



QSP



November 2009

The November 27, 2009
CKARC Meeting will be
at
KWU's Peter's Science
Hall Room 211
At 7:30 PM

Host: Robert,
WBØWTM

November VE Report

For the November 11th Session:

We had Three Candidates: Gavin Paul, KDØJKO, of Roxbury (son of President Robert), Jamie Gosser KDØJKP, of Junction City, and Andrew Stout, KDØJKQ, of McPherson. All three passed their Technician Exams. Jamie and Andrew attempted the General Exam, but were not successful this time. Better luck on your next attempt guys!

VE's present were: Sid, NØOBM, Larry, NØGSL, Ron, WAØPSF, and Don, KAØEIC

Thanks to all the VE's who helped with the Exam Sessions. I appreciate the help, and so do those who took exams this month.

Next Exam session is **Wednesday December 9th**, at 7:00 PM, at the Saline County Sheriff's Office Classroom.
Sid NØOBM VE Team Leader

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2010 Storm Spotter Class—Saline County

The date has been set for the 2010 Storm Spotter Class by the Wichita Office of the National Weather Service. This year's class will be on **Monday February 22nd, 2010** at 7:00 PM at the **4 H Building** in Kenwood Park.

This is the class that has been held at Nickell Barracks for the past several years, so please note the change of location! [The dates & Locations of the other "area" classes will be posted as soon as I get the information. \[Ed.\]](#)

Minutes of the October Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by President Robert Paul, WBØWTM

Pledge of allegiance and round of introductions. There were 27 members and guests present.

Robert presented 2 new member applications: KDØIVH, Greg Roberts from Chapman and KE5MED, Jesse Thompson from Enterprise. Motion made to accept both members; seconded, and passed. Welcome new members. (Payment HAS been received.)

Minutes from the last meeting were accepted as printed in QSP.

Treasurer's report: Virgil, NØXRS
October 30 2009 balance:
\$ 316.91 in checking,
\$4686.30 in savings
\$5003.21 total

Virgil, NØXRS mentioned that he made an error overstating the savings balance for the last two months. He did not record the transfer of funds from savings to checking. He caught the error when reconciling it and he has it corrected now.

Motion made to accept treasurer report. Seconded and passed.

EOC report:

Reminded those present of the events upcoming for the next month:
Siren Net Monday Nov. 2 at 4:30 PM weather permitting on the 147.270+ Repeater, November ARES Meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 8:00 PM on the 147.270+ Repeater, Test Session (with Board Meeting to follow) on Wednesday Nov. 11th, ARES Meeting on Thursday Nov. 19th at 8:00 PM in the EOC, and the CKARC Meeting on Nov. 27th at KWU.

VE report:

(Sid, NØOBM) For the September Saturday Test Session, we had enough VE's, but no one to take any tests. The October 14th VE Session had One Candidate from Mesa, Az (in town on Vacation) who took and passed his General Exam.

Received the ARRL VE Newsletter this evening in the email, and two Questions are being removed from the Question Pool for the General Exams. This will result in the ARRL's Exam 3-2-2007 booklets being destroyed by Nov. 30, 2009. The ARRL does not plan at this point in time in replacing the 3-2-2007 Exam booklet. The ARRL has also announced that they will NOT be increasing the Exam Fees for 2010! The 2010 Exam Fee will remain at \$15.00.

Repeater report:

(Eric, NØYET) The 147.030 is working fine. The 443.90 machine is dead. As far as those who have looked at the machine can determine, it is possibly an amplifier problem. The "Owners" would prefer that "we" not make any repair attempts with other than OEM parts.

A discussion was opened on repair or replacement of the Repeater. A Motion was made and seconded to put this machine out of service and return it to the rightful owners (in Great Bend) since it has been on loan to us for about 10 years. Motion was approved. A discussion was held on new options. Justin, NØUJQ had some suggestions. Motion made, second and approved that we allow up to 1500 dollars for purchase and installation of a new 440 repeater.

Activities report:

Mark (KBØMQX) reported that KWU had a good balloon launch and has several students interested in getting their ham license. Also had some discussion on having a monthly activity using equipment from EOC, and possibly a contest.

New Business:

Elections. Robert put a slate of officers on the board. Nominations were taken from the floor for activities director and treasurer. Motion was made, second and approved to suspend the rules and that the secretary cast a ballot as presented. New officers for 2010 are:

President: **Robert Paul, WBØWTM**
 Vice Pres: **Leon Gray, WAØJFC**
 Secretary: **Alvin Wiechman, WØME**
 Treasurer: **Mitch Johannes, KAØIFW**
 Activities: **Jesse Thompson, KE5MED**

Motion made, second and passed to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM. No program, no host this month.

In absence of secretary minutes respectfully submitted by Mark Boyle, KBØMQX

Reminders

City of Salina Siren Test Net, November 2nd at 4:30 PM on the NØKSC Repeater (147.270+) if the Weather cooperates! *[If it's above 32 degrees!]*

ARES Net November 3rd at 8:00 PM on the NØKSC Repeater (147.270+ no tone)

ARRL-VEC Test Session on Wednesday **November 11th at 7:00 PM.**

Board meeting follows the exam session on **November 11th** at 8:00 PM (or after Testing—which ever is later) in the Saline Co. Sheriff's Office Classroom.

ARES Meeting is November 19th at 8:00 PM in the EOC.

CKARC Meeting November 27th at 7:30 PM at KWU's Peters Science Hall.

CKARC December Christmas Dinner Meeting / Installation of Officers is **Dec. 18** at 6:00 PM at Gutierrez Mexican Restaurant, 640 Westport Blvd.

There is a full **Calendar of Events** on the CKARC Web site <http://www.centralksarc.com>

Election Results

Your new Officers for 2010 are as follows:

President: **Robert Paul, WBØWTM**
Vice Pres: **Leon Gray, WAØJFC**
Secretary: **Alvin Wiechman, WØME**
Treasurer: **Mitch Johannes, KAØIFW**
Activities: **Jesse Thompson, KE5MED**

Thanks to one and all for “stepping up to the Plate” for 2010

SKYWARN Recognition Day Set for December 5

The 11th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) Special Event will take place **Saturday, December 5, 2009**. SRD is co-sponsored by the ARRL and the National Weather Service (NWS) as a way to recognize the commitment made by Amateur Radio operators in helping to keep their communities safe. According to SRD Coordinator David Floyd, N5DBZ, Amateur Radio operators can visit their local participating NWS office, working as a team to contact other hams across the world throughout the 24 hour event.

The idea for the first SRD took shape in the summer of 1999. Meteorologist-in-Charge of the **Goodland, Kansas** NWS office Scott Mentzer, NØQE, tried to find a way to recognize the valuable contributions storm spotters make to the National Weather Service. "Since many of those storm spotters were also hams," Floyd told the ARRL, "it seemed like a natural fit for the recognition to be centered on Amateur Radio."

With the approval of NWS headquarters and a commitment to participate from many local NWS offices across the country, the first National Weather Service Special Event took place on November 27, 1999. "At the end of the event, almost 16,000 QSOs were logged, with contacts made to all 50 states and 63 countries," Floyd recounted. "The Des Moines forecast office took the honor of making the most contacts of any office that first year with 761 QSOs, and went on to lead the pack until 2003 by logging between 1300-1500 contacts each year."

Floyd said that feedback from that first event was "overwhelmingly positive" from both the NWS staff and the local ham clubs: "Many local club members who came to that first event had never visited an NWS office before. When they came for the special event, they learned the value of their reports and how they were used in conjunction with existing technology." And so began an annual tradition. The following year, 85 of the 122 NWS offices -- almost 70 percent -- participated in the event, making nearly 24,000 QSOs.

In 2001, the name of the event was changed to SKYWARN Recognition Day, a name Floyd said better relayed what the day was all about: "Each year since the inception of SRD, the number of NWS offices participating with local ham clubs has increased; more than 100 offices sign up each year to take part. The most contacts made during any SRD occurred in 2006 when -- thanks to and local hams in the Grand Junction, Colorado area -- 1640 QSOs were logged!"

Station call signs have also changed over the years. Floyd said that some NWS offices and clubs apply for a special event call sign, "such as W3B in Brownsville or N0Y in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Other call signs hint at office location, including WX9GRB in Green Bay and WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center. Still others represent more of the big picture, as in KC0SKY in Pleasant Hill, Missouri."

Floyd said that as SKYWARN Recognition Day has grown throughout the years, he has seen a greater use of digital communications in addition to CW, RTTY and packet radio: "Each year, more and more contacts are being made using EchoLink, *Winlink* and the use of e-mail reflectors." In keeping with the NWS setting, stations are asked to include a weather report of their location in their exchange.

In 2008, the Des Moines office reported the most QSOs -- 1203 QSOs -- than any other NWS office; the Melbourne, Florida office, with 1192 QSOs, ran a close second. Melbourne also contacted the 74 NWS offices, the most reported last year. Lincoln, Illinois, was close behind, with 70 QSOs to other NWS offices.

2009 SKYWARN Recognition Day will be held on **December 5 from 0000 UTC-2400 UTC**. Last year, contacts were made in all 50 states and more than 40 countries during the 24 hour event. Even if you make just one QSO to an NWS office, you are eligible to receive a certificate. Just submit a list of the station(s) you worked to Submit a list of the NWS stations you worked with a self-addressed stamped envelope to SKYWARN Recognition Day, 920 Armory Rd, Goodland, KS 67735. Many NWS offices also send out special QSL cards for this event. If you haven't yet joined in the fun of SKYWARN Recognition Day, make 2009 your year to do so!

From the ARRL Web site

NCVEC to Release New Technician Question Pool to Public in January 2010



The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) is due to release the new Technician class (Element 2) question pool to the 14 VECs on December 1, 2009; it will be released to the public in January 2010. Each question pool for the three Amateur Radio license classes -- Technician, General and Amateur Extra -- is reviewed on a four-year rotation. This new Technician class pool will become effective on July 1, 2010.

According to ARRL Assistant VEC Manager Perry Green, WY1O, the QPC reviews the three question pools every four years to ensure that the questions are kept current with the latest amateur practice and technology, as well as addresses information relevant to that particular license class. "In the case of the Technician pool, the question set should provide for the new Technician licensee to be able to establish his station and operate it legally, courteously and safely. The Technician question pool and exam are intended to be the beginning of the journey into the Amateur Radio Service. It prepares the person for the enjoyment of operating, and that of preparing to learn electronics, the cornerstone of the education needed to obtain the further enjoyment that can come with the higher license classes." Green is a member of the NCVEC's Question Pool Committee. Other members of the QPC include Chairman Roland Anders, K3RA (Laurel VEC), Larry Pollock, NB5X (W5YI VEC), Jim Wiley, KL7CC (Anchorage VEC) and Tom Fuszard, KF9PU (Milwaukee VEC).

Green said that earlier this year, the QPC solicited input from Amateur Radio operators concerning the new question pool, accepting input for new question topics and new questions, as well as suggestions for changes or deletions: "The QPC must rely on members of the Amateur Radio community to suggest questions and answers in a responsible manner to preserve a high level of legitimacy for our radio service, so the NCVEC QPC seeks input from the amateur community concerning a revision."

The new question pool will become effective for all examinations administered on or after July 1, 2010, and it will remain valid until June 30, 2014. The current Technician question pool that became effective July 1, 2006 will expire June 30, 2010. The new Technician pool contains approximately 400 questions, from which 35 are selected for an Element 2 examination. This question pool will contain graphics and diagrams, something new for this element.

The current General class question pool was effective July 1, 2007 and is valid through June 30, 2011. The current Amateur Extra class pool was effective July 1, 2008 and is valid until June 30, 2012.

From the ARRL Web Site

December 2009 Contest Calendar

From the WA7BNM Contest Calendar

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

ARCI Topband Sprint	0000Z-0600Z, Dec 3
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z, Dec 4 to 1600Z, Dec 6
ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Dec 5 to 2359Z, Dec 6
TARA RTTY Melee	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 5
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0400Z-0429Z, Dec 5 and 0430Z-0459Z, Dec 5 and 0500Z-0529Z, Dec 5 and 0530Z-0600Z, Dec 5
TOPS Activity Contest	1600Z, Dec 5 to 1759Z, Dec 6
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 8
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Dec 9
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 12 to 2400Z, Dec 13
Feld Hell Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 12
MDXA PSK DeathMatch	0000Z, Dec 12 to 2400Z, Dec 13
NA High Speed Meteor Scatter Winter Rally	0000Z, Dec 12 to 0200Z, Dec 16
International Naval Contest	1600Z, Dec 12 to 1559Z, Dec 13
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 13
CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	2100Z-2259Z, Dec 13
AGB-Party Contest	2100Z-2400Z, Dec 18
Russian 160-Meter Contest	2100Z-2300Z, Dec 18
OK DX RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 19
RAC Winter Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 19
Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party	0001Z, Dec 19 to 2359Z, Jan 3
Croatian CW Contest	1400Z, Dec 19 to 1400Z, Dec 20
ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	2000Z-2400Z, Dec 20
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 21
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Dec 23
DARC Christmas Contest	0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Dec 26 to 1500Z, Dec 27
PODXS 070 Club QRP DX Scramble	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 27
RAEM Contest	0200Z-0959Z, Dec 27



Membership Renewal Form

CKARC, Inc.
P. O. Box 2493 Salina, Kansas 67402-2493

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ - _____ - _____ email: _____

ARRL Member No.: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Birthday: ____/____ (Month & Day ONLY)

Spouse Name: _____ Call: _____

ARRL Member No.: _____ Birthday: ____/____

May we publish your Phone & Email in the CKARC Rosters? Y N

Roster will **NOT** be published on the Web site (Please circle Y for Yes or N for No)

QSP is the CKARC Newsletter, do you wish to receive the QSP via

Email or Postal Delivery? Email Postal (Check one or the other)

While ARRL Membership is not a Requirement for membership in the CKARC, Inc. **it is highly recommended.** In order to retain "Special Service Club" status, we must remain a minimum of 51% ARRL Membership.

CKARC Dues : \$15.00/Year

Family Member: \$5.00/Year

ARRL Dues : \$39.00/Year

* For additional years, or Family Membership Information, please contact the Treasurer.

Central Kansas Amateur Radio Club
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[Http://www.centralksarc.com](http://www.centralksarc.com)

Your issue of QSP is Here!

**December Meeting is Friday, December 18, 2009
@ 6:00 PM, at Gutierrez Mexican Restaurant**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE
DECEMBER QSP IS DEC. 15, 2009**

CKARC December Birthdays

NØKSC	Dirk	Speed	12/3
NØYET	Eric	Boyle	12/7
KBØMQX	Mark	Boyle	12/7
F/Member	Kelley	Bieberle	12/10
KCØVSF	Timothy	Pauls	12/21
KØDIX	Fred	Gamer	12/29