



KEY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

February 2003

January Meeting Highlights

Kent West, KC5ENO

President Kent West, KC5ENO, called the meeting to order at 7:04pm. The minutes from the November meeting were not available, so they were not read, but it was mentioned that they can be found in the archived newsletters at the KCARC website (<http://www.qsl.net/kcarc>). The Christmas Party in December that took the place of that month's meeting was briefly mentioned, in that this year's food was the best ever had at ACU.

Kent then demo'd to the club Nesa Love's (KC5ENL) new Cappucinno computer. More info about this unit can be found by following the Cappucinno link at <http://www.acu.edu/~westk>.

Kent had a used car battery booster pack that he gave away as a door prize, as well as a second door prize of a \$5 gift certificate from McDonald's.

Other notes about this meeting were not available in time to be published in this newsletter.

After the meeting, several of us met at McDonald's on North First Street for coffee/snacks/late suppers.

Section News Changes

John Dyer, AE5B

By now I am sure you are aware that our Section News was carried in the December QST for the last time. Beginning in January ARRL members

will receive their Section News via Email or by accessing the ARRL homepage. Members without internet access will be able to have a copy mailed directly to them but this process does not seem to be finalized yet. These changes have not been without controversy but they do have some advantages for us in our section. Section News space in QST was based on a formula that left the WTX SM barely enough lines to say hello and good-bye. Publishing deadlines insured that any news in the column was at least two months old.

Much of this has changed for the better under the new system. The monthly summaries will only have a two week time-lag with some space limitations but not as severe as in the past. These summaries will be archived and placed on the yearly QST CD. I will also have the capability of emailing expanded versions of the news to those ARRL members who have signed up for Section/Division emails. Items of general interest to the members of the WTX Section or Section Alerts can be emailed to that list of members at any time. The WTX Section page on the ARRL web site will have almost unlimited space. General information, news alerts, pictures, club news....you get the idea. This is where members of the various clubs in the West Texas Section, especially club officers, can be of help to me.

I need your information. If I had a short summary of your club's activities

each month, it could be posted. Are you having an area Skywarn training session next month? It could be publicized. Is your club honoring Joe Ham for his 45 years as an amateur? Did you just have an 8 year-old get her Technician License? Who are your new club officers? All these things can now be covered in the new format, but I have to have the information. What about a different club profile each month? Lots of possibilities....but they depend on you getting me the information. My deadline for the monthly summary is the middle of the month. Alerts, announcements, etc can go out in real time.

Another way that you can help is to encourage all ARRL members with web access to sign up for the Section/Divisions bulletins. Of the 750 ARRL members in the WTX Section, about 450 are registered on the ARRL Web Site and have access to the Members section. Only about half of those are signed up for the Section/Division bulletins.

Transmission Centennial

Submitted by Nesa Love, KE5ENL

January 18th is the 100th anniversary of Guglielmo Marconi's inaugural wireless transmission between the US and Great Britain.

From the ARRL Special Bulletin 9 ARLX009: *Marconi used a 35 kW rotary spark transmitter and a massive antenna system to transmit a 54-word greeting from President*

Theodore Roosevelt to England's King Edward VII. The monarch promptly acknowledged receipt of the message via land line and cable.

SkyWarn Training

Bill Shaw, KJ5DX

Mark your calendars for the upcoming 2003 Abilene/Taylor County Skywarn Training seminar to be held at ACU, Hilton Room Campus Center, Saturday, March 1, 2003.

KCARC now a SSC

Submitted by John Dyer, AE5B

The following is a message from Margie Bourgoon, KB1DC, Club & Educational Correspondent at the ARRL:

We are pleased to report that the Key City Amateur Radio Club has been officially designated a Special Service Club. The next renewal for the club will be in two years. Through the work of its members, this club is recognized for its extended efforts on behalf of Amateur Radio and service to its community.

You are to be commended for your work with the club in helping it realize its potential. By copy of this letter, we are informing the club of its success. Shortly, the club will receive periodic mailings of materials and information from Headquarters.

Congratulations, and thanks again for your good work. If we can be of further assistance, just let us know.

Kevin Mitnick granted Ham License

Kent West, KC5ENO

Kevin Mitnick served five years in federal prison for teenage "hacking" activities, breaking into various computer networks, becoming a cult hero among hackers. The whole story is available at

<http://www.wired.com/news/technology/0,1282,56997,00.html>, from which the following is quoted.

Mitnick applied to renew his ham radio license in 1999, while still in

prison. The Federal Communications Commission ordered a hearing, citing that Mitnick at one time was "the most wanted computer criminal in U.S. History."

FCC Administrative Law Judge Richard Sippel granted the license in a ruling made public [23 Dec 2002].

"He started hacking as an inquisitive teenager and wound up a disgraced felon," Sippel wrote. "There is reliable evidence that Mr. Mitnick has focused on becoming an honest, productive citizen."

"We put on a good case to show the FCC that I'm sorry for my past actions," [Mitnick] said.

Mitnick, who began using ham radios when he was 13, said it cost him more than \$16,000 in legal expenses to convince the FCC to renew his license. Typical renewals are free. "It's the most expensive amateur radio license in the world," Mitnick said.

Since his release from prison, Mitnick has appeared on television, as an expert witness in the courtroom and before Congress, offering advice about computer security. He also wrote a book, "The Art of Deception," which was published in October and describes scenarios where tricksters dupe computer network administrators into revealing security details.

High-Speed Multimedia Hamming

Kent West, KC5ENO

The ARRL High Speed Multimedia (HSMM) Group is adapting the popular IEEE 802.11b wireless Internet protocol for use on the ham bands. In the past couple of years, wireless Internet capability has allowed laptops and PDAs like the Palm to connect to the network whenever in the vicinity of a Wireless Access Point (WAP). The goals of the HSMM Group are to bring the same capability to amateur radio equipment. This marriage of ham + Internet has been termed "Hinternet" by Working Group member Alex Fraser, N3DER, aka "Mr. Hinternet".

"The development of the ARRL

802.11b protocol will significantly enhance Amateur Radio, especially with respect to emergency communication and support of public service activities," Champa [HSMM Chair] predicted. He and his HSMM Working Group colleagues also expect that it will attract many technically oriented users of the Internet and wireless LANs to get their amateur tickets.

In addition to emergency communication, Hinternet applications could include two-way streaming video, full-duplex streaming audio, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) applications such as QSO, EchoLink, iLink and IRLP, and digital voice. As on the wired Internet, communication can be point-to-point, point-to-multipoint and multicast at high bandwidth.

"An emergency volunteer equipped with a laptop or a wireless PDA (personal digital assistant) with a microphone and a small video camera now has the tools to be a mobile set of eyes and ears in the midst of a communications emergency," says Working Group member Kris Mraz, N5KM. An article by Mraz on amateur 802.11b is scheduled to appear in a future issue of QST.

One concern is that because of interference with current wireless users, we could see a repeat of the "hams are bad; they cause interference with my TV reception" issues of the 60's. The whole story is at:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/01/10/3/?nc=1>

Club Meeting!

Kent West, KC5ENO

Remember to attend the Key City Amateur Radio Club meeting, Monday, 10 February, on the second floor of the city library.

New Apples

Kent West, KC5ENO

At last month's MacWorld in San Francisco, Apple announced two new laptops; a lightweight with a 12-inch screen, and the world's first 17-inch laptop, both sporting a shell made of aircraft-grade aluminum.

The 12" model weighs only 4.6

pounds, and has capability for 54Mbps wireless networking ("Airport Extreme"), built-in Bluetooth, and optional SuperDrive.

The 17" model has a backlit keyboard that automatically adjusts to the ambient lighting, SuperDrive, FireWire 800 (doubling the standard 400), Airport Extreme, and Bluetooth. This is one seriously cool machine.

Apple announced a new web browser for OS/X, named "Safari", which is based on the open source KHTML code, of the open source KDE project (and yes, Apple has returned their improvements to the community). This development should help spur web designers to code to web standards rather than designing for Internet Explorer, because to do otherwise risks turning away not only the Linux users, but now also Macintosh users, not to mention handheld device users, such as Palms and web-enabled phones. Safari is much faster than Internet Explorer on the Mac, even though it's still in Beta, and has become very popular overnight.

Apple also made several new software products available, among which are AppleScript (for automating tasks on OS/X), Final Cut Express (a fantastic video editing package), Keynote (a very impressive presentation package), and X11 (the common windowing environment for Unix). One gets a definite feeling that Apple is pulling away from using Microsoft products, and has produced very good software to replace those products.

For more information, visit <http://www.apple.com>.

Update on KD5DRM and Family

Kent West, KC5ENO

Former KCARC member Stephen Sheasby, KD5DRM, and family Esme' and Chloe moved to Indiana, IL a couple of years ago. This past August they moved to Tampa, FL to see to the health of his parents. Having taken care of that, they've now moved to Seagoville, a suburb of Dallas, to

work with the Seagoville Church of Christ. It's not quite the same as having them back in Abilene, but at least they're back in Texas.

Section News

John Dyer, AE5B

The big event in the WTX Section this month was Skywarn Recognition Day. Five NWS Offices in our section participated in the event along with local ARES, RACES, and Skywarn amateurs. K5RLA and I drove to San Angelo where the SAARC was set up in the San Angelo NWS office, using the club call W5QX. They made over 300 qsos and contacted several NWS stations. The high point of the activity was a qso with the National Hurricane Center. AB5BG, N7SDQ, KC5EXX, and others participated.

El Paso Information provided by

Albert, KB5GZZ. This was the second year for WX5ELP to participate in SRD and the event continues to grow. With SRD falling on Pearl Harbor Day, the Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941 WX report was very popular. They worked 123 stations and participants were N5ZRE, WB5LJO, N5FAZ, WB5QLR, W5CAL, KD6CUB, and KB5GZZ.

Lubbock information from Ed, W5SVR, Warning Coordination Meteorologist for NWS Lubbock. They used WX5LBB and had 110 qsos. They logged 49 NWS offices during the event. The NWS held an open house Saturday morning that allowed local and regional emergency management officials to meet and visit with the NWS staff and ARES/RACES/Skywarn Personal. The event was organized by W5SVR, WX5EMT, and N5WRA. Other radio

Key City Amateur Radio Club Income and Expense Report January 13, 2003

<i>Regular Account:</i>	Balance Forward	\$152.09
	Income	425.00
	Expenses	99.50
	Balance on Hand	477.59
<i>Repeater Account</i>	Income	314.00
	Expenses	250.00
	Balance on Hand	64.00
<i>Hamfest Account:</i>	Balance Forward	1,784.56
	Balance on Hand	1,784.56
Amount Needed to Balance		2,326.15
Total Amount on Hand:		
	Checking	2,125.27
	Coins	1.88
	Cash	64.00
	Total	\$2,326.15
** Itemized Expenses (Regular Account)		
	Checking Fee (Nov & Dec)	30.00
	Southwestern Bell (Dec)	24.54
	Newsletter Postage (Dec)	22.20
	Southwestern Bell (Jan)	22.76
	Total	99.50

Peggy A. Richard, KA4UPA

Treasurer, Key City Amateur Radio Club

operators included KJ5RP, KC5KND, N5LAW, KC5KQF, and KC5MVY.

Midland NWS information from W5ZOX and N5POB. ARES members from Midland, Ector, Howard, and Martin counties participated using the call W5MAF. They logged 112 stations and worked 28 other weather stations. Participating operators were W5MLS, W5ZOX, KD5EKO, N5POB, W5MDS, KD5SDW, K5HCET, KD5UFE, KD5TEB, KD5MHM, W5RCB, W5EFX, KD5HGC, N5KOA, KB5MBK, KD5HGC, N5PSB, and KE5F.

The Amarillo group had 87 contacts HF and VHF using the call WX5AMA. Participants were N5LRH, KC5BPA, KD5BUG, KD5IEJ, KD5CEM, KB5WIO, KB4QWZ, K5FS, K9DMV, and N5HPV. The Amarillo hams had two excellent articles in the local newspaper. You can read about it at:

http://www.amarillonet.com/stories/120802/new_weatherserv.shtml

http://www.amarillonet.com/stories/120502/new_hamoper.shtml

I have received several pictures of SRD activities. They will be posted at <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=W TX>

The Lubbock Amateur Contest Club held an Emergency Preparedness training exercise on Dec. 8th. The participants were given no information prior to the call-up other than the date. Sunday afternoon the participants were called into the field for a simulated search-and-rescue in the 150 acre McKenzie Park. The exercise was a simulation but the weather was not. Temperature in the 30's, north wind at 10-15 mph, and drizzling rain. The event turned into a good reminder that emergency events do not always occur at our convenience or during picnic-type weather. Congratulations guys on an excellent training session.

K5RLA and I attended the San Angelo ARC's December Eatin' Meeten'. 2003 officers were announced and awards were presented. The Ham of the Year award was given to two members, KC5EZZ and AA5PK. Certificates of

Recognition went to N5OKQ and AB5BG. The "Spreader Award" went to N5OIU. New Officers are President KC5FMX, VP KB5FNK, Sec/Tres. KD5PIX, EC KA5VTG, Activities Chair. N7SDQ, Bldg & Grounds KC5ILD

2003 Officers for the KCARC are President KC5ENO, VP K5RLA, Secretary N5JZH, and Treasurer KA4UPA.

Tidbits

Kent West, KC5ENO

❑ Philo T. Farnsworth invented the electronic television 75 years ago (<http://philo75.com/>).

❑ Research shows church teens better behaved than non-churched (<http://unc.edu/news/newsserv/research/smithcr091702.htm>).

❑ A recent siting of the "Roemsjoen monster" has lead a team to south-eastern Norway to find the "Norwegian "Nessie" (<http://www.sundayherald.com/25493>).

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