

# *Smoke Signals*

*ITARS, KD5SDJ*

*September, 2002*



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## **Presidential QRM**

Greetings all:

The club meetings have been going well, this month we had a crisis about having a last minute change in the program. Wayne, AA5JJ was struck ill and we had to wing it. It

went well! We are still working on coming up with a repeater and several options are being looked at. The web page has been updated and Dave now has his computer fixed. Next month's meet-



**James, KA5WHM**

ing is going to be the 14th of the month and I hope to see you there.

James.

**KA5WHM**

## **From the Editor**

Anyone who would like to submit an article for publication is welcome to do so to [w5taz@qsl.net](mailto:w5taz@qsl.net). All articles become the property of ITARS and will be edited for content and space. Please keep in mind I work 2-3 months in advance so they may or may not appear immediately. I am also looking

for someone who has a digital camera to take a few photo's for the club newsletter. Club functions and projects by club members of interest will be the subject matter. If you can help us out please contact me. Isn't our President doing a fine job! It's a lot of hard work to get a club started

and all the club officers have stepped right up to the plate and are working very hard to make this club work, be sure to thank all the other officers for a job well done! For **paid** members we will print in the newsletter items or services for sale. Advertisements will be business card size. Hope to see you at the next club meeting.  
**W5TAZ**

# Be an Elmer

Keith KC8TCQ

I am a relatively new member of the Amateur Radio community. Since I have become a ham I have been welcomed to the local machines (yes repeaters) with open arms. I am not making this post to drag back the never ending fight between no code/code or between old extras and "extra lights". The future of this hobby is the younger ones, and new ones. Rather than spend all the time fighting over trivial things, why not work on further advancing the hobby. You want people to learn code? Be an Elmer, work with the new hams at the local clubs, offer to get with them and give them some real on the air code copying and sending practice. You want people to have knowledge of elec-

tronic theory? have some theory clinics at the local club, and have a kit building project every few months for new and old hams alike. Let the new hams have the thrill of building their own antenna, and then putting it to work for them. You want new hams to have good operating skills? Help them develop those skills. There are few people that are bad operators, or have a poor attitude, but those few are enough to make the problem spread, or to scare newcomers away. I haven't had any real "Elmer's", just a few hams who encouraged me to study, but I did it all on my own, I am now studying code on my own, it would be nice if I could get some real on the air practice, as

listening to a tape, cd, or computer program is not enough, it doesn't have that real feel. I am a volunteer with the American Red Cross Disaster Services, as well as the Vice President of REACT of Henry County. I recently served 85 days in NYC with the American Red Cross. I am currently studying code, and working on getting my General. I am interested in working QRP, PSK-31, and SSB. My goal is to become more involved in emergency communications, SKYWARN, ect.

de Keith KC8TCQ Board Member - Henry County Chapter American Red Cross Disaster Services Logistics Specialist Health and Safety Instructor Vice President REACT of Henry County

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## Club Status

Now that we have things started, where do we go from here? Everyone involved in getting this project off the ground have done more than their fair share. We still have loads of things to get completed but in time we will do just fine. If it's worth doing, it's worth doing right! If you would like to help out with some of the things we have left or something we plan on doing in the future, please step up and let one of the club officers know. We need all the help we can get! Even if it's just to give us a new idea for the club on something you would like to see

implemented or a direction you would like to see the club go in. the main thing is to get involved. If we don't hear your ideas we can't discuss them as a direction the club can go in. We have hopes of a repeater in our area and at the monthly club meetings we will be taking up a donation each month for the repeater fund. All proceeds from this donation will go directly into that fund and will not be spent for anything else. How soon can we get one up? That all depends on you. Repeaters are expensive so the deeper you dig the closer we get to getting one. Thanks. DE W5TAZ

Explore the  
Exciting world  
of QRP



# The United States Packet Net

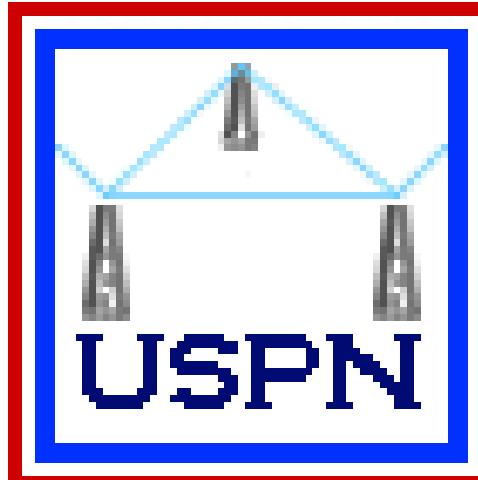
Charles Brabham, N5PVL



The terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001 and subsequent events have highlighted the need for more advanced, more comprehensive amateur radio emergency communications. Hams have enjoyed increased cooperation and respect from many government agencies and officials in the wake of 9-11, including a special message of praise and encouragement to U.S. amateurs from president George W. Bush.

At the same time, significant advances have been made in the equipment and software available to digital amateur radio net workers, making it possible to build network we could only dream about in years past. Amateurs not only have a clear mandate to develop our capability to provide communications in times of emergency or disaster, but we also have the means to do so in a meaningful fashion.

Packet radio (in conjunction with other digital modes) has enormous potential to provide fast, accurate emergency/disaster communications. With the recent resurgence of interest, several of our large-scale VHF/UHF networks have begun to expand and upgrade, and new packet networks are again springing up around the nation. By building and developing independent, amateur radio network that does not depend upon standard, non-ham methods of communicating such as the Internet, amateurs arrange to be there when they are needed the very most - when traditional



methods of communication have broken down or become overloaded during the course of an emergency. Our mandate is to provide independent, alternate emergency communications and only networked amateur radio is relevant to that purpose.

Soon, we can reasonably expect to begin tying our regional networks together into a cohesive, national digital communications network, completely separate and independent, through the participation of thousands of American hams. It is a large, ongoing task, not something we can expect to "finish", as our networks must not only grow, they must also be maintained and upgraded as we go along.

Now is the time for amateur packet radio net workers to share information, get to know each other and work together more closely than they ever have before. We will be addressing a challenge, answering to a mandate and having a good deal of fun while we are at it. It is this

spirit within the hobby that USPN is here to facilitate. We dedicate our efforts to the many amateurs who participate in this fine aspect of amateur radio, and to the people of the United States of America. If you are a packet radio net worker, node-op, SYSOP or even if you are just curious about how to get the packet net going in your area, then USPN is especially for you. Make yourself at home there, say howdy and get to know everybody. You can join in one of the discussion topics in the FORUM, or use our CHAT for more personal, less formal discussion. By pooling our knowledge, we can progress more rapidly and by getting to know other net workers, we can develop working relationships that will be of great importance when linking our systems together for a cohesive, independent United States Packet Network.

**[Http://www.uspacket.net](http://www.uspacket.net)**

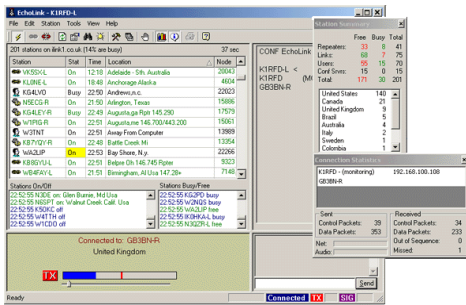
Charles Brabham, N5PVL

Some of these older outdated modes are still a valuable resource for the country as well as ham radio. CW, Packet and others seem to be falling by the wayside. I feel that in a world like we live in today we should keep up with all modes of communication because we never know when an attack of major proportions could come and take out our communications. At this point, Ham Radio operators will be a valuable commodity indeed.



# Introducing EchoLink

EchoLink is software which allows Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using voice-over-IP (VoIP) technology. The program allows worldwide connections to be made between stations, from computer to station, or from computer to



computer. EchoLink is designed to be fully compatible with the popular iLINK (<http://www.aacnet.net/>) system. EchoLink can be used to communicate with stations which are using either EchoLink or iLINK. The program runs on Microsoft™ Windows® 95 or above. It is offered as freeware and may be downloaded. EchoLink is a full-featured software package with many important and useful features.

## How EchoLink works

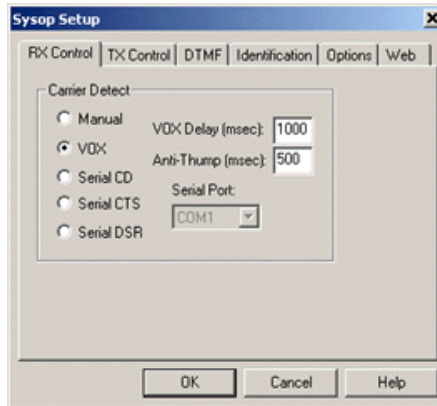
For licensed hams, EchoLink opens up new possibilities for communicating around the world with other amateurs. Your PC links you or your local repeater to any of thousands of other

Station	Stat	Time	Location	Node
"MRILP-8C"	On		>mabuhay Conftrv2<	7126
GB3GN-R	Busy	12:13	Aberdeen - Scotland	19583
VK5SX-L	On	20:42	Adelaide - Sth. Australia	20043
W4PVI	On	06:14	Alabama Gulf Coast	21946

stations over the Internet.

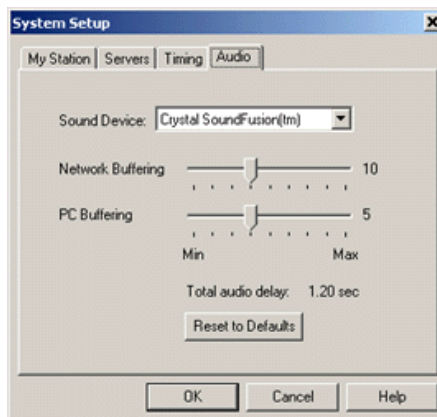
The station-list screen keeps running tabs on who's currently on the system. Stations which have recently come on or off are noted separately. Sort the list any way you like. You can set up any number of "alarms" which will ring when your favorite stations come online.

In Sysop mode, EchoLink connects to a



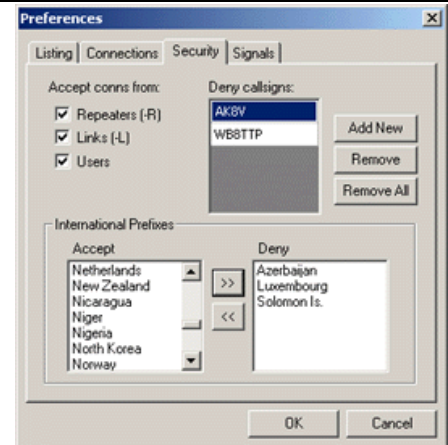
conventional FM transceiver using either the custom-designed iLINK interface boards from [WB2REM](http://www.ilinkboards.com/) (<http://www.ilinkboards.com/>) and [VA3TO](http://www.teepeecomm.com/) (<http://www.teepeecomm.com/>), or general-purpose digital-mode interfaces such as the RIGblaster from [West Mountain Radio](http://www.westmountainradio.com/) (<http://www.westmountainradio.com/>). The board connects to your computer's sound card and serial port.

Virtually any type of Internet

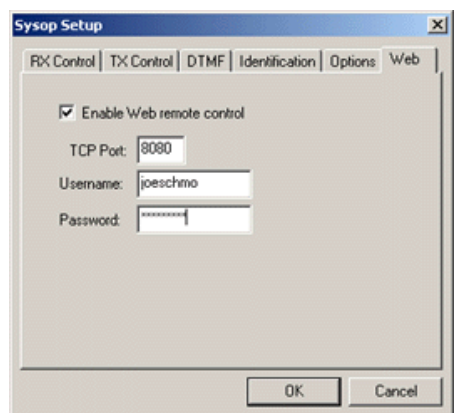
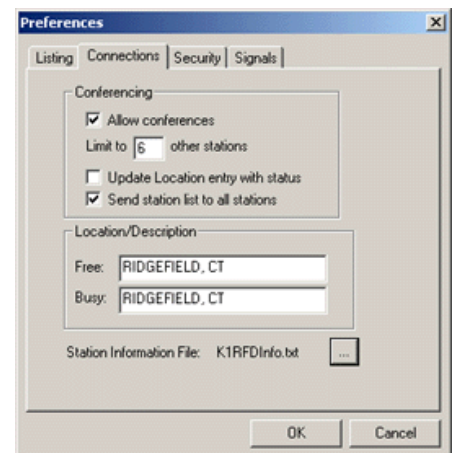


connection may be used with EchoLink, from dial-up to DS3. Custom settings allow you to tailor EchoLink to compensate for older computers or slower Internet connections.

The program includes a number of important new security features, such



as the ability to restrict access by country, to help comply with your nation's third-party traffic or reciprocal operating rules. If the bandwidth of your Internet connection permits it, EchoLink allows up to 10 different stations to be connected at once. This is especially useful in Sysop mode for running a roundtable on your local repeater, or allowing "listening" stations to be connected without blocking out others.



Continued next page



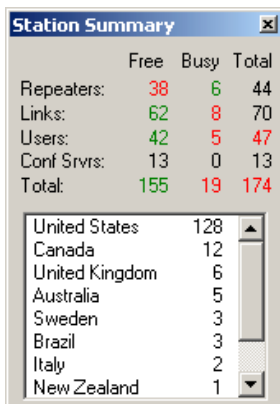
## EchoLink

Continued

A number of useful remote-control features are available in Sysop mode.

Extended DTMF commands allow stations to be searched or connected by call sign, or the status of any station to be queried. The program also includes a built-in Web server for remote control of EchoLink from any Web browser on the Internet.

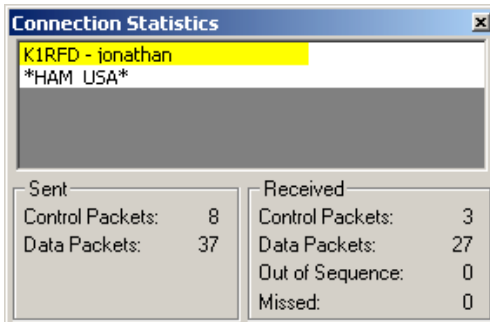
"Floating" pop-up windows keep track of how many stations are on the system, along with detailed status about the current connection.



	Free	Busy	Total
Repeaters:	38	6	44
Links:	62	8	70
Users:	42	5	47
Conf Srvrs:	13	0	13
Total:	155	19	174

United States	128
Canada	12
United Kingdom	6
Australia	5
Sweden	3
Brazil	3
Italy	2
New Zealand	1



Connection Statistics	
K1RFD - jonathan	
*HAM USA*	
Sent	Received
Control Packets: 8	Control Packets: 3
Data Packets: 37	Data Packets: 27
	Out of Sequence: 0
	Missed: 0

Technology has come a long way since the start of the internet. I would like to thank **Larry, N5AFY** for bringing this mode of operation to my attention. You will find all the information you need to get involved in this mode at <http://www.synergenics.com/el/>. On this website you will find interfaces for getting your transceiver and computer together and even more information on getting started. Please swing by and check it out, but remember, if you work the world, you must tell me all about it.

I really feel if our technicians get involved in these modes they will want to upgrade. Enjoy **DE W5TAZ**

## Care and feeding of your pet ham

Pet hams are so intelligent they often seem human, but they can be difficult to raise. Only someone with great patience should attempt it. In case you do, here is a guide to the basics.

**Living Area** -- A pet ham needs a private nest area, an entire room where it will not be disturbed. Your pet ham will spend many happy hours alone there with its treasures. -- boxes, wires, bits of metal, glass, paper, etc. that it will bring home whenever it ventures out. You will want to encourage your pet ham to confine its activity to this room to prevent the entire house from being subjected to noise, clutter and the boring of holes in the walls.

**Expenses** -- Keeping a pet ham is expensive, but, unlike most common pets, a pet ham can be trained to work outside the home for a few hours each day. It may even bring in enough money to offset its expenses.

**Feeding** -- A well-behaved pet ham will eat with the family occasionally, but it will feed more comfortable and secure taking its meals in

the nest room. You must be sure your pet ham is well supplied with food and drink during the long periods it spends alone in there, even if it does not beg or whine.

**Obedience Training** -- A pet ham can be trained to perform simple tricks, the easiest and most common being "sit" and "speak" Do not be alarmed if it practices them for hours at a time in the nest room.

**Health Problems** -- The pet ham typically suffers lower back pain and minor throat irritations from too much sitting and speaking, but health maintenance costs tend to be minimal.

**Travel** -- Your ham pet will gladly travel with your family by car or even by air, if allowed to bring along certain familiar items from the nest room. Most pet hams enjoy trips to places where they can meet pet hams from other families.

**Breeding** -- If you plan to breed your pet ham, you should do so as soon as possible after you get it. As a pet ham matures, it becomes increasingly reluctant to engage in activities not associated with its nest room collection.

**Visit the  
Indian Territory  
Amateur Radio Society on the Web At  
[www.qsl.net/kd5sdj](http://www.qsl.net/kd5sdj)  
Check out the links,  
projects, newsletters  
and the for sale page.**

# ARRL Receives Homeland Security Training Grant



The ARRL will receive a \$181,900 homeland security grant from the US government to train Amateur Radio operators in emergency communication. The League was among several dozen nonprofit organizations designated to receive some \$10.3 million in federal money to boost homeland defense volunteer programs. The grant, from the Corporation for National and Community Service special volunteer program, will provide free ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course training to 5200 volunteers nationwide, starting in 2003. "ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio and is the national leader in emergency communications by volunteers who operate their own equipment on their time at no cost to any government, organization, or corporation," said the announcement today from Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge. The ARRL plans to revise and update the emergency communications curriculum to incorporate additional elements of emergency preparedness and homeland security. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said he was

extremely pleased by the news. "This adds legitimacy to the public service work Amateur Radio has been doing for years," he said. ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, applied for the funding in May, inviting the Corporation for National and Community Service to become "a partner with the nation's oldest volunteer radio communications organization." "I think this is an extraordinarily exciting day for Amateur Radio that the role of Amateur Radio in homeland security is recognized at the highest levels of government," Hobart said when learning of the grant. The League's grant application characterized Amateur Radio as "the bedrock of communications when other outlets fail." Hobart cited Amateur Radio's response in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks and said the federal grant "will help continue our work in providing public service and to protect lives, homes, businesses and our frequencies, as we have for decades." The League had sought a three-year grant of \$541,750. The \$181,900 grant covers the first year's direct program costs. The proposed budget includes the cost

of a project coordinator who would be responsible for overall fiscal management of the grant. ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said he was pleased that the League would be able to extend its Amateur Radio Emergency Communications program to thousands of amateurs who might otherwise not be able to afford the program. "We hope all who are interested will get on board," he said. The grant announcement said that "expanding the opportunities for Americans to participate in meaningful volunteer service" is at the heart of President George Bush's USA Freedom Corps, of which the Corporation for National and Community Service is a part. "We are deeply grateful to Tom Ridge and to the Corporation for National and Community Service for providing Amateur Radio with a unique opportunity to serve our country," Hobart said. In June, the ARRL and United Technologies Corporation announced a partnership to provide free ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course training for up to 250 Connecticut amateurs.

Article is from ARRL web page at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

**In the days of old, when ops were bold,  
And sidebands were not yet invented,  
The word would pass by the pounding  
of brass, And all were quite contented.  
Keep the code alive!**





# On the Lighter Side

## Divorce

An elderly man in Phoenix calls his son in New York and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough! "Pop, what are you talking about?" the son screams. "We can't stand the sight of each other any longer" the old man says. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Chicago and tell her," and he hangs up. Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like heck they're getting divorced" she shouts, "I'll take care of this." She calls Phoenix immediately, and screams at the old man, "You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up. The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "They're coming for Thanksgiving and paying their own Fares ... Now what do we tell them for Christmas?"

## Swatting Flies

I Stopped at a friends house the other day and found him stalking around with a flyswatter. When I asked him if he was getting any flies, he answered, "Yeah, 3 males and 2 females". Curious, I inquired as to how he could tell the difference. He answered, "3 were on a beer can and 2 were on the phone".

**I have AAADD**

I just wanted to let you know that I have recently been diagnosed with AAADD (Age-Activated Attention Deficit Disorder ) This is how it goes: I decide to do the laundry today. I start down the hall and notice the newspaper on the table. OK, I'm going to do the laundry...but first I'm going to read the newspaper. After that, I notice the mail on the table. OK, I'll just put the newspaper in the recycle stack.... but first I'll look through the pile of mail and see if there are any bills to be paid. Yes. Now where is the checkbook, Oops, there's the empty glass from yesterday on the coffee table. I'm going to look for that checkbook... but first I need to put the glass in the sink. I head for the kitchen, look out the window, notice my poor flowers need a drink of water!! I put the glass in the sink and there's the remote for the TV on the kitchen counter. What's it doing here I'll just put it away... but first I need to water those plants. I head for the door and...Araaagh! Stepped on the cat. Oh me. Cat needs to be fed. Okay, I'll put the remote away and water the plants... but first I need to feed the cat. END OF DAY: Laundry is not done, newspapers are still on the floor, glass is still

on the sink, bills are not paid, checkbook is still lost, and the cat ate the remote control ... and, when I try to figure out how come nothing got done today, I'm baffled because ... I KNOW I WAS BUSY ALL DAY! I realize this condition is serious... I'd better get help...but first. I think I'll check my e-mail

**An older couple** were lying in bed one night. The husband was falling asleep but the wife was in a romantic mood and wanted to talk. She said: "You used to hold my hand when we were courting." Wearily he reached across, held her hand for a few seconds and tried to get back to sleep. A few moments later she said: "Then you used to kiss me." Mildly irritated, he reached across, gave her a peck on the cheek and settled down to sleep. Thirty seconds later she said: "Then you used to bite my neck". Angrily, he threw back the bed clothes and got out of bed. "Where are you going?" she asked. "To get my teeth!"



**How bad do you have it?**

## I.T.A.R.S. Ham Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>American Airlines</b> Net 9PM 147.000	<b>Gater Trader Swap</b> M & F 3.898 MHz @ 6:00 PM <b>1st Mon</b> BAARC Meet 7PM <b>2nd Monday</b> Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society meet 7:00 pm <b>Broken Arrow</b> ARC Net 8:00PM 146.910  <b>SWOT 2 M SSB</b> Net 9 PM 144.250  <b>OKDXA Net</b> 6:30 PM 3.860	<b>Tulsa ARES/</b> <b>RACES</b> Net 9PM 146.880  <b>3rd Tue Tulsa</b> <b>Amateur Radio</b> <b>Club</b> 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 7:00 PM  <b>4th Tue</b> TRO Meet 7:30PM	<b>Bartlesville ARES</b> Net 8PM 146.760 <b>Pawhuska ARES</b> Net 9PM 146.985 <b>ATV Net 8PM</b> 147.045/421.250/9 13 <b>6 Meter FM Sim-</b> <b>plex net 9 PM</b> 50.590 <b>TESTING</b> Third Wednesday in odd numbered months 7:00 PM Tulsa, Contact Merlin Griffin WB5OSM @ 622- 2277	<b>TARC Thursday</b> <b>night net</b> 8:00 pm 145.110, and the UHF link system  <b>10 meter SSB Net</b> 9 PM, 28.305 If busy net will move up 5 KC to clear freq	<b>Gater Trader Swap</b> M & F 3.898 MHz @ 6:00 PM  <b>TARC TTT Net</b> 9 PM 145.110  <b>K5LRS Swap/Sell</b> 8 PM 146.940	<b>TARC</b> YL Net 8PM 145.110 <b>2nd Sat</b> <b>Salv Ar HF Net</b> 8AM 3.900 <b>Last Sat</b> <b>American Airlines</b> Meet 9AM <b>TESTING</b> <b>First Saturday 9:30</b> <b>AM Broken Arrow</b> Contact Jack Eg- bert N5EOO @ 918.664.1574 <b>TESTING</b> <b>Last Saturday</b> <b>10:30 AM Catoosa,</b> Contact Don Feigel, N5JK @ 455-6208

**INDIAN TERRITORY  
AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY  
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER**



**Indian Territory  
Amateur Radio  
Society**  
P.O. Box 548  
Beggs, Ok. 74421  
[www.qsl.net/kd5sdj](http://www.qsl.net/kd5sdj)



Visit the ARRL  
at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)



Membership is \$15 (\$5.00 additional family members) per year. Article deadline is the 25th of the month. Articles printed in Smoke Signals may or may not express the view of the club membership or it's officers. The club is not responsible for any articles or ads that are placed in Smoke Signals. Articles may be edited for utilization of space and content. All articles become the property of Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society unless previously copyrighted. Copyrighted articles must have approval of the author before being printed in Smoke Signals. Corrections should be sent to ITARS, at Post Office Box 548, Beggs, OK 74421.

**Indian Territory  
Amateur Radio Society  
Club Officers**  
**President:**  
James Strauss, KA5WHM  
**Vice President:**  
David Killion, KD5OND  
**Secretary:**  
Jerri Killion  
**Treasurer:**  
Joel Meeks, KC5UGY  
**Trustee/Chief Operator:**  
Dave Lugo, W5TAZ  
**Public Service Liaison**  
Tom Moore, KD5BOW  
**Public Safety:**  
Brian Jones, KD5OII  
**Newsletter Editor:**  
Dave Lugo, W5TAZ

***The ITARS  
club meeting  
will be held  
at the  
Beggs City  
Hall the second  
Monday of the  
month at  
7:00 pm.  
October 14th***

**Special thanks to the city and the Mayor of Beggs  
for allowing the club to meet there!**

**Membership Application for the  
Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Year First Licensed \_\_\_\_\_ License Class and Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member? \_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned, do hereby agree to abide by the Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society's Constitution and Bylaws, the Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations and support the Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society in, the advancement of amateur radio and public services.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Membership \_\_\_\_\_

Dues received, Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid Dues: \_\_\_\_\_

\$15.00 Regular Yearly - (\$20.00 family membership) **Also use membership application for change of address.**

