

# *Smoke Signals*

*ITARS, KD5SDJ*

*November, 2002*



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## **Presidential QRM**

Greetings,  
The echo link that was up and running on the 145.320 repeater has been moved to 147.420 simplex. Due to circumstances beyond anyone's control it may not ever make it's

way back to the repeater. The system was and still is working great. I still urge everyone who can access this system to use it and enjoy it. The club is still in search of a repeater to put up and



**James, KA5WHM**

several options are being explored. Don't forget the meeting this month.

**James,  
KA5WHM**

## **From the Editor**

Boy oh boy did this month just drag on for ever or what? Last months meeting was a little informal but I'm glad to announce that Brian, KD5OII showed up so those of you who have heard the rumors of his untimely demise can be relieved. I have taken up writing articles for a

couple of publications again and for those of you interested you will find them in several places. The first is the articles page of QRZ. The second is the newsletter and web page of the TARC. Their web page is [www.qsl.net/w5ias](http://www.qsl.net/w5ias). Once you get there look for a section called Dave's walkabout. The

same articles are on our club web page at [www.qsl.net/kd5sdj](http://www.qsl.net/kd5sdj) in the section labeled newsletters and articles. We are going to have a hamburger cook out in the near future and the date will be announced by word of mouth. Please listen up and plan on attending. Everyone is welcome! 73 till next month.

**DE W5TAZ**

## ***You Never Know Where You'll Talk...***

***By Don, AE6AT***

It's all magic I say... Having been a Ham for almost a year now I am still in awe of the ability to communicate over such long distances with such seemingly inadequate equipment. The other night I was listening to the radio and heard a guy calling CQ. After each call he would talk to someone for a short time, give a signal report, and then call again or say quearezed. There were a lot of people all talking at once and he just answered one at a time like he could hear what they were saying. I decided he would be able to hear me too, somehow, so I called him by saying my call sign like everybody else was doing only I gave my whole call sign. To my immense surprise he answered me immediately by saying my call sign and giving

me a signal report something like five-nine and saying his quieteaich was Tasmania. Tasmania? Tasmania? TASMANIA! That must be where he is. Can you imagine a more exotic sounding place than Tasmania? Maybe Hollywood or Palm Beach, but still very exotic. This is truly a magical thing. I put up a couple hundred feet of twenty-two gauge magnet wire and connect it to the back of my radio thru a tuner, like the guy in HRO said, and people on the other side of the world can hear me. Not only that but it apparently doesn't take any time for the sound to get there or get back. And imagine if he was standing next to me. I would be staring at his feet and he at mine. I can visualize him holding a mic in some rain forest

(read Jungle) with snakes and vines dangling around him and an antenna stuck against a tree and, oh man, talking to me upside down. Is there a better definition of magic? I feel like I mastered the Ham radio thing now but there are some things I don't understand. Let me give you a little background. Last October I took the Technician and Code tests, in November I took the General and in December I took the Extra... got a radio for Christmas (thanks Rose Marie for indulging my foibles) and listened to it for a couple of weeks and then put up the afore mentioned antenna. The signal quality improved and I tried transmitting to someone named Russ in Washington, he answered me and gave me a signal report and said something like queesoh that sounded like a question. So I answered it by saying queesoh. Now that I have listened to more people, I think he said queesel and I think it means: Did you get that? I think queesel is a card so I am not sure if this is right. Maybe one of the people on this web site would know. This language that is apparently used and understood only on the radio is another of the many magical things about Hamdom. After I talked to Gerry in Tasmania I went outside and looked for my antenna, I couldn't see it at night but I imagined it there in front of the star filled black sky and thought of Tasmania, so, so far away, and that I had just talked to someone there. The feeling was one of awe, incredulity and disbelief. It just has to be magic.

## ***Web Page of the month***

I would like to invite you to The Side Winders On Two Radio Club website at [www.swotvhf.org](http://www.swotvhf.org) this page has all the information plus helpful links about SWOT, 2 meters and propagation. Also I would like to remind everyone that we now have a net from EM25 on Saturday Nights at 9 pm, everyone is welcome to join us, the pre-net starts at 8:45 pm looking east. If you are a paid SWOT member you are eligible to get a your call sign@swotvhf.org email ad-

dress and get access to the members only section which has all of the past years newsletters and downloadable file section. We are also adding in the near future a real time chat room and SWOT trader page and bulletin board.

73

John R. Petersen KM5ES  
SWOT #3331

Side Winders On Two  
Radio Club Chairman

# Feeling Left Out?

By Rob Sobkoviak, N9AJA

Sometimes I sit back and wonder what it must be like to have happened upon ham radio in a way other than I did. What if I was 15 or 16 or even 25 or 30 and learned about this thing called ham radio. What if I knew nothing about ham radio and what it was like in the "old days?"

*A Child's View of Ham Radio in the Old Days.* My dad is a ham (WA9NYO), and I grew up in a house with a tower with beams and verticals on it; a house with the sights, sounds and smells (yes, smells) of ham radio. The smell of hot solder & melted rosin, the shrill sounds of SSB being tuned in and the calls of "CQ CQ CQ", the smell of dust frying on tubes that are heating up, the jolt you get from a bad ground after leaning up against a steel Hammarlund cabinet, and turning off the light in the ham shack to see the glow of the tubes through that Hammarlund's perforated case! And ah...that first burn from a soldering iron ("that'll teach you!")

I guess I just had a natural interest in amateur radio. As a lad, I was fed spoonfuls of RF with my mashed peas. My dad's drawers of resistors, coils, connectors and wire made up the candystore glass showcase that I pressed my nose up against. I was a kid with the ham radio bug.

Now that I have kids and as I think back to my youth, I don't think my dad really wanted me to take an interest in *his* hobby. I think he valued the time he had to himself--the time he had to do his own thing. But it was my dad who took me to my first ham fest at Santa Fe Speedway and bought me my first rig, the Knight Star Roamer. With a long-wire antenna, I was soon on my way to tuning in many more stations than I could on the all-band portable that I had been using. My dad was sharing *his* hobby with me.

My dad sacrificed a corner of his ham shack for that Star Roamer...and then the Realistic DX-200. He cleaned off a shelf for me to put my soldering iron

and tools. Then he cleaned off another shelf for more gear and paraphernalia that I was importing into his ham shack. Ham radio had become *our* hobby. I enjoyed being an SWL, and though I built a code practice oscillator and bought a theory book, I never did commit to getting my ticket.

I got involved in high school activities, then college, then work and then starting a family, but the ham bug bit again. After getting the material I needed, I was once again (though almost 20 years later) studying for my license. I got my Technician license and got active in our area ham club. Then I upgraded to General class and get more involved in emergency communication. And I enjoy talking with the 45 years old and up hams about the "old days". The old days were pretty cool and classy...especially the memories I have--those of a child at the time. Thanks, Dad, for making your hobby accessible to me.

*Becoming a Ham Today--Being the Ham of Tomorrow.* If you come from a background with no electronics or radios, you really are no different than many other hams. Lots of hams figured it all out for themselves with no Elmers. Lots of hams took the first steps on their own, often not really understanding the hobby (or lifestyle) that they were entering.

A lot of these hams will go on to have a child (like I was) who will find their way into the hobby whether you want it or not. Some of these hams will cause a neighbor...child or adult...to ask about those funny looking antennas on the tower. Some of these hams, wearing RACES or ARES insignia, will inspire a grateful member of the community to find out more about our hobby.

Ham radio needs to be accessible to people. We hams need to welcome in people that would like to be in our hobby. Hams need to be thoughtful with questions from people new to the hobby. There is no place in this hobby for "hazing" new folks, even if the rules for obtaining a license have changed. If a person is licensed by the FCC, then he or she is a ham...that's

the only requirement. To me it doesn't matter if they know the code or not (if they're a Technician class) because they are interested in the hobby--interested enough to learn about it, take an exam and shell out money for a transceiver. If they go on to know CW at 5 wpm or 15 wpm, it doesn't matter to me because they took the time to learn what was required of them and didn't complain about it.

People who become hams today, when they are much further along in life, will look back at today as the old days. They will talk about CW, they will talk about non-duplex communication, they will talk about transceivers that were as big as an ashtray (and people will ask "what's an ashtray?"), they will talk about those monochrome LCD displays...they will talk about all of these things with a gleam in their eyes. They will look back on the old days fondly, though some may complain about the new modes and rules of the day.

But if we don't make ham radio accessible and make new hams feel welcome, there won't be any old days 20 years from now. If we make someone feel lousy who can't possibly comprehend the old days because they weren't there, then people will stop joining our merry little band of communicators. Then we will lose our spectrum for lack of use, and when people say "do they still do that" when they talk about ham radio the answer will be "no".

So why not monitor 2m every now and then, and when one of those new hams with a new prefix gets up the nerve to say "KC9XXX listening", why not call him back and welcome him to ham radio. Then clear a shelf off for him and teach him a little bit about ham radio. Tell him the difference between an HT and a mobile rig. Tell him how much better a beam is than a dipole. Tell him the difference between RG-58 and RG-8. Answer his questions without making him feel dumb. Be an Elmer, not a Fudd.

**Rob Sobkoviak, N9AJA**

## Epiphany:

A sudden manifestation of the essence or meaning of something. A comprehension or perception of reality by means of a sudden intuitive realization

It was a dark and stormy night as I sat by the radios and listened for anything interesting. The weather was raging with the anger of a typhoon, high wind, heavy rain, hail and high anxiety. As with most who live in this part of the country I had already unplugged the coax and neatly wrapped then in a water tight bag. They were hung outside the shack on a iron post that is not only driven into the earth a few feet but grounded for a little extra safety from the lightening. Now I'm not sure how well this system of mine will work if I ever take a direct hit, but I do know it beats having nothing. Lightening is a funny thing, as most of you know it will follow the path of least resistance and it is dead set on eating everything in it's path. This day I unplugged everything and had it hung out the window, we were sitting and watching TV when the phone rang. I know, your thinking, "Don't answer the phone you idiot!" but I did! We had a couple of near misses and nothing was thought about it by yours truly. The wife got excited and my pups got off the bed and left the room rather quickly. My dad taught me to watch the signs of mother nature many years ago and generally I follow this as a rule for day to day living. This day it never dawned on me that I was about to have a bad day

weather wise. I have everything in my shack grounded, everything! When I felt the jolt pulsate through my body I flung the telephone as though I had been bitten by a snake. With my arm numb and feeling like a blown fuse in the fuse box of life I tried to gain my composure and figure out what had happened. The first thing I remember was my dogs looking at me through the doorway as though they were trying to figure out weather to console me for my obvious distress or come over and hike a leg on me to stop the smoke rolling out of me. (I've still not figured out what part of me the smoke came out of) when you get an epiphany you tend to know it straight away. For instance, Recently I was weed eating the yard and wondered to close to one of my outside dogs. Did you know when you hit a doggy land mine with one of those souped up straight shaft weed eaters they explode with the force of a cherry bomb in a pop can? Now I'm not talking about the wimpy little cherry bombs you buy on the market today. I'm talking about the ones us older fella's remember that you could get back in the 50's and early 60's. My god I'm glad my mouth was closed at the time. I have lots of whiskers on my face and thank god they slowed down all the incoming fragments of doggy do. Afterwards my wife came to the door upon hearing all my "special words" I usually reserve for my drunken friends to see what was going on. By the

time she got there I was standing in the yard with the only tool I had at the time, a screwdriver, doing my best to defrag myself. This day I had another epiphany, don't weed eat around the outside dogs, ever! Any way, back to the lightening. It was not a direct hit, but it seemed to come in on the ground side. It burned a trace across the Diamond sx 200 meter but didn't seem to hurt it otherwise. It killed my big power supply which I miss dearly. I run a Kenwood TS-520-se in the house for an HF rig and it has an outboard digital display which was built by Mike Poole, KB5UUR. May it find more peace in the next life than it found sitting on my shelf looking so impressive. I now have a cordless phone I plug in and use on those dark and stormy nights in Oklahoma. I have a friend named Heinz, W5UIP in Tulsa that has had a worse experience than myself. He lost some very expensive gear to lightning. It pays to have some type of protection. There are commercial products on the market that provide some protection, just how well they work I'm not sure. Everything you have must be grounded! It's one thing to lose a little gear, and yet another to lose your house or your life. My lesson learned? When it comes to lightening, you can never be to safe, and oh yea, watch out for those doggy land mines. You know, my wife made me strip off outside before she let me in the house. My neighbors are still in therapy! **DE W5TAZ**

## Automatic Position Reporting System

**What is APRS?** APRS stands for **Automatic Position Reporting System**. APRS is a system developed by Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, which uses amateur radio to transmit position reports, weather reports, and messages between users. APRS is the result of over 17 years of trying to use packet radio for real-time communications or public service events. Packet radio has great potential but so far has been best used for passing large volumes of message traffic from point to point or into the national distribution system. It has been difficult to apply packet to real time events where information has a very short life time. APRS avoids the complexity and limitations of a connected network. It permits any number of stations to exchange data just like voice users would on a voice net. Any station that has information to contribute simply sends it, and all stations receive it and log it. Secondly, APRS recognizes that one of the greatest real-time needs at any special event or emergency is the tracking of key assets. What are some specific applications for APRS? **SPACE APPLICATIONS:** APRS is a solution to the effective use of orbiting packet digipeaters. APRS capitalizes on this most fascinating aspect of the amateur radio hobby, and that is the display on a map of the location of those stations. **FOX HUNTING OR DIRECTION FINDING:** APRS will display the intersection of bearing lines from a number of reporting stations and also overlapping signal strength contours if only signal strengths are reported. It includes the Fade-Circle Search and Rescue technique which can be used by a

mobile with only an OMNI antenna to locate a hidden transmitter. There is an optional Doppler DF registration for direct connection to a Roanoke or Doppler Systems DF unit for automatically plotting and transmitting instantaneous DF bearings. **WEATHER STATION REPORTING:** APRS position reports can also include the wind speed and direction, as well as other important weather conditions. All weather stations show up as a bright blue circle, with a line indicating wind speed and direction. APRS also has a database of the locations of most NWS sites for instant display and can also crunch a file of NWS hourly WX conditions and update all NWS stations on the map. Finally, users can set WX alarms and be alerted when WX conditions exceed those values.

### APRS Questions and Answers

**Q.** I see some station icons with a Blue Circle and a line coming out of it, moving around. What kind of station is this? This is an integrated weather station, and the line signifies the direction at which the wind is originating. The longer the line, the higher the wind speed.

**Q.** What are those green stars I see on the map display?

**A.** Those represent digipeaters. APRS digipeaters will repeat packets sent to their call sign, or their alias. Most digipeaters use the alias of WIDE. The Valdosta Amateur Radio Club's digipeater operates on 144.390 under the call sign of KF4BJM and the alias of WIDE.

**Q.** I want to put up a WIDE area digipeater, what equipment do I need?

**A.** The basic necessities of an APRS WIDE digipeater site include a mobile-type radio capable of surviving numerous and rapid key ups (Our KF4BJM digipeater averages about 12,000 transmissions every week), a TNC with APRS compatible firmware set in digipeat mode (cmd:

DIGI ON), an antenna system capable of withstanding the elements, good coax (We use 7/8" hardliner), a power supply, we suggest using cavities or filters, and of course, a site! If there is already an APRS WIDE digipeater in your area, contact the owner of the other digipeater(s) to make sure your digipeater won't cause any packet looping or any other type of interference.

**Q.** I want to put a mobile APRS in my car, and have it track, what equipment do I need?

This is one of the more fun applications of APRS; vehicle tracking. There are several ways to easily implement a tracker in your vehicle. If you already have a 2M mobile then all you need is a TNC and GPS. The GPS needs to output NMEA data, and there are a host of models available from Garmin, Magellan, Delorme, and others. The popular new way to go is the new Kenwood D7A portable radio with the built-in TNC and APRS. The D7A has ports on the side for a PC, and NMEA GPS data. You can set parameters such as MYCALL and MYALIAS along with your protocols with the built-in TNC. If you go with the new D7A, all you will need is the radio and a GPS unit that outputs NMEA data!

**Q.** What kind of computer do I need to operate APRS?

**A.** There are versions of APRS for DOS, Windows, Macintosh, Palm III, and UNIX. Practically any computer will work. Of course a newer computer will work fastest, but an older 486 beefed up with Windows 95, or Macintosh 68040 with extra RAM will work just fine.

**Q.** Where do I get the software, and how much does it cost?

**A.** Most versions of APRS software are shareware, and can be found on the TAPR web site at: <http://www.tapr.org/>. Additionally you may want to try the APRS at Rutgers at: <http://aprs.rutgers.edu/> web site for



## ***Automatic Position Reporting System Continued:***

some good stuff. The enclosed read-me files that come with your APRS software will tell you how much it costs to get a validation number. For APRSdos it's about \$30, for Mac and WinAPRS about \$60. These small fees pay the developer for his time and efforts, and help keep him interested in improving the software. Once you pay, you're already validated for new versions which are always coming out.

**Q.** What if I don't want to validate my APRS software. Will it still work?

**A.** APRS software will work just fine even without a validation number. By inserting a validation number APRS allows you to SAVE a configuration file that includes your call sign, location, and station information. Otherwise, you'll have to re-input the information each time you start the software.

**Q.** I've heard there's an HT with a TNC built in. What's the scoop?

**A.** You're referring to the new Kenwood TH-D7A, with SSTV, packet, and APRS capabilities built directly into the radio. I've had the opportunity to play around with a D7A on

APRS, for anyone with the extra income that likes APRS, this is one of the best ways to get started. With PC and GPS hookups right on the side of the radio, it makes your mobile APRS station easy to setup and easy to move. The D7A dual band 2m/70cm HT has all the bells and whistles you will need for a successful portable repeater voice operation, SSTV, packet, DX Cluster Reception, and an APRS station. With 200 memory channels, you will have ample space to store your most-used repeater frequencies and any other frequencies you use. Check the ham radio magazines for details, or visit Ham Radio Outlet.

**Q.** What is a Mic-E, or Mic-Encoder?

**A.** The Mic-E(ncoder) is a partial-kit from TAPR for about \$130 that connects between your microphone and mobile radio. There are automatic and manual adjustments which allow you to transmit GPS data over your radio to be received elsewhere and displayed on-screen. A GPS connects to the Mic-E and feeds position information to the radio.

**Q.** I have a gazillion more questions, how do I get them all answered?

**A.** First, read the read-me documents that come with APRS.

Next, find an APRS guru who lives nearby and solicit his help. Be patient, as there is a learning curve to becoming familiar with APRS.

**The Valdosta Amateur Radio Club has an APRS Digipeater on 144.390 MHz.**

**The call sign of our digi is KF4BJM with the alias of WIDE. Our digipeater consists of a Kenwood 50 watt radio and an Kantronics KPC 3+ at 160 feet.**

**If you have any questions or comments about our APRS station, or our Club's involvement with APRS, just email a member. Click the "Email Us" button for a list of email addresses.**

We want to thank the **Valdosta Amateur Radio Club** for allowing us to reprint this article taken off their web page.

If you are interested in APRS, on their web page you will find many links where you can go to find software programs, TNC wiring information as well as technical help for setting up a APRS system of your own.

Please visit them at  
<http://www.varc.net/>



Can you see  
the  
resemblance?  
AA5JJ



Yoda  
Can you feel  
the Love?



# ***Beware of the 'Vultures'!***

No one really likes to think about it, but someday we'll all be Silent Keys. Those who are left behind will no doubt be "stuck" with a lot of equipment and parts which they may not know how to dispose of; more precisely, how to get some of that hard-earned cash back that we invested in all that "junk". The simplest way to protect the "heirs" from being confused and possibly ripped off is to make a complete inventory of your shack and workshop. Finding the current market value of used equipment might be difficult, but a listing of purchase prices is a good start. It would be nice if local clubs had a committee, which could help by figuring out current market prices so the heirs would be able to get a decent return on our investment. Recently, I was present at an estate sale where a fellow ham offered the widow a measly \$200 for equipment that was easily worth twice that and maybe more. I paid half that amount for just one older radio! Unfortunately, there are many of these "Vultures" out there who take advantage of these situations and will take it all out to ham-fests or put it on eBay. These "vultures" are really slick businessmen who use ham radio as a vehi-

cle to make money and are seldom heard on the air unless they hear of equipment for sale. When they get to a sale they tell you it's old, outdated and they probably wouldn't be able to sell it for very much. When you hear that line, you can put your ear next to the guy's head and hear the cash register ringing! If you go to hamfests be sure to find out who the "vultures" are and never buy anything from them. Maybe they'll go away. The local ham grapevine should be able to identify these characters for you. Protect yourself and your survivors by having a complete inventory and access to honest hams who will assist your survivors in disposing of your equipment.

## **Jerry Heien, N9AVY**

Twice I have handled estate sales of a deceased friend's ham gear. Both times the "Vultures" were his "other" friends. I've been called bad names by both the sellers and the buyers. The Wife said I didn't get enough money and the buyers said I was ripping them off. Both times I took zero for myself. (in case you were wondering) As a result, I said no to the last one that asked me to do an estate sale. My best advice is to make provisions for the disposi-

tion of your ham equipment in writing before it's too late. You can list it with prices you think it's worth and get a person lined up to sell it for your spouse. Or you can give it away or whatever. But, you are doing no one a favor by asking them to sell your ham gear in case of your going SK! I was treated badly by both the family and the buyers. And the emotions I went through were bad enough. In both cases the hams that went SK were dear friends of mine. My best advice is to tell your spouse to give the gear away, first come first served. And put a donation box by the door. Do not put one of your dear friends in the position of trying to satisfy everyone. Because you cannot satisfy anyone in these cases. P.S. The one I refused to do, was bought by a few of his "friends" that put their money together. You should have heard these "sickos" laughing and talking about how they ripped off his son. Seems like the moral turpitude of people now days turns to water, when faced with a money situation. I'm just a human with my own weaknesses, But money is not worth trading "MY SOUL" for.

**I'm sure we all know someone like these people, are you one?**



**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.**

## Whatever happened to 'The Amateurs Code'?

Chris J. Smith (K1CJS)



While going through paperwork in my duties of club newsletter editor, I came across an article entitled The Amateurs Code. I read it through, mostly from curiosity, and came to the conclusion that most ham operators today do not know about it, or just do not care to follow it. Originally written by Paul M. Segal in 1928, it is as applicable today as it was then, perhaps more so.

### THE AMATEURS CODE

by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)  
The Radio Amateur is:

#### CONSIDERATE..... never

knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

**LOYAL.....** offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

**PROGRESSIVE.....** with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.

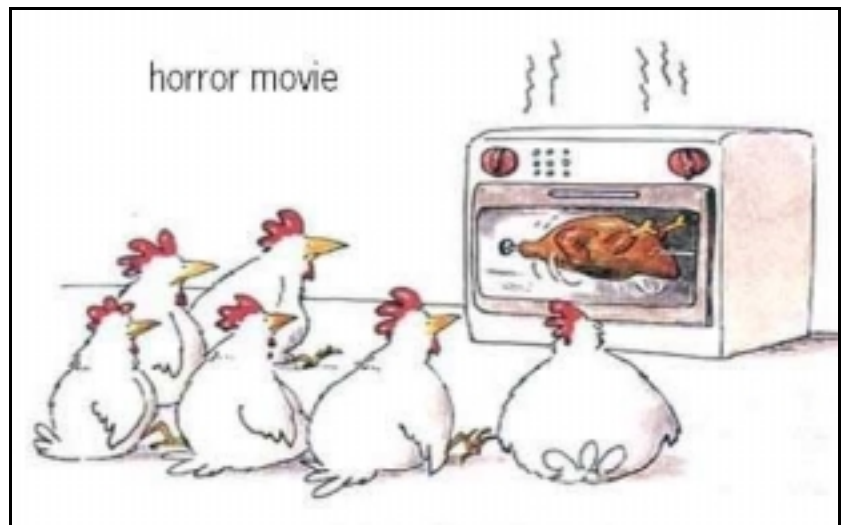
**FRIENDLY.....** with slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

**BALANCED.....** Radio is an advocacy, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

**PATRIOTIC.....** with station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

I sat back and reflected on some of the comments and operating I have heard in the time since I had gotten my ticket, and have decided that some of us, maybe more than any of us care to admit, have drifted away from the ideals Mr. Segal first put down on paper back in 1928. How many of us can truly say we try to follow this code as we operate our stations from day to day. Do we try to be considerate to other operators and listeners? Remember, others are listening to the frequency. Swearing and smart-aleky operation of our stations put us all in a bad light. Are we loyal to the spirit of the amateur service, or do we turn away when someone asks for help? Are we keeping up to date with advances in amateur radio, or do we just keep plodding along with no attempt to keep learning? Do we offer advice and help when asked, or do we brush off other amateurs who want to try to learn what we may already know? Do we stop and try to explain when a beginner seems to

not understand concepts he needs to know to advance to the next level? How many of us won't even slow down our code speed to accommodate a ham who isn't as fast on the key as we are? How many of us have just changed frequencies, leaving that operator wondering where we went? Does our family suffer because we want to get on the air whenever we can? How many of our wives (or husbands) are amateur radio widows (or widowers). How often do our children say we have to be on our radios and can't find time for them? Or, how many can say -- my daddy is helping a soldier talk to his family, and he let me help him! How many of us simply may not have ever heard of 'The Amateurs Code'? I hadn't until I came across that paper. In any case, I believe that as it is rediscovered, it should be spread to other operators, both far and wide. It is a gift, left for us by a man, ahead of his time, who truly understood what it both takes and means to be an amateur radio operator both then and now.





# On the Lighter Side

1. A HIGHER INTELLIGENCE... AT&T fired President John Walter after nine months, saying he lacked intellectual leadership." He received a \$26 million severance package. Perhaps it's not Walter who's lacking intelligence.

2. WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS! Police in Oakland, California spent two hours attempting to subdue a gunman who had barricaded himself inside his home. After firing ten tear gas canisters, officers discovered that the man was standing beside them, shouting, "Please come out and give yourself up".

3. WHAT WAS PLAN B??? An Illinois man pretending to have a gun kidnapped a motorist and forced him to drive to two different automated teller machines. The kidnapper then proceeded to withdraw money from his own bank accounts.

4. THE GETAWAY! A man walked into a Topeka, Kansas Kwik Stop, and asked for all the money in the cash drawer. Apparently, the take

was too small, so he tied up the store clerk and worked the counter himself for three hours until police showed up and grabbed him.

5. DID I SAY THAT??? Police in Los Angeles had good luck with a robbery suspect who just couldn't control himself during a lineup. When detectives asked each man in the lineup to repeat the words, "Give me all your money or I'll shoot," the man shouted, "that's not what I said!"

6. ARE WE COMMUNICATING?? A man spoke frantically into the phone, "My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart!" "Is this her first child?" the doctor asked. "No!" the man shouted, "This is her husband!"

7. NOT THE SHARPEST KNIFE IN THE DRAWER!! In Modesto, CA, Steven Richard King was arrested for trying to hold up a Bank of America branch without a weapon. King used a thumb and a finger to simulate a gun, but unfortunately, he failed to keep his hand in his pocket.

8. THE GRAND FINALE This is a true story! Last summer, down on Lake Isabella, located in the high desert, an hour east of Bakersfield, California, some folks, new to boating, were having a problem. No matter how hard they tried, they couldn't get their brand new 22-ft. Bayliner to perform. It wouldn't plane at all, and it was very sluggish in almost every maneuver, no matter how much power was applied. After about an hour of trying to make it go, they putted over to a nearby marina, thinking someone there could tell them what was wrong. A thorough topside check revealed everything in perfect working order. The engine ran fine, the out drive went up and down, the prop was the correct size and pitch. So, one of the marina guys jumped in the water to check underneath. He came up choking on water, he was laughing so hard. REMEMBER, THIS IS TRUE..... Under the boat, still strapped securely in place, was the trailer.



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
American Airlines Net 9PM 147.000	Gater Trader Swap 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	Tulsa ARES/ RACES 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	Bartlesville ARES 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	TARC Thursday <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	Gater Trader Swap 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	TARC 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)

***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:**  
James Strauss, KA5WHM  
**Vice President:**  
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**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.  
November 11th***

**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.**

