

# Smoke Signals

**ITARS, KD5SDJ**



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## **Presidential QRM**

Our little club has had a new first! We started having a once-a-week net. The new net is on simplex for now on 146.55 MHz Thursday nights at 8:00 pm. It has done well for being on such a short time with 9 check ins for the first couple of nets. The numbers dropped of a bit after that, but we really haven't advertised it much, just some email notification. Everyone be sure and check in.

The news on the re-

peater is bad and good. The repeater for now is in my shed, due to unforeseen circumstances it needed to be moved from Dave's. I will try and get it up temporarily at my place real soon.

The good news is we may have a shot at a location, but I don't want to spill the beans till we know more details.

I write this on September one, not really the start of fall, but it is just around the corner. Autumn

**September, 2003**



is my favorite time for Amateur Radio, dx seems to improve even for VHF, so everyone be sure and listen up and check in to our simplex net, we could get some far off contacts going if the net lasts long enough.

Cya at the next meeting. 73,  
Bill, NI5X.

## **From the Editor**

It's been a busy month for me this month. I have been taking care of personal business and as a result I have not had much time to devote to ham radio.

We had our monthly meeting at the Sunshine Café in Mounds this month. Tom's friend J.R. came again and attended.

Tom is looking good after his time in the hospital. I think the Café had to put on an extra pot of coffee to accommodate him.

Joel and his brother in law Randy was put in charge of helping to locate a place for our club repeater to go. We may have a good place for it in the works and we will

keep you advised as we learn more.

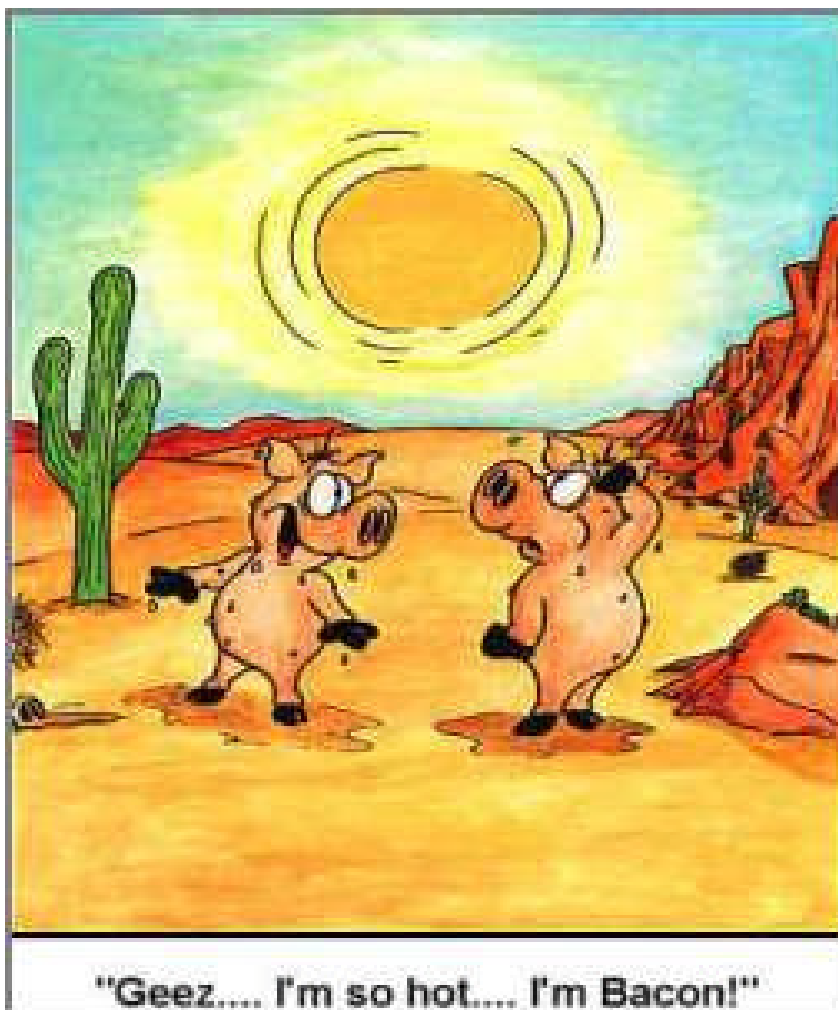
I see where ICOM is coming out with a new rig that is supposed to replace their IC 781 HF model. It seems to have everything a ham could want in a new rig, it even does PSK-31 and RTTY. Good looking rig! Price? \$10,000! Order yours today!

**DE W5TAZ**

## Ten More Undeniable HamTruths

Glenn C. Peck (KE5GK)

1. A clean ham shack is an oxymoron.
2. The rare DX will be on while you're on vacation.
3. The higher the tower, the greater the TVI complaints.
4. Your grandchildren are more likely to become hams than your children.
5. Hamfest attendance is inversely related to the price of gasoline.
6. Lightning will always hit the expensive gear first.
7. Whistling "CQ" in the dark deters muggers.
8. The older the ham club president, the fewer young members.
9. Computer Nerds think that Hams are the real weirdo's.
10. Junk boxes will never, never contain the last part needed to complete a project.



## UPDATE ON RETAINING THE MORSE CODE

The current policy of the ARRL is to support the retention of the International Morse Code as a testing requirement. Having said that, at the July board meeting it was decided that the directors would survey their members to see what their opinions are now. Having already done that, I thought I would share the results with you. I have received well over 400 responses to the question of what the ARRL's position should be. At this point in

time I have 210 that favor keeping the code and 192 that favor eliminating it. I have read each and every one of them and some were quite long. There was a great deal of logical thinking in some of the replies and others were filled with emotion. I understand that this is a difficult issue. However, I have decided to go with the majority and at this point, I will have to cast my vote on the side of those in favor of keeping the Morse as a test



requirement in some form. That's it for now. I'm looking forward to seeing you at Summerfest in Austin.

Coy, N5OK

## *Jim Cartmell, KD5EJW Silent Key*

Jim Cartmell, KD5EJW, A friend and member of the Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society passed away Monday August 4th.

Jim was a long time resident of Owasso Oklahoma. Born in Pawnee Oklahoma in 1929 he lived a long and very rich life.

Jim and I met in 1998 right after I was introduced to the wonderful world of amateur radio. He was one of the first hams that came into my life.

Jim was a night owl like many of us. He would get up at all hours and have to make that arduous journey down the hall and try to do it without stumping his toe. If toe stumpage occurred and a yell, Which often accompanies toe stumpage, would come out, he was always worried he would "Wake the little woman!"

Jim's wife, "The little woman" is named Hazel. Jim and her were married many wonderful years. She had the daunting task of keeping this spirited man in line. Hazel devoted her life to this task and was successful most of the time.

In all reality, Jim adored his wife. During our late night conversations we often talked about our wives. I have never met a man who loved a mate any more than Jim. He was a devoted family man and was always mindful of what his wife needed or was thinking.

Jim and Hazel have a little place just north of Owasso and have a Daughter named Doris who lived next door to them.

Together they watched out for one another and worked their land as an extended family. Their place was like a park, well maintained very pleasing to the eye.

Jim loved gardening, each year he and the family would plant a garden full of vegetables and watermelon, cantaloupes and the such.

People were drawn to Jim for his kind and gentle nature. He was a people person, he always had a kind word for everyone, even those who wronged him received kind words from the gentle man.

Religion was a part of his life, he trusted god to do with him whatever he saw fit to do. He often accepted things for what they were because that's what god had intended for him.

What tickled me most about Jim was his relationship with his wife. Jim was a big man, physically! Hazel is a small framed woman who looks timid to me. But Jim, This big man, was always afraid of making her mad.

Jim loved his hobby of amateur radio, anytime he saw a radio he wanted, he would try to figure out how to get it and do so with his wife's permission.

Apparently Hazel felt Jim had enough radios. Is that possible? Can a ham radio operator have enough radios? Many of our nights together on the air were spent talking about radios and how we could come up with them.

This is what I will miss most about my old friend being gone,

our mindless conversations on the radio at an insane time in the wee morning hours when there was no one else around to listen. Many a lonely night was made easier to deal with because of Jim and his wonderful company.

The last time I had the opportunity to chat with him was about 4-5 hours before he passed away, we talked as we usually do and I wore out before him and cleared off. Had I known this was to be my last QSO with this beloved man, I would have mustarded up a little more energy and enjoyed him for the last time, a little longer.

### **In Loving Memory For Jim**

Please don't sing sad songs for me,  
Forget your grief and fears.  
For I am in a perfect place,  
Away from pain and tears.  
I'm far away from hunger, And  
hurt, and want and pride.  
I have a place in heaven, With  
the master at my side.  
My life on earth was very good,  
As earthly lives can go.  
But paradise is so much more,  
Than anyone can know.  
My heart is filled with happiness,  
A sweet rejoicing too!  
To walk with god in perfect  
peace, And joy forever new.

For Jim, By Terri Lugo

So today we said our fair well's to Jim, saddened by the loss of this man who's presence on the air will be missed by many, but not soon forgotten!

**Jim Cartmell, KD5EJW SK  
1929—2003**

Rest easy my friend, Until we  
log you again.

**73, SK DE W5TAZ**

# Okmulgee **DAILY TIMES** *News*

## ***Ham radio club hits the airways***

By CHERYL SCHUMAN / 6-27-03

A new Ham radio club has formed in Okmulgee County. The organization, Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society, has twelve members at the present time, but new members are being sought. This is a perfect opportunity for anyone that has an interest in becoming a ham radio operator, to learn from those with years of experience building and using amateur radios.

The initial start-up costs for the ham radio novice, is not costly, stated ITARS President Bill Griffin. "First thing is passing the amateur radio test," said Griffin. "A book can be purchased from Radio Shack for about six dollars. After the book is studied, then the potential ham operator can take the test."

Griffin said used radios can be purchased for \$50, new ones usually run around \$100. "To get started in this hobby takes less money than people realize," commented Griffin.

"Like with any hobby, you can spend as much as you like, but it is relative inexpensive to set up a ham radio operation." Griffin said he has built much of his equipment himself. This is called "brewing". "You home-brew your own radios and antennas," said Griffin. "I just put up a new 40 foot tower recently."

The more advanced or higher licensed a ham radio operator becomes, the farther abroad they will be able to send and receive radio messages. "The first license is called "technician", with this license an operator can broadcast locally," said Griffin. "However, the orbiting satellites now can enable further communication. When I first got my technicians license, I talked with someone in Canada." Gone are the days of "over", "out" and "roger", said ITARS member Dave Lugo.

"Talking on a Ham radio is as easy as talking on the telephone," stated Lugo. "The only requirement is you have to say your 'call sign' every ten minutes." The federally issued call sign is a series of letters and numbers, the numbers indicate which portion of the United States the operator lives. This area of Oklahoma has a "5" call. Example: NI5X or W5TAZ, etc.

"A lot of radio operators frown on using the old over, out, roger words," said Griffin. "Although, you can say 'over' or 'back to you', to indicate it is the other person's turn to talk." Both Griffin and Lugo said absolutely no profanity is allowed on the amateur radios. "To do so could cause the operator's license to be taken away," stated Lugo.

A big part of ham radio is public service, said Griffin. "We help out the local Emergency Operations Center in Tulsa," said Griffin. "We also help out the National Weather Service." Lugo said, "anytime you are watching one of the Tulsa TV stations and they are giving out storm information, they are getting it from the National Weather Service, who in turn, are getting the weather updates from guys like us."

Continuing Griffin said, "it is true that they have the weather radar, but they can't see what is happening on the ground. That is where the amateur radio operator comes in." Griffin said they relay information such as whether funnel clouds, or tornadoes are forming, or how large the hail is coming down.

Ham operators are world-wide, said Griffin. He has talked with other operators in Japan and Italy. Even at that distance, the reception is very clear. "If the conditions are right, you really don't even need to use very high power," stated Griffin. Both Griffin and Lugo agreed Ham radio operating is a hobby the entire family can enjoy. "Kids really like talking on the radio and are capable of passing the technician's test and getting their license at an early age," said Lugo. The radio set-up itself only takes up the amount of space a computer would occupy. "Or less," said Lugo.

The ITARC will have an activity at Kiddy Lake, 12:00 noon on Saturday, June 28, 2003. "Folks can come out, use our call sign and talk on the radio," said Griffin. "We invite anyone, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4Hers, everyone that wants to learn more about becoming an amateur radio operator, to come out to Kiddy Lake and pay us a visit!"

For more information about the ITARC Activity Day, please call Bill Griffin at 232-8487 or David Lugo at 267-5136.



## Photos from ITARS meeting....



Last month's ITARS club meeting was moved to the Sunshine Café in Mounds. We used to meet here and moved to Steak and Egg in Okmulgee for a while. Above is our fearless leader Bill, NI5X. I think if he would gain a little weight he would resemble Jerry Garcia of the Grateful Dead. At top right we see J.R. and Tom's wife Carol, KD5ESM. Below left is Tom, KD5BOW doctoring his coffee, left is Joel, KC5UGY making a quick getaway to keep from paying his bill.







In these photos we see Randy Trail, top left and Tom, KD5BOW trying to line Bill, NI5X out, as Bill's wife Monica, KD5VSS can attest to, this is a full time job, looks like Tom is up to the challenge!

**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, severe wx, photos, for sale page and much more.**

## HAMS A BRIGHT SPOT DURING POWER BLACKOUT

When a power blackout struck at least a half dozen eastern states August 14, many Amateur Radio operators were ready and able to provide whatever assistance they could. Hardest hit were metropolitan areas like New York City, Detroit and Cleveland. In New York, residents and commuters found themselves stranded in electricity-dependent elevators and subway or rail cars while visitors ended up stuck at airports, which were forced to shut down. With the cellular systems overloaded or out altogether, the incident turned into a test of Amateur Radio's capabilities to operate without commercial power.

"It was a good drill," said New York City-Long Island Section Emergency Coordinator Tom Carrubba, KA2D. But, he adds, it was a cautionary tale too. "The lesson is that everybody gets a little complacent," he said. "Have emergency power backup and make sure it's working!"

By and large, Carrubba said, ARES members did what they were trained to do. "It's going to show the worth of Amateur Radio," he said of the

blackout response. "There were people on the air immediately."

Diane Ortiz, K2DO, the Public Information Coordinator for NYC-Long Island was one of them. When power went down in her Suffolk County community, she started up an informal VHF net. Over the next 20 hours or so, it passed some 500 pieces of what Ortiz described as largely "health-and-welfare traffic."

"People are getting on and helping," she said. In addition to handling messages for people stranded in the city, amateurs also relayed useful information, such as which stores or filling stations were open and operating. With many radio and TV stations dark, and hams were able to help fill the information void, Ortiz said.

In the Big Apple itself, ARES teams provided communication support for Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs) set up at main transportation centers in Manhattan. ARES members also accompanied ERVs on fire calls. RACES activated in most Greater New York City area

counties after a state of emergency was declared. Some ARES teams—including a few across the Hudson River in New Jersey—activated or remained on standby to help if called upon. In New Jersey, a net linked the Red Cross lead chapter's N2ARC in Princeton with other New Jersey ARC chapters. Michigan Section Manager Dale Williams, WA8EFK, reports scattered ARES activations. Williams, who lives in Dundee south of Detroit, was without power August 15 and relying on his emergency generator. Some Michigan ARES teams assisted emergency operations centers and the Red Cross.

In Ohio, Section Emergency Coordinator Larry Rain, WD8IHP, reports that all ARES organizations in northern Ohio were activated after the power grid went down. Still going strong at week's end were ARES teams in Cleveland and Akron. "ARES is handling communication support for Ohio Emergency Management in the affected cities and communities," Rain said. Ohio VHF and UHF nets and the Ohio SSB net on HF have been handling blackout-related traffic.

Nancy Hall, KC4IYD—who lives 20 miles west of Cleveland—said she's glad she'd taken the ARRL Emergency Communications Level I class. "I have to say that being a ham and knowing about emergency preparedness did make life easier for me and my family," said Hall, who's now signed up for the Level II class.

New England states were far less affected by the blackout. ARES/RACES operators in the region were on standby after the blackout. Only Connecticut and sections of Western Massachusetts reported significant outages, and ARES nets activated in both states.

Bill Sexton, N1IN/AAR1FP, an Army MARS member, said his emergency power capability permitted him to check into the Northeast SHARES (National Communications System HF Shared Resources Program) net and maintain e-mail contact after Berkshire County lost power.

"The experience proved once gain the great strength of ham radio in an emergency," Sexton said. "It is self-starting, and it is everywhere."

Taken from ARRL newsletter.



# Griffin Electronics

## Griffin Electronics is now selling RF parts!

*I will try to keep on hand:*

**PL-259 and reducers for RG8X**

**BNC to uhf adaptors**

**N type to uhf adaptors**

**panel mount SO-239**

**bulkhead uhf**

**uhf couplers**

**Will soon have at least RG8X coax, possibly others.**

**Can take orders as well.**

**Also, lots of transistors, capacitors, resistors.**

*Let me know what else you would like for me to keep around. All parts cheaper than Rat Shack. Most of these parts I will try and keep with me in my truck so I can sell when I see you.*

**Griffin Electronics: 13161 S. Memorial**

**(in the Computer Homecare Store)**



# Morons

## MORON #1

A man walked into a Louisiana Circle-K, put a \$20 bill on the counter and asked for change. When the clerk opened the cash drawer, the man pulled a gun and asked for all the cash in the register, which the clerk promptly provided. The man took the cash from the clerk and fled, leaving the \$20 bill on the counter. The total amount of cash he got from the drawer? \$15. (If someone points a gun at you and gives you money, was a crime committed?)

## MORON #2

A thief burst into a Florida bank one day wearing a ski mask and carrying a gun. Aiming his gun at the guard, the thief yelled, "FREEZE, MOTHER-STICKERS, THIS IS A \*\*\*\*-UP!" For a moment, everyone was silent. Then the snickers started. The guard completely lost it and doubled over laughing. It probably saved his life, because he'd been about to draw his gun. He couldn't have drawn and fired before the thief got him. The thief ran away and is still at large. In memory of the event, the banker later put a plaque on the wall engraved, "Freeze, mother-

stickers, this is a \*\*\*\*-up!"

## MORON #3

Seems this Arkansas guy wanted some beer pretty badly. He decided that he'd just throw a cinderblock through a liquor store window, grab some booze, and run. So he lifted the cinderblock ! and heaved it over his head at the window. The cinderblock bounced back and hit the would-be thief on the head, knocking him unconscious. Seems the liquor store window was made of Plexi-Glass. The whole event was caught on videotape.

## MORON #4

As a female shopper exited a New York convenience store, a man grabbed her purse and ran. The clerk called 911 immediately and the woman was able to give them a detailed description of the snatcher. Within minutes, the police apprehended the snatcher. They put him in the car and drove back to the store. The thief was then taken out of the car and told to stand there for a positive ID. To which he replied, "Yes Officer, that's her. That's the lady I stole the purse from."

## MORON #5

The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into a Burger King in Ypsilanti, Michigan at 5 am, flashed a gun and demanded cash. The clerk turned him down because he

said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order. When the man ordered onion rings, the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast. The man, frustrated, walked away.

## MORON #6

Kentucky: Two men tried to pull the front off a cash machine by running a chain from the machine to the bumper of their pickup truck. Instead of pulling the front panel off the machine, though, they pulled the bumper off their truck! Scared, they left the scene and drove home. With the chain still attached to the machine. With their bumper still attached to the chain. With their vehicle's license plate still attached to the bumper. They were quickly arrested.

## MORON #7 - A 5-STAR STUPIDITY AWARD WINNER!!

When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on a Seattle Street, he got much more than he bargained for. Police arrived at the scene to find an ill man curled up next to a motor home near spilled sewage. A police spokesman said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline and plugged his siphon hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the vehicle declined to press charges, saying that it was the best laugh he'd ever had.

# 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/ RACES</b> Net 9PM 146.880  <b>3rd Tue Tulsa Amateur Radio 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</b> 8PM 147.045/421.250/9 13 <b>6 Meter FM</b> Sim- plex net 9 PM 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
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**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)

*Smoke Signals is the Official  
Newsletter of the  
Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society*

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:**

Bill Griffin, NI5X

**Vice President:**

Tom Moore KD5BOW

**Secretary:**

Carol Moore, KD5ESM

**Treasurer:**

Joel Meeks, KC5UGY

***The ITARS club  
meeting will be  
held at the  
Sunshine Café  
in Mounds the  
second Monday  
of the month at  
7:00 pm.  
September 8th***

**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.**