10 - Shawnee Mission Triathlon

Mike Bellinger, K0UAA - 816-363-1118- mbbellinger@aol.com

Aug 13- Johnson County Fair Parade

Steve Rainey, WD0DPB - 913-829-6438(H) - serainey@juno.com

Aug ? - Baldwin Blast

Mat May, KC4WCG - 785-691-9446 - kc4wcg@hotmail.com

Sep 2,3,4,5 - Santa-Cali-Gon Days

Scot Portz, N0YI - 816-252-2620 - n0yi@sbglobal.net

Sep 10,11 - MS-ISO Kansas City

Duane Haverty, WA0BVX - 816-223-5842 - dhaverty@kc.rr.com

Sep 18 - Bikers for Babies

John Seals, WR0R—816-455-1702 - sea1sphoto@earthlink.net

Sep 16-17-18- Lost Child Patrol, Blue Springs Fall Fun Fest

Gary White, N0AOK - 816-229-9215 - garwhite@swbell.net

Sep 17-18 - MS-150 Ozark

Duane Haverty, WA0BVX - 816-223-5842 - haverty@kc.rr.com

Sep 24 - Heritage Park MACTA Horse Trials

Steve Rainey, WD0DPB - 913-829-6438(H) - serainey@juno.com

Sep 24-25 - MS-ISO Topeka

Terry Hoss, KA0BHO - 785-272-9370 - ka0bho@arrl.net

Sep 24 - ULTRAMAX Triathlon

Paul Watts, KC0DDZ - 816-751-1318- lightblb@mail.com

Oct 9 - CROP Walk

Larry Staples, W0AIB - 913-341-3068 - Istaples@kc.rr.com

Oct 14-16- Red-Tailed Hawk District Camporee/Jamboree on the Air

David Weerts, KC0OON - 913-706-0214 - bseagle75@yahoo.com

Oct ??- American Royal Parade

Dick Carter, WB0IZY - 913-381-5874 - clayfeet@worldnet.att.net

Nov ?? - Plaza River Crowne Marathon

Jerry Morrison, W0OCT - 816-741-2314 - w0oct@juno.com

Nov 5 - Kansas City Metro Communications Exercise

June Jeffers, KB0WEQ - 913-856-8674 - kb0weq@kc.rr.com

For a full calendar of all ham events in the Kansas City area see <http://home.sprintmail.com/~chuckpalmer/>

And for the KC Metro Ham Radio Information Page see

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KansasCityMetroHamRadioInfoPage/>

For a terrific weather radar site for this area (courtesy of WA0KS) <http://www.geocities.com/jocoecs/radar.html>

For the National Weather Service Web Site:

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/eax/>

Interesting Emergency Services Web Site:

<http://www.spacetoday.org/k3rxk/EmergencyComms.html>

**The information on this site was updated on 30 May 2005.
 Many date events have now firmed up.**

THE EDITOR

**THE PILOT KNOB
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

P.O. Box 632
Leavenworth, KS 66048
Http://www.pkarc.com

MEETINGS

Date: First Thursday of each month (except for
December)
Time: 7:30 p.m., Central Time
Location: The American Red Cross
525 Shawnee

CLUB OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT MIKE
STEWART, AB0VM**

**VICE PRESIDENT GARY
AUCHARD, WB0MNA**

**SECRETARY/TREASURER/
QRZ**

ED MENARD, KD7QOR

AFFILIATIONS

**THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY
LEAGUE
THE AMERICAN RED CROSS
THE LEAVENWORTH COUNTY
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**

The purpose of the club is to further the exchange of information and cooperation among members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual efficiency, to provide assistance to the best advantage in the event of emergency, and to conduct club programs and activities to advance the general interest and welfare of amateur radio. Anyone interested in the activities of this organization will be eligible for membership. Members must comply with FCC rules and regulations, as well as rules established by the club. Dues are \$20 per year (no extra cost for spouse or minor children who are amateurs).

Editor's Note: QRZ is published monthly and may be quoted in other publications provided a credit line is included and the author (if known) is given acknowledgment. Items related to amateur radio will be advertised free of charge. Articles for publication in QRZ are always welcome and willingly accepted in any form. We reserve the right to edit material as necessary. Please let me know if you experience problems getting your issues of QRZ, or if it is received in a difficult to read state. Members are encouraged to receive their QRZ via E-mail, rather than paper copy. Requests to receive the hard copy version will be honored. Your effort to reduce club expenses will be appreciated.

Comments or suggestions regarding the QRZ format are welcome and appreciated.

Ed Menard, KD7QOR, QRZ Editor

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