

THE PILOT KNOB AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

QRZ

QRZ VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2 February 2006

QST-FROM THE SHACK

By Mike Stewart, K0MDS

Greetings from 4-Land. As I write this, once again I find myself well outside VHF range of the 147.000 repeater. I hope many of you were able to make it to the St. Joe hamfest and that others of you plan to make the short trek to LaCygne for their hamfest. Both make interesting diversions to the otherwise dreary winter.

There are several operating events to look forward to in the coming months. Freeze Your Keys takes place out at Weston Bend State Park in a few short weeks. We'll try to replicate the chili, stew, and weather from last year. Just because it's February doesn't mean we have to be miserable. We'll need several operators for the different bands, and we'd really appreciate some extra CW operators. Bring your equipment if you want to try it out under stressful conditions. OK, dining on beef stew or homemade chili, while operating off AC doesn't exactly rise to the level of stressful, but it is fun seeing what's needed to operate outside in the winter.

Fox hunts start next month in March. Our February meeting should include some tips on what equipment you need (it's surprisingly simple) and how to locate a wily fox. We should have a great time hunting our own version of the fox, Kilo Fox 4LM, here in the Leavenworth area. If we generate enough interest, we might begin a fox-hunting series here in the local area.

If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership for 2006. This helps Ed keep the books straight, and it keeps you involved in the club's activities. And we really want you to be part of the group. While you're at it, don't forget to keep an eye out for potential new members. If you're serious about keeping PKARC an active organization, please do your part to recruit new amateurs into the hobby and the club.

See you on the bands!

Mike
K0MDS

(Look who got a new callsign!!!- Ed.)

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Special points of interest:

- "SuitSat" Set for Launce - Feb. 2nd
- LaCygne HamFest - Feb. 4th
- KQRP ARC "Freeze Your Keys" - Feb. 18th - 8:00am to 4:00pm

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. The first testing date for 2006 is scheduled for 24 February. 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.

KQARC FREEZE YOUR KEYS EVENT

Don't forget, the annual "Freeze Your Keys event takes place February 18th at Weston Bend State Park. Be sure to join in the food, fun and festivities. Bring your gear and give it workout. See what it takes to operate in winter-like conditions (*Should the weather "co-operate" - Ed.*) For those with Technician tickets, this is an excellent chance to operate the HF bands. So come on out and be a part of the fun. For more details, see the January issue of QRZ.

Mining Disaster Survivor Reported Improving

The condition of Randy McCloy, KC8VKZ, the sole survivor of the Sago mining disaster, is reported to be showing marked improvement. McCloy has been sitting up in bed and eating ice chips, showing purposeful movements, and appears to be responding to family members. McCloy's wife, Anna, has expressed her appreciation for the outpouring of good wishes from the Amateur Radio community. Amateurs are encouraged to send a QSL card with wishes to PO Box 223, Philippi, WV, 26435. Monetary donations, while not required are appreciated.

Doug Thomas, KC5VKG

CONGRATULATIONS!!

BOB EULER - WADHU

From the Leavenworth Times, February 19, 2006

Chamber honors Citizen of the Year

By RACHAEL BOSSOW, Times Staff Writer

The Leavenworth-Lansing Chamber of Commerce announced Bob Euler as the recipient of the 2006 Citizen of the Year award at its annual meeting Wednesday night. Euler, a senior loan officer for CSM Mortgage in Leavenworth, has spent more than 30 years volunteering as a storm spotter and more than 40 years as an active leader in his church.

Euler has worked as a mortgage loan officer with Gold Key Mortgage, in sales for Henry Martens and as a stockbroker with Andover Securities. He is a graduate of Emporia State University with a bachelor's degree in business. Euler and his wife, Diane, have two sons, Doug and Mark.

In addition to his work and his family, Euler spends time volunteering with area service organizations and has participated in youth and church activities. He served 33 years with Leavenworth County Emergency Preparedness as a storm spotter, 26 years with the Leavenworth County American Red Cross and five years with the local Kansas National Guard. Euler also served 24 years in the Kaw District of the Boy Scouts of America, 46 years in various leadership positions with First Christian Church, 28 years with the Leavenworth Lions Club and 14 years on the board of directors at Cushing Memorial Hospital.

He was previously recognized by the Leavenworth County American Red Cross as Volunteer of the Year in 1983. He is an Eagle Scout and received the Award of Merit, Silver Beaver and Order of the Arrow Virgil Honor from the Boy Scouts of America.

For the full story, visit <http://www.leavenworthtimes.com/articles/2006/01/19/news/news01.txt>

Congratulations Bob!!!

“SuitSat Scheduled for February Launch

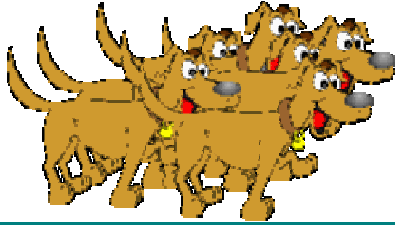
A fantastic opportunity. From the ARRL and AMSAT.org:

"SuitSat" now tentatively set for February 2 deployment (Jan 17, 2006)
-- Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) has announced that the International Space Station crew is tentatively scheduled to deploy "SuitSat" Thursday, February 2. Possibly the most unusual Earth satellite ever, SuitSat consists of a surplus Russian *Orlan* space suit converted into a transmit-only satellite with an FM downlink frequency of 145.990 MHz. Using the call sign RS0RS, it will transmit voice messages, telemetry and an SSTV image on a nine-minute cycle as it orbits Earth. The batteries powering the satellite are expected to last about a week after deployment, and SuitSat's free-floating, decaying orbit should cause it to re-enter Earth's atmosphere after some six weeks in space. The SuitSat signal should be strong enough to hear using a VHF transceiver or scanner and a simple antenna--thus making it an ideal project for students to monitor and track. SuitSat's payload also includes a CD containing hundreds of school pictures, artwork, poems, and student signatures. For more information, see article "This is SuitSat-1 RS0RS!" by Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, on the AMSAT Web site.

For more information, visit

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/articles/BauerSuitsat/index.php>





FOX HUNT!



Begins at 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, March 4, 2006

Ends when the fox is caught.

**Winner gets a prize!
And gets to be the fox for next hunt.**

**Easy to Participate
All license classes welcome!**

What is a Fox Hunt?

The hounds (hunters) chase the fox (hunted) until the fox is caught. This is a "Catch & Release" type of hunt. But the first to catch the fox gets the pelt (a prize). The purpose is to hone your skills to hunt down a radio stuck on transmit, a lost person, a rogue operator, or some other emitting source that is a problem.

Hunting Rules

Use of Doppler or other professionally built equipment for the expressed purposes of direction finding cannot be used. Anything else is OK. Hounds can use directional antennas, attenuators, triangulation, and are free to coordinate among themselves either in teams or as individuals. All laws must be obeyed, including traffic regulations and property rights.

Know your Fox

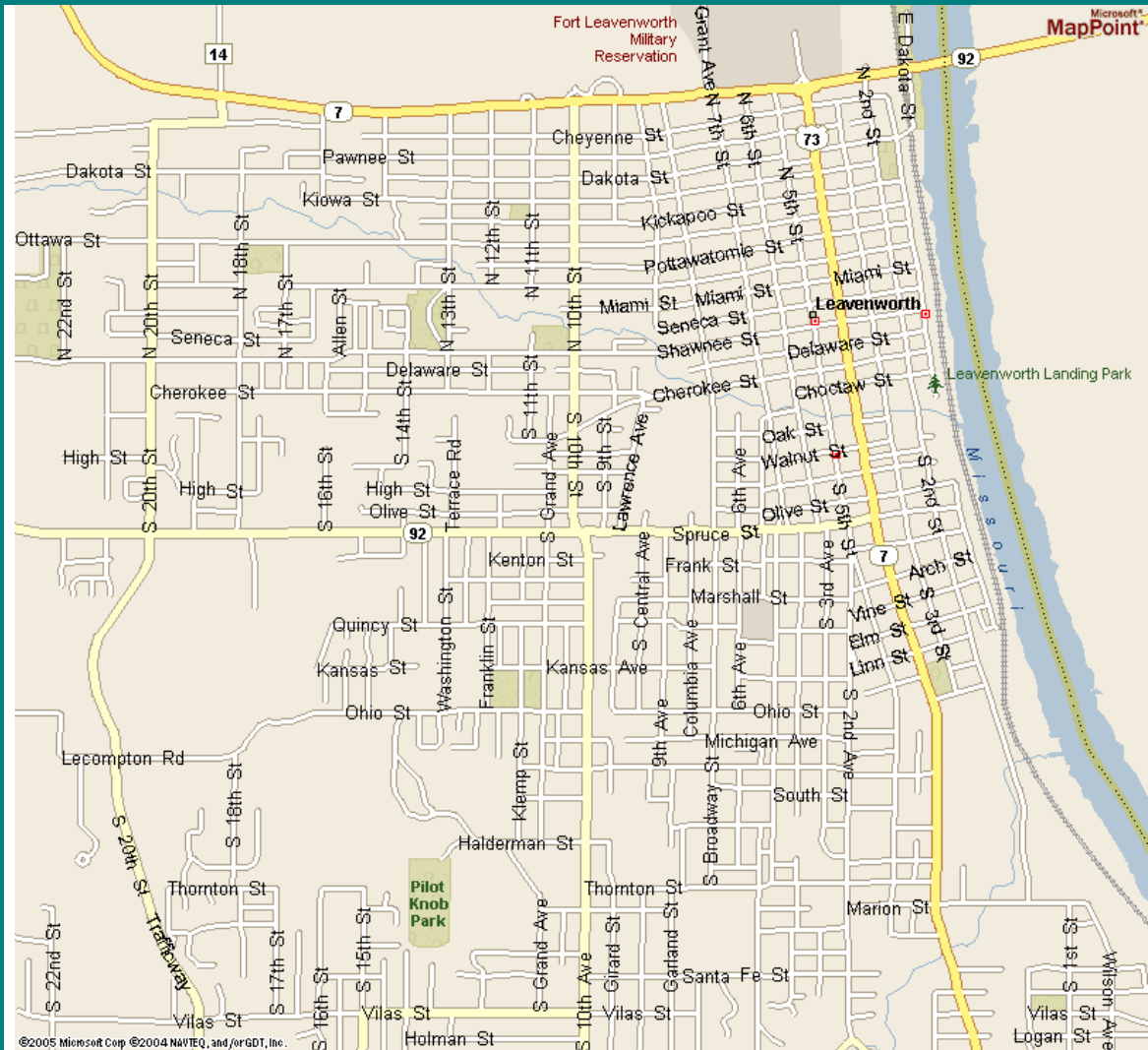
This wily fox will be operating on single frequency in the 2 Meter band. The frequency will be announced at 8:30 a.m. on the 147 MHz repeater. The fox will be operating an FM transmitter that will key down for approx. 60 seconds and then be silent for 60 seconds. During the silent 60 seconds you may hear the fox emit "comments" on the 147 MHz repeater. Don't bother trying to DF him there. He'll be bouncing his comments through several repeaters on multiple bands. Trust me, it'll be easier to find him on the fox frequency. If the fox feels "threatened" transmit time may be reduced to as low as 15 seconds. Although the fox will, at his discretion, move from time to time to elude the hounds, he will stay in the city of Leavenworth. He will be in a publicly accessible area. If he moves, movements will be made only on the ½ hour (i.e. at 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, etc.) The fox is also a master of disguises. You'll need to walk right up to him to catch him. Grab the fox's tail to complete the catch.

How to Participate

Meet at the American Red Cross, 525 Shawnee in downtown Leavenworth at 8:15 a.m. Check in with the Houndler. The Houndler is responsible for hound accountability and serves as the event judge in the event of any dispute. The Houndler will also make sure all participants know when the event has completed. While best effort will be made to keep the event going until all hounds have located the fox's lair, the event will conclude within a reasonable time after the pelt has been taken. If a Houndler-registered station must quit the event early, they must check out with the Houndler.

Tips and Tricks

Directional antennas don't work well at close range. When you think you're close, remove the antenna off a hand-held radio for close-in df-ing. A little practice before-hand will show you the best way to hold and move your hand-held to get a direction to the transmitter.



A Fox operating area is within the city of Leavenworth.

The fox will stay within the boundaries depicted by the map above.

Your March 4, 2006 event fox is Rick Reichert, Kilo Fox-Hunt 4 Lima Mike (KF4LM).

A Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club event. Visit us at pkarc.org

Talk-in: 147.000 MHz (+) Repeater PL 151.4 Hz Nets weekly 7:30 p.m. Wed/Sun

**THE PLOT KNOB
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

P.O. Box 632
Leavenworth, KS 66048
<http://www.pkarc.org>

MEETINGS

Date: First Thursday of each month
Time: 7:30 p.m., Central Time
Location: The American Red Cross
525 Shawnee
Leavenworth, KS

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - MIKE STEWART, K0MDS
VICE PRESIDENT - DOUG THOMAS, KC5VKG
SECRETARY - ERIC HALL, KC0RUR
TREASURER - ED MENARD, KD7QOR
NEWSLETTER EDITOR - DOUG THOMAS, KC5VKG
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER -
DENNIS PEARSON, KC0TJY

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 a monthly publication of the Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club 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.

Doug Thomas, KC5VKG, QRZ Editor

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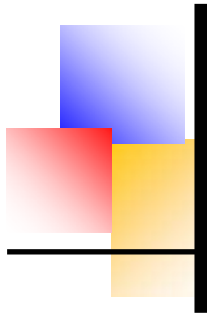
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Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2006

Schedule of Events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club conducts 2 radio nets every week. A 70cm Net is held every Sunday at 7:15pm on the 444.80 repeater, and the weekly Club Net every Wednesday at 7:30pm on the 147.00 repeater (PL tone of 151.4) Leavenworth County ARES conducts 2 radio nets every week. An ARES Check-In Net is held every Sunday at 7:30pm on the 147.00 repeater (PL tone of 151.4), and a regular ARES Net every Thursday at 7:30pm on the 145.33 repeater, except the first Thursday of the month which is meeting night February 2nd — Pilot Knob ARC Meeting — 7:30pm American Red Cross Building February 4th— LaCygne Hamfest February 11th — KOARC “Freeze Your Keys” Event — 8:00am to 4:00pm — Weston Bend State Park February 25th—PKARC Dinner—5:00pm—TBD

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 PKARC Club Meeting 7:30pm	3	4 LaCygne Hamfest
5 Club Net 7:15pm ARES Net 7:30pm	6	7	8 Club Net 7:30pm	9 ARES Net 7:30pm	10	11
12 Club Net 7:15pm ARES Net 7:30pm	13	14	15 Club Net 7:30pm	16 ARES Net 7:30pm	17	18 KQARC “Freeze Your Keys” 8:00am—4:00pm
19 Club Net 7:15pm ARES Net 7:30pm	20	21	22 Club Net 7:30pm	23 ARES Net 7:30pm	24	25 PKARC Dinner 5:00pm—TBD
26 Club Net 7:15pm ARES Net 7:30pm	27	28				

MEETINGS
 Date: First Thursday of each month
 Time: 7:30 p.m., Central Time
 Location: The American Red Cross
 525 Shawnee
 Leavenworth, KS