

# "KAR" *Kansas Amateur Radio* "KAR"

*January 2011 issue*



**Hi gang,** Helen WA6KHD became a SK, Silent Key a week ago. She was the XYL of Ross Stevens WØXJ Midwest Assistant Director. See the SK column below for details.

Tomorrow, Sunday I will be checking into the hospital for an over night stay to do a sleep test. My cardeologist wants to make sure I am not stopping breathing in my sleep. It is not good for a heart patient. Seems most people don't know if they are doing it.

The Kansas Sideband Net has been moved to 5:30 PM because of the band being stretched. You can hear the east cost better than Kansas.

◆ Interested in out of state newsletters? Orlin KØOJ in Denver sent this pdf.

<https://sites.google.com/site/ncarcnewsletter/home/news-letters/2011NCARCnewsLetterforJan.pdf?attredirects=0&d=1>

HAPPY NEW YEAR OC. OJ

◆ Help some one to become a ham!

<[http://howto.wired.com/wiki/Become\\_a\\_Ham\\_Radio\\_Operator](http://howto.wired.com/wiki/Become_a_Ham_Radio_Operator)>

◆ The ARRL Midwest Division December Newsletter is now available on the Division's Web page. Here's the direct link:

<http://www.arrlmidwest.org/pdfs/arrlmwd-dec2010news.pdf>

◆ Here is a list of operational Amateur Satellites. <<http://www.n2yo.com/satellites/?c=18>>

◆ I can hear him, why can't he hear me? <http://www.arrl.org/multimedia>

◆ General Motors Turns to Ham Radio to Solve Antenna Problem.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/general-motors-turns-to-ham-radio-to-solve-antenna-problem>

◆ Ham radio abbreviations>> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morse\\_code\\_abbreviations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morse_code_abbreviations)

◆ Something you cycle enthusiasts will appreciate... An original 1913 Harley Davidson. You can appreciate this. He starts it up. You can see the external push rods operating.

<http://www.fark.com/cgi/vidplayer.pl?IDLink=5734912>

◆ From my friend Pat. **Subject:** Moving An Enormous Million Pound Steam Generator

<http://www.rense.com/steamgen.html>

◆ Kansas Section News and KARs <http://ksarrrl.org>

◆ Kansas QSO Party <http://www.ksqsoparty.org>

- ♦ Newton Radio Club <http://www.newtonarc.net>
- ♦ Wichita Radio Club <http://www.warcl.org>
- ♦ Kansas ARES <http://www.cenkares.org>
- ♦ Kansas ARES printable map <http://ksarrrl.org/ares/printit/>
- ♦ Kansas ARRL Section News <http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/kansas>
- ♦ Skywarn <http://www.ict-skywarn.org/>
- ♦ Midwest Division Home page <http://www.arrlmidwest.org/>
- ♦ Midwest Division newsletter <http://www.arrlmidwest.org/pdfs/arrlnwd-july2010news.pdf>
- ♦ ARRL <http://www.arrl.org/>
- ♦ KC han Info [http://www.kchams.net/larrys\\_list.html](http://www.kchams.net/larrys_list.html)
- ♦ NF9L KC page <http://kchamradio.com/>

73, Orlan wØoyh UR KAR ed and ARRL Ks Ast. Section Mgr. [w0oyh@arrl.net](mailto:w0oyh@arrl.net)

**ARRL KS SECTION MANAGER - Ron KBØDTI [kb0dti@arrl.org](mailto:kb0dti@arrl.org)**



Ron KBØDTI  
ARRL Ks Section Manager  
[kb0dti@arrl.org](mailto:kb0dti@arrl.org)  
<http://www.arrl.org/sections/view/kansas>

**You can find Ron on the 3920 kHz nets starting at 5:30 PM daily.**



## ARRL KS SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR - Bob KØBXF



January 1, 2011

from the desk of KØBXF ARRL SEC KS

November 2010 ARES activity.

It has been quite sometime since receiving a monthly report from a number of Zone EC.

I know there is activity going on, ham radio wise but just no one doing the reporting. Our weakest Zones in reporting are 1C, 1E and 1F, 2E, 3F, 4B, 4H, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5I and Zone 6A, 6B, 6C and 6D. WOW, thats a fair large hole in ARES activity. I know we have reps from some of these Zones checking into the Kansas Weather Net and the Kansas Sideband net and the Kansas Phone net on weekends.

Are you residing in one of these Zones?? Is so how about exchanging a bit of info reference said activity. My mail address is always awaiting your report. [rsummbxf@aol.com](mailto:rsummbxf@aol.com)

Not sure of your ARES Zone, [rsummbxf@aol.com](mailto:rsummbxf@aol.com) can point you in the right direction. Let us put Kansas back at the top of ARRLs reporting activities especially for ARES activity.

If you have a recommendation for replacement of a Zone EC, then most definately I want to hear from you.

Activity for November, 17 zones reporting. 95 nets called with 699 QNI and 33 QTC.  
State RACES reporting poor conditions odds and ends reporting being there but not heard.  
KS Army MARS reporting 338 on air hours and 165 msg originated.  
KS SATERN reporting 5 state sessions 70 QNI  
Kansas Chapter 110 QCWA 4 sessions and 0 QNI

73 **Bob Summers KØBXF** ARRL SEC KS  
[RSUMMBXF@aol.com](mailto:RSUMMBXF@aol.com)

◆ **KS ARES Printable** map to any size: <http://ksarrl.org/ares/printit> - available in PDF only

**You can find Bob on the Kansas Sideband Net on 3920 kHz at 5:30 pm most evenings.**



# KANSAS RACES OFFICER – Joseph WDØDMV



Happy New Year! Wow, another year. They just seem to come, and go, so fast. I see many changes coming this year.

The first is the RACES Net. It was brought to my attention that the net as it was, being open to all hams, broke the FCC rules for a RACES Net. ONLY RACES personnel with permission from their governing body can communicate on a RACES Net. (I knew this, but kinda overlooked it hum...) Anyway on the Thursday night net (great turn out), comments were requested as to how to continue the net or should we continue at all. The consensus was to continue but temporary change the name (name undecided at this time) until such time the amateurs could get registered with their County or a governmental

body. I have requested a meeting with the State personnel to see how we can get the Counties more involved to register hams. I hope it is just an educational problem.

So please continue to check in to the scheduled nets and share what is happening in your County. Also stop by your County Emergency Management and inquire about RACES. Maybe knowing that there is hams in the community interested to assist, will sway them to register. If a County is using Amateur radio by any name, they should also register as RACES. It does not cost a penny to register and the benefits could be huge. Be good stewards of Amateur Radio.

If you have any comments or questions for me, please email me at wd0dmv@arrl.net. I always appreciate the comments good or not.

73  
Joseph WDØDMV  
Kansas RACES Officer

The Nets meet on the first Thursday and third Tuesday of each month at 1900 local time on 3940 KHz.

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Net report for Tuesday Dec 21, 2010

The following stations were heard:

- ACØE      Finney County
- WAØLXV   Dickinson County
- WAØCCW   Mitchell County
- KCØNYK   Montgomery County
- WØYW      Linn County
- AAØOM    Phillips County
- WDØDMV   Brown County
- AAØX      Miami County - Net Control

8 Counties - (QNI 8) (QNI 0)

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Net report for Thursday Jan. 6, 2011.

The following stations were heard:

- KD7QOR   Leavenworth County
- WDØESF   Barber County
- WAØDTH   Johnson County

WDØEPH Ellsworth County  
KCØNYG Lyon County  
WAØLXV Dickinson County  
KBØSQQ ELK County  
KCØNYK Montgomery County  
KBØMOE ELK County  
KØRCJ McPherson County  
AAØX Miami County  
NUØB Montgomery County  
WØPBV Riley County  
KDØAKT Marshall County  
WDØEUF McPherson County  
WAØCCW Mitchell County  
WØWVI Anderson County  
WAØOQA Scott County  
KØBXF Wyandotte County  
WAØKZF McPherson County  
KBØDTI Linn County  
KDØBKH Wyandotte County  
WDØDMV Shawnee County - Net Control

18 Counties(QNI 23) (QNI Ø)

**73, Joseph WDØDMV**  
**State RACES Officer**  
[wd0dvm@yahoo.com](mailto:wd0dvm@yahoo.com)

The RACES Net meets on the first Thursday and third Tuesday of each month at 7 PM local time on 3940 KHz.

## Kansas QSO Party Results

The winners of the 2010 Kansas QSO Party have been posted to the Kansas QSO Party web site. To check the list out, please visit <http://www.ksqsoparty.org/winners>.

We have also set the date for the 2011 QSO Party, August 27-28. Saturday hours are 9:00AM to 9:00PM (1400UTC-0200UTC) and Sunday 9:00AM to 3PM (1400UTC-2000UTC). Please keep the QSO Party in mind for your 2011 radio activities. Sand plum jelly and bison jerky have been the prizes, Sunflower Certificates for 2nd and 3rd. All who participated are eligible for a Participation Certificate. Requests need to be made to Randy Wing at n0ld @ arrl.net (remove the space).

We hope to have more people on the air and active in Kansas with much less QRM from the Ohio and Hawaii QSO parties. We ran the party the same weekend as the Joplin Hamfest. The Organizational group decided to stay on this weekend. We can't find an open weekend without some other activity going, and will likely always cross with another event somewhere.

I am working on a new site design with the same look and feel. I hope to have that ready by the middle of January.

Happy and Safe New Year to all!!

73

Kent Stutzman

KB0RWI [kb0rwi@arrl.net](mailto:kb0rwi@arrl.net)

KSQP Web Design/Host

<http://ksqsoparty.org>

## Around our Section

Kansas Radio Club web sites -

I have tried to find all of the Kansas amateur radio Clubs with a web site and have posted them on the <http://ksarrrl.org> front page. If I am missing any group, I welcome any addition to the list. Please feel free to send the link for your Club's web site for inclusion. E-mail Kent at <[kb0rwi@arrl.net](mailto:kb0rwi@arrl.net)>

Is Packet making a comeback?

We are beginning to form a packet cluster with N0KTA in Mulvane. It is hard for us to reach from Newton, so John, KR0L set up a node in Newton in the Harvey County EOC that provides BBS functionality to the node. There is a group in Connecticut, New York and other areas that are interested in linking up to our Kansas cluster via AX.25 over internet. We are also aware of a few western Kansas nodes. Dodge City, Garden City, Hugoton, Scott City and a few others. We know that we need more nodes for VHF linking, and these Kansas nodes use HF linking. This provides linking further into the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles. We also have word of interest of a foreign group wanting to get on the cluster. Our goal is to build out and destine to Topeka in case we need to have RF only communications, and Joseph Plankinton, WD0DMV; has encouraged us to keep plugging away. If you have a sound card, a Signal Link computer-radio interface; there are diagrams and schematics to build fairly simp!

le and cheap interfaces to radios. Do a search for software packet interface. With stereo cards, you can even monitor two packet frequencies!

No powerful computers are needed. At minimum, a 386SX computer is required, so if you still have any of those vintage machines around, they will work solid for packet. DOS, older Windows versions, Macs, and Linux are all supported with software. With just a bit of searching, we can build out and have VHF nodes again covering the state, and have Internet connectivity. The nodes detect if it needs to use the VHF or Internet path.

John Goerzen, KR0L, put together the Newton Packet node, using our Club call, W0BZN, which is linked full time to N0KTA. He is also developing a Wiki about the Central Kansas Nodes which may be helpful to those interested. Go to <<http://wiki.complete.org/CentralKansasPacketRadio>>. To learn even more on the basics, visit John's PacketRadio Wiki <<http://wiki.complete.org/PacketRadio>>. I was quickly sold on his facts that packet would beat voice hands down if we ever were faced with a major emergency over a wide area. An 'ad hoc' network could be up and running in hours. I am sure

you can follow links around to also learn more about the soundcard interfacing, getting you in to packet for less than \$50. TNC's are nice, pricey, but not required. If you have a TNC setting in a box or storage, get it out, dust it off and join us!

Wishing everyone a safe and happy new year!

Kent Stutzman, KBORWI  
<[kb0rwi@arrl.net](mailto:kb0rwi@arrl.net)>  
KS Section ARRL PIO

## Lunar Eclipse

Coincidences: This lunar eclipse falls on the date of the northern winter solstice.

How rare is that? Total lunar eclipses in northern winter are fairly common. There have been three of them in the past ten years alone.

A lunar eclipse smack-dab on the date of the solstice, however, is unusual.

Geoff Chester of the US Naval Observatory inspected a list of eclipses going back 2000 years.

"Since Year 1, I can only find one previous instance of an eclipse matching the same calendar date as the solstice, and that is 1638 DEC 21," says Chester.

"Fortunately we won't have to wait 372 years for the next one...that will be on 2094 DEC 21."

If you're planning to dash out for only one quick look - it is December, after all - choose this moment: 02:17 am CST. That's when the Moon will be in deepest shadow, displaying the most fantastic shades of coppery red.

The eclipse begins on Tuesday morning, Dec. 21st, at 12:33 am CST. At that time, Earth's shadow will appear as a dark-red bite at the edge of the lunar disk.

It takes about an hour for the "bite" to expand and swallow the entire Moon. Totality commences at 01:41 am CST and lasts for 72 minutes.

[http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2010/17dec\\_solsticeeclipse](http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2010/17dec_solsticeeclipse)

Monday: A chance of drizzle after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 45. South wind between 9 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 22 mph.

Monday Night: A chance of drizzle before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 33. Southwest wind around 8 mph becoming north northwest.

Tuesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 38. North northwest wind around 9 mph.

[http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?  
CityName=Overland+Park&state=KS&site=EAX&textField1=38.9146&textField2=-94.6849&e=0](http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?CityName=Overland+Park&state=KS&site=EAX&textField1=38.9146&textField2=-94.6849&e=0)

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John NØIE

When a person has -- whether they knew it or not -- already rejected the Truth, by what means do they discern a lie?

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## SILENT KEYS

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Helen Baker](mailto:Helen.Baker)

**To: Sent:** Sunday, January 02, 2011 7:09 PM

Not sure who everyone is that I am contacting on Helen's email address. I am her daughter Patricia. Helen passed away December 27th at Roy's house in Salina. You can contact me at [peakapelli@gmail.com](mailto:peakapelli@gmail.com). We had a memorial service yesterday Jan 1 in Ellsworth. Her ashes will be buried next to my Father in Herington KS tomorrow. Susan, Linda and I are at her house in Ellsworth right now.

Helen Baker WA6KHD is a SK,

Helen's husband was Assistant Director Ross Stevens, WØXJ, they lived in Ellsworth, Ks. She will be missed by the Kansas ham radio community.

I was looking forward to seeing her at the Salina convention next August.

73, Orlan WØOYH

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The obituarie was in the Salina Journal. See below.

<http://www.salina.com/obituaries/story/stevens010111>

### Salina Journal

Helen L. Stevens was born June 22, 1933, in Richfield Springs, N.Y., the daughter of Albert and Edna (Ames) Hazelton, and passed away Monday, Dec. 27, 2010, in Salina. She was one of six children. Helen joined the Air Force, where she met and married her first husband of 48 years, Ross W. Stevens, in Rome, N.Y. They had four children. Helen loved to travel, sew, craft and bake. She was active with many charitable organizations.

She is survived by her second husband, Roy K. Baker Jr., of Salina; three daughters, Linda Stevens, of Vacaville, Calif., Susan Ohnmacht (Jon), of Loomis, Calif., and Patricia Capellino (Russ), of South Lake Tahoe, Calif.; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren, with a sixth on the way. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Ross; and son, Wayne Stevens.

Helen was loved by all and will be sorely missed.

There will be a memorial service at 2 p.m. today, Jan. 1, at Holy Apostles Episcopal Church, Ellsworth. Private family inurnment will be at a later date.

Memorial donations made be made in her honor to any Shriners' hospital, in care of Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home, 404 S. Broadway, Herington 67449.

Thanks to Ron WA0PSF and Sid N0OBM for sending this to KAR. Orlan



QCWA Dinner April 2006 Salina Ks. Helen is the lady in red.

Orlan, Hows things going. Seems like u haven't been on the air much. Finally rained out here so working on the garden.

This picture was taken at the April 1st QCWA luncheon at the Western Sizzlin in Salina. There were 38 there W0ME said. He is the Sec. and David W0FCL is the Pres. Believe 22 are in this picture. From left to right in the back row are Don KA0EIC, Terry KA0BHO, Jeff KD0YP, Alvin W0ME, Larry N0LL, David W0FCL, Ed W0BBM, Harold WS0M, Terry K0UAS, Dewite W0OK, Gary WA0EAF, Helen? KA6KHD? W0XJ(sk) XYL, Don W0NEB, Nadine K0UHF, Fred K0TCS and Al W0TEA. Seating left to right. Lois WN0DEP, Al W0PE, Wendell W0TQ, Al W0BBO, Willis W0QBK and Dave N0LJK.

CUL Larry N0LL

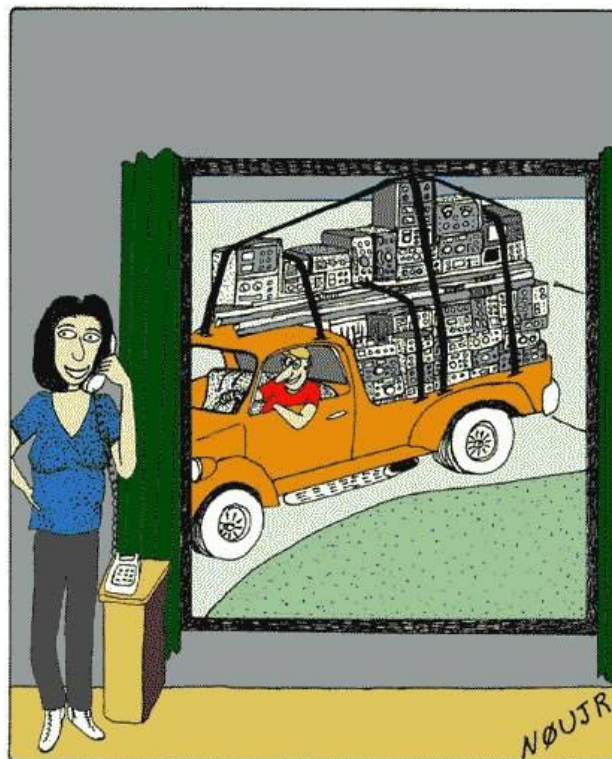
## QKS – The Kansas ARRL CW Traffic Net

Net operated daily at 7 and 10 pm on 3547 kHz. 7 pm is the out going tfc into the NTS system and in coming at 10 pm. You are welcome to check in with or without tfc. Our manager is

**James, NBØZ**

I am Net control on Monday, Fridays and Saturdays at 10 PM. Been doing that for 30+ years... Orlan

HA - HA - HA - HA - HA - HA - HA - HA - HA - HA - HA - HA - HA - HA



"No Greg went to the ham auction this afternoon, to get rid of a couple old radios that were cluttering up the place...Oh I think I hear him pulling in now!"

I recently turned 79 and bought a all terrain vehicle.



## *How True It Is...*

*Another year has passed  
and we're all a little older.  
Last summer felt hotter  
and winter seems much colder*



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Thanks Orlan and Merry Merry Christmas to you, just stay jolly and lots of HO HO HOs. 73s  
John

◆ Hi Orlan,  
Best wishes to you for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!  
73,  
Steve Ewald, WV1X  
Supervisor, Field Organization Team

**ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio™**  
860-594-0265  
[sewald@arrl.org](mailto:sewald@arrl.org)

◆ Orlan,

I signed up to take a look at the list, lots to look at for sure, thanks. Here's a funny one if you have trouble with your high tech stuff. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAG39jKi0II>

73 and all the best in 2011, need a good saying for 2011, maybe "almost heaven in 2011?"

Chuck, KØBOG at ARRL Hq.

**Forgot this tidbit, Saturday will be 1/1/11!**

◆ This one is kind of hard to watch but it sure gets the message across!

WARNING - THIS VIDEO CONTAINS SOME VERY GRAPHIC MATERIAL.

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Great Aussie Ad Campaign!

This needs to be passed around to everyone who has the keys to a vehicle. This is perhaps one of the most intense commercials that I've ever seen and very well made. I think that Australia should be

complemented on having the guts to "tell it like it is" and get this campaign out to all of its licensed drivers and to air it on TV... it is very moving and very life like...it has a very strong impact. Pass it along to all of your friends.

<[http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=Z2mf8DtWWd8](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=Z2mf8DtWWd8)>

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PLEASE DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE!

73,

Larry Staples, W0AIB

◆ From: Kevin Badger. Watch this video. It is about how we got our National Anthem that we know oh so well today as it is played sporting events all across this great country of ours.

Great history lesson. I always thought why "The Star Spangled banner" for our national anthem? But after watching this, I'll never think of the "Star Spangled Banner" the same again.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=Iwa-lSVqA1M&vq=medium](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=Iwa-lSVqA1M&vq=medium)

Doc  
Maine.... The Way Life Should Be

◆ In WWII, Japan's highest ranking naval officer was Isoroku Yamamoto. Although he was Japanese, and his loyalties were unquestionably with The Empire, he studied for many years in America, graduating from Harvard University. There is an oft-repeated (and sometimes disputed) quote attributed to him regarding the possibility of any nation taking a war to American soil:

"You cannot invade the mainland United States. There would be a rifle behind every blade of grass."

Here is why he was correct:

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**America's Hunters. The World's Largest Army.**

The state of Wisconsin has gone an entire deer hunting season without someone getting killed. That's great, considering there were over 600,000 hunters that got permits this year.

Allow me to restate that number.

Over the last two months, the eighth largest army in the world - more men under arms than

Iran; *more than France and Germany combined* - deployed to the woods of a single American state to keep the deer population under control.

But that pales in comparison to the 750,000 who are in the woods of Pennsylvania this week. Michigan's 700,000 hunters have now returned home. Toss in a quarter million hunters in West Virginia, and it is literally the case that **the hunters of those four states alone would comprise the largest army in the world.**

**And that is just FOUR states.**

**The total population of registered hunters in America today ranges from 23 million to 43.7 million individuals. (Based on annual data provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.)**

As long as the American Hunter retains his right to Bear Arms, America will forever be safe from foreign invasion of troops.

Hunting - it's not just a way to fill the freezer. It's a matter of national security.

**From my friend Pat.**

◆ Orlan, Sorry to hear the news about WA6KHD. I did dust off the old straight key and banged out a few QSOs for SKN. It's always fun listening for some of the old rigs.

I came across this and thought you might like to see it if you hadn't, not exactly radio but interesting.

[http://www.youtube.com/swf/1.swf?video\\_id=S4KrIMZpwCY](http://www.youtube.com/swf/1.swf?video_id=S4KrIMZpwCY)

73, Chuck, KØBOG



That ain't no Ranger!

## Tom's Key-Strokes - WØEAJ Denver, Co. Displaced Kansas neighbor.



The other day, I was finishing up the connections of some additional devices on an existing fire alarm system... the mounting screws for smoke-detector bases and horn/strobes are those neat ISO types, that combine a straight-slot AND phillips head on the same screw; pretty common these days... the electrician who was putting in the lighting circuits began to loudly bitch... *"Damn it, I hate these phillips screws; all I have is a regular screwdriver!"*.... I calmly got down from my ladder... walked over, and said *"Lemme try"*.... took his screwdriver and tightened up the screws on the box cover.... then handed him the screwdriver and didn't say a thing - it was freaking priceless.

TC

◆ Larry, As long as this is still going (and I'm thrilled)... My ORIGINAL Elmer - Carl Bruns, KØGOZ (SK). I've written a story about him, but suffice to say his XYL invited me in on a hot August day in 1958, so I could meet "the ham of the house". Carl had a beautiful Viking Valiant, with an SX-99, plus one of those horrid PolyCom 6&2 units (I had the misfortune to resurrect one, years later). The SWR meter he was using was bought by my Stepdad, James E. Carl - WØKI (SK) upon Carl's passing, and not long before we lost Jim this past year, he GAVE ME THE METER, after me telling him about the first guy who ever showed me a ham radio.

I am so pleased to see all of you remembering those who gave us our foundation in this hobby, as well as direction in life. Many of us have spent our lives & careers in electronics, in no small part, due to these personal influences. Here's my raised glass to those who went before... hopefully, some will remember US on a time, long in the future.

ZUT (Z signal that means "CW Forever) es 73

Tom Dailey – WØEAJ

◆ Want to add a DIGITAL DISPLAY to your boatanchor?  
<http://www.mtechnologies.com/aade/counter.htm>



◆ Okay kids, here's a circa 1963 Navy radio shack. Those receivers were a bit "long in the tooth", but worked very well. They're (left to right)..... RBB, RBC, & RBA types.

The sign you CAN read, says " USE HEADPHONES IF CIRCUIT IS QRL " - It was located on the grounds of the Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare Center, in San Diego... right on the edge of the "commercial basin" which USED TO have fishing boats by the bunch, but mostly pleasure craft, yachts, and large sailing craft these days.

Transmitters were remotely located at the end of the base (about a mile away)... TDE, TDO, TBL & one SRT-15.

If you take ELECTRIC RADIO, you've seen the picture, looking TOWARD the coffee-pot [ *toward the basin* ]

Tom – WØEAJ



◆ 1940 Christmas greeting from the HALLICRAFTERS corporation.  
<http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~postr/bapix/HaliCmas.htm>

◆ As somebody picked up the rights to all the HEATHKIT manuals (thus they disappeared from BAMA), they're somewhat difficult to find on the web, now. Here is a site where a good amount of Heath info can still be obtained. ...and NO, I have no idea who got 'em, or where to buy them.  
<http://www.vintage-radio.info/heathkit/index.htm>

Tom

◆ It was the Christmas season of 1965... I was a staff Radioman at COMTRAPAC Communications at the Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare Center in San Diego. California doesn't always do much for your Christmas spirit, as sitting on Mission Beach with an impending sunburn is not very conducive to thinking about such things. So it went that year.

As was the custom in the service, it always seemed like the single guys always got to stand duty on Thanksgiving, Christmas, Independence Day, Memorial Day, and every other holiday.. the married guys ALWAYS seemed to get those days off, and I guess I can "sort of" understand that, but it sure as heck ALWAYS seemed unfair. I had been told, that due to staffing requirements, there was no way I was going to get Christmas leave, so I'd resigned myself to the day-watch (0800-1600) on Christmas Day.... period. Yep, another boring day with NOTHING coming over the radios or teletypes, save for an occasional test message (CHANNEL CHECK), or radio-check from one of the ships in our comm-guard. Oh, and even though our chow was always pretty good; still, eating Christmas dinner in the Chow Hall was less than what I really wanted to do.



Noon approached that day - it was a beautiful 76 degrees, and as I peered out the window of the Unclassified area of the radio shack, overlooking the Commercial Basin of San Diego bay.. the air fraught with the usual smell of salt water and diesel fuel from tuna boats, sailboats, and motor vessels, it just didn't seem much like any sort of celebration that I knew was happening at the farm, North of Rossville, KS. My parents would be there... my Grandparents too.. Uncles, Aunts, and always the usual gaggle of grownup kids, semi-grown kids, and little kids who were nothing more than a group of pestering noise machines. My cousins and I would have been playing in the shop.. tinkering with some gadget, or messing around in the barn as we had for years on end. Sometimes, my Uncle Bill & Uncle Ben (also in the Navy) would be home on Christmas leave, and that was always fun to swap stories, and go "out on the town" (in Topeka.. much smaller, then), all attired in our Dress Blues with radars going, looking for cute girls staring at "those sailors"... pretty rare in Topeka.

The big table in the farm kitchen was in 3 heights... the main table for growups, the smaller one for younger "kids", then the card table for the "little" kids, and sometimes we'd even have enough people where some of 'em sat in the living room. Working your way UP to the BIG table was something we'd all wanted to do... until we got there, of course - then it didn't seem so great, and you may have almost wanted to go "back" to being smaller and younger, by the time your hair was grey and there were fewer folks AT that table.

So there I stood, looking out the window at the gulls a'squawking. I poured yet another cup of coffee (basic food group in the Navy), and figured that pretty soon, one of us would walk down to "chow", the other one staying behind.. then we'd switch. At that moment, there was a knock at the dutch-door (all Navy buildings seem to have at least ONE "dutch-door"), and thinking it was the Officer of the Day, wanting his message traffic (there wasn't any), I sauntered out -

There was (name changed for courtesy) Rear Admiral Williams - not in his dress blues, khakis, or whites... rather in one of his outrageous Hawaiian Shirts, with his wife. They were both carrying boxes, and he said *"Well, don't just stand there - let us in!".... "Yes Sir, sorry..."* The second they walked in, I smelled it... it smelled NOTHING like a chow hall, but it DID smell like my Grandparent's farm... hot turkey, dressing, potatoes, vegetables, cranberry sauce, that silly jello with pineapple in it, and pumpkin pie.... REAL pumpkins, too.

Our Admiral was a "mustang"... one of the very FEW if not one of the ONLY Rear Admirals to come up from an enlisted man - he was a prince of a man, and as I told his wife, some 34 years later... *"We'd have crawled through broken glass for him, Mam"*. By this time, my fellow watch-stander "Dinky" (Terry was about 6' 4" tall and very large) came out to see what was up, and where the smell was coming from... and the Admiral and his wife were grinning... *"Dailey, it wasn't that long ago that I remembered how badly I would have loved to have been home on Christmas, and Julia and I got to thinking... so we figured we'd bring Christmas to you guys, so you wouldn't have to eat in the chow hall today... Merry Christmas, boys"*. They shook our hands and walked out of the door and down the "ladder" (stairs to you land lubbers). We stood there and just stared at each other in wonder.. then quickly scooped up the booty and went into the SECRET area through the crypto-locked door... safe from marauding "uncleared" personnel.

Stuffing ourselves like children... all grins and smacking lips.. it was an amazing Christmas, indeed. I remember that we used teletype paper for napkins - not the best for the job, but like the Marines say "Adapt and Overcome". A few minutes before 1600, our reliefs showed up and commented on how the radio shack smelled like food..... OH, and WHERE WAS IT? *"Sorry guys, no joy.... it's all gone - we ate it"*.

Somehow, home for both of us was a lot closer that day... and we actually pitied those poor unfortunates who DIDN'T have to work that day... for once, being single guys had really worked out, and as long as I live, I shall never forget the unselfishness of that short man with all that gold on his sleeve, and his wonderful wife.

So, this Christmas.... remember WHY we celebrate this day, and of the many young men and women who are far from home... keeping US safe, so we CAN enjoy the freedom to gather with friends and family. Many of them are the "singles" who always get the duty on those days..... but many are also married with children.... loved ones and kids they won't get to see this Christmas... except perhaps through the miracle of the Internet. [ we had phone patches, that was about as good as anything ].

So, to all the communications and radio types who will be there FOR US, and all the rest who keep us safe, Merry Christmas....

...and God bless you Admiral and Mrs. Williams - you will NEVER be forgotten.... (oh by the way - did I mention that he was originally a RADIOMAN?)

Dah dah, di di dit... Di di dit Dah dah

Tom

◆ THIS.... is extremely cool - you can pan LEFT, RIGHT, UP, & DOWN. Pretty astounding.

> Drag your pointer to see it faster or slower in any direction....

>

> They don't make cockpits like this anymore...Probably a good thing.

>

> 360 degrees from pilot seat, 360 degrees from overhead view. The little

> icons at bottom will give you do a lot of views. Be sure to click the

> last one first to give you full screen.

>

>

> <http://www.davidpalermo.com/data/slideshow/4/index.html>

◆ Not sure you'll hear me back there on the Gonsett Commander, so....

WØOSD - John Fife - former Service Manager of Burstein-Applebee

WØEAJ - Phil Glano - Ex. VP of Burstein-Applebee (the ORIGINAL holder of my callsign)

WØFRG - Ray Friez - former VP - Burstein-Applebee  
WØLBB - Harris Fromholt - Burstein-Applebee  
Ellis Eldrid - ran the B-A hamshack for years, but never had a call  
KØHAW - Bob Hunter - Burstein-Applebee  
WØKI - Jim E. Carl - my Stepdad  
WØRAS - Norm Wilson - Jim's best friend  
WBØPCM - Sgt. Sherman Spahr - Wheat Ridge (CO) PD - my buddy  
KIØIM - US Army Special Forces (Green Beanie) - my buddy

...and last, but not least... everybody's friend...

WBØEJJ - Beryl Masters - Mr. Walking Street Map

Tom Dailey - WØEAJ

◆ As some of you know, I work on a lot of the ATAS antennas - these are the Yaesu motorized "screwdrivers" that automatically tune with many of the Yaesu radios. They have some recognized problems, so after discovering how to fix MINE, I figured I'd get into fixing everybody else's! As I have one on the bench right now, that was used as a *Rain Gauge*, I decided to take a break and write this...

I was just recalling my FIRST Yaesu ATAS antenna.... it looked fine, but when I screwed it onto the base, the center pin FELL OUT - the guy had super-glued it onto the stub that was left inside, when he tried to tighten up the center-pin and broke it off..... ahhhhhh, I love hamfests.

That got me to thinking - Hamfests are wonderful places to play with stuff you never could afford as a kid, and never thought you could own. Most hamfests are full of totally honest folks who just have too much stuff and need some room for MORE stuff. Of course, there ARE those "other people", who embrace the famous phrase that we all know well "Sold, As Is". Mostly, one can lump these guys in with the "E bite" crowd who insist on using that lame sentence "I have no way to test it"... yeah, that's because the caterpillar tractor that ran OVER IT, cut the cord off in the process, and that makes it a bit tough TO test. "Ya pays yer money, and yah takes yer chances" is the caveat of the day when dealing with this assemblage. Even those of us who think we know a thing-or-two, and usually DON'T get stung on goodies that we pick up (and it's getting HARDER to LITERALLY pick up these old HEAVY radios, too), get nailed sometimes. Sometimes, it's just fun to fix 'em anyway, but other times, you grumble, gripe, swear, and scream... all the while refreshing one's usage of nautical expressions, learned in Uncle's Navy, which usually assist in difficult automobile repairs.

Sort of like the Johnson Ranger Transmitter I bought, that was just like the one we had at Shawnee-Mission North HS (from when it was just SM HS). The one at SMN was only to be dreamed of, as it was priced for only those who had the kind of money that a 16 year old kid simply didn't have. Well, the one I bought at a 'fest was NOT a total surprise to me, as I knew it was missing some tubes and the guy admitted that he'd done "some mods" on it, then proceeded to shove a pile of papers at me, describing what he'd done... AND what he meant to do at some distant stardate in the future..... say in 2154 or so. HE SAID he'd send

me the missing modulator tubes, the missing VFO box cover pieces, and those LONG screws that hold the case on, but of course... never did. In an Andy Rooney-ish commentary, I'm sure he MEANT to send them, but the task simply got away from him, once the poor old thing wasn't staring at him, anymore.

Or... the Hallicrafters SX-71 that I bought, KNOWING it was messed up, but NOT knowing that a previous owner had totally rewired the IF-strip. Trying to follow the wiring in an older Halli-scratcher, based on the schematic, is well... an exercise in mind-numbing frustration and anger-management exercises that don't work. I usually don't get stung on stuff - Like when I know it doesn't work very well, if at all, and that's the FUN of fixing it, but blatant dishonesty and lack of "truth in advertising" is another thing.

In that vein, I've put together my OWN Table of Descriptions. I know that several versions of this have made the circuits of Email servers, throughout the Universe, but these seem to say it a little better than most of 'em do.

Word Used on Ad	Meaning
-----	
<b>MINT</b>	I broke it the first day
Works great	If you hit it enough, it moves
I can't test it	Totally burned up
Lights up	The rest of the transformer windings are fried
New In Box	Bent-in-two when shipped
Cosmetic issues only	This thing hasn't worked in YEARS
Needs a little cleaning	The mud from the flood is still inside
Needs a knob	The control is missing, TOO.
Readout is scratched	After the garbage truck ran over it
It's been OPENED up	and transmits EVERYWHERE at the same time
It's been OPENED up	and receives EVERYWHERE at the same time
Missing one element	Yeah, the BOOM and driven element
All filters installed	Except for the ones you NEED
Might need a tube	Needs <b>ALL</b> of the tubes

and many more where these came from (feel free to send me your additional submissions)

So, have fun at the next 'fest - it's fun to meet the other folks; it's fun to put FACES with callsigns, and it's a hoot to look at what other people have been harboring in THEIR basement, all these years (that is, until the "other half" said "IT goes, or I GO"..... and taking the latter choice is not an option). Support your Hamfests - they're all we have and the best social mixer you'll go to. The food is overpriced sometimes, but the profits go to a good cause. Besides... sometimes if you stick around, they sell off the surplus at the END of the 'fest, and you can stock up with 7 Chili-Dogs in a row. Yeah.... plays havoc with your "social security", but they sure are good.

Hope you all have a wonderful STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT, and the subsequent Happy New Year.

*dit dah dit, dit dah dit dah dit* Tom – WØEJ

◆ ----- Original Message -----

From: TC Dailey

To: Orlan

Sent: Friday, December 31, 2010 3:01 PM

Subject: From the Hallicrafters Digest

My personal preference is the Orange Drop type, but your results may vary. The information about the disc ceramic variety is Very Good, as most of these are very good, but the older and lower-quality disc ceramics ARE NOT THE SAME. Also - when in doubt, err on the side of the higher voltage spec. I have NOT see much self-resonance in my work, but I do recall seeing some of this effect, when I was with KING RADIO. Certain oscillator and bypass sections would "fly" for no apparent reason, but would settle down again with new or different types and lots of disc-ceramics.

-----

We've been using all of the above capacitors in restoration for years and haven't had a situation where one appeared better than the other. The following information represents the result of testing the components to enable practical, unbiased choices. Assume measurement accuracy to be +/- 5% to 10% with consideration for component variations, lead lengths, and lead form.

>

> The .01 mfd capacitors:

> Ceramic disc ----- Self resonant at an average 8.0Mc

> Orange drop ----- Self resonant at an average 10.0Mc

> Yellow tubular ----- Self resonant at an average 9.0Mc

>

> The .001 mfd capacitors

> Ceramic disc -----Self resonant at an average 29.0Mc

> Orange drop ----- Self resonant at an average 26.0Mc

> Yellow tubular --- Self resonant at an average 24.0Mc

>

> See no reason to measure the ESR because the frequencies that these components service expect a minimum resistance of approximately 4 to 6 ohms which is very likely above the ESR.

>

> Things to consider. Ceramic disc capacitors come in class 1, 2, 3, and 4. Class 1 disc ceramic caps are the only group recommended for use at 30Mc +. They can be identified by the NPO or COG stamp. The others can be unpredictable, lossy, and because the ceramic disc has Piezo properties can go off and do their own thing.

>

> The Orange dip and yellow tubular caps are not made like the old paper tubular caps. The connection to the old paper caps was at the end of the roll of each plate whereas the new cap connections are to the entire edge of each roll significantly reducing the inductive properties. The inductance including 1? leads for the Yellow tubular and Orange dip is somewhere around .04 uh of which a good part is lead length and shape.

>

> Another thing to consider is that self resonance in these caps is SERIES not parallel. That means that as you move up the frequency scale to self resonance, the reactance drops to 0 ohms leaving only the resistance of the conductors. From that point, say 24Mc using the .001 uf yellow tubular cap, as the frequency is increased, reactance begins to increase but will be inductive in nature. The apparent inductive reactance at resonance will begin at 0 and increase not exceeding the original capacitive reactance until well above 30mc. With this in mind, any of the .001 uf caps can be used at 30Mc for coupling or bypass operation with no measurable reason to choose except personal preference.

>

> If you are interested in the technique used to measure self resonance in these caps drop a note ---- needs a schematic to explain.

>

> Hope this helps to choose the appropriate cap when you reach for the box of parts.

◆ Just last year..... Kathleen and I were wandering around the Bass Pro Shop, watching people and looking at "toys".... that's when I saw it.... and knew I had to have it.

Yep.... a *Daisy Red Ryder, 500 shot, BB repeating rifle with saddle ring, and Red Ryder's name on the stock...*

I'd never had one as a kid... "you'll shoot your eye out".... but decided that maybe I WAS finally "old enough"....so it is with faith.... for years we wish for it, never realizing how CLOSE it really is... then all we have to do is forget how OLD we are, and how GROWN UP we are, and just like a little kid - pray for it....

...and there it was... all the time.

Merry CHRISTMAS... "God Bless us Everyone"



◆ (This was the old EUB (later Methodist) church, North of Rossville, Kansas... where my Czech grandparents, my Mom, and all my Uncles & Aunts went, back in the late 20's and 30's... it's gone now, but a family friend got a collection up, and I'm proud to say that I'm a part of creating a marker (where it was) to show it's location atop a windy hill, where in strong winds, the kerosene lanterns that hung from the crossbeams would sway back and forth... )



TU Tom for all of the great stuff..... Orlan

KAR

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The Kansas Amateur Radio

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KAR