



AUGUST 2014

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FEEDBACK

JOHNSON COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS CLUB, Inc.

P.O. Box 93, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201

The Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club normally meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays, 7:30 PM at the Overland Park Christian Church (north entrance), 7600 West 75th St. (75th and Conser Streets), west of the Fire Station.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Based on the weather you can not tell it is August. Hope everyone is enjoying the unseasonable cool temperatures. I know I have been spending a lot of evenings relaxing in the backyard.

Steven Martin, K0SLM volunteered to pick up the duties of the *FEEDBACK* editor in January of 2014. He has done an excellent job and improved the look of the newsletter. When he stepped up to take on this task he said he could only do it for a little while. As we have mentioned at the last several meetings we are looking for someone to volunteer to become the editor of the *FEEDBACK*. We have asked several possible candidates with no luck. The *FEEDBACK* is one of our club's outreach activities that help the members to keep up to date on club events and activities. If you would like to become more involved with the club by serving as the *FEEDBACK* editor, please send me an email (ka2fnk@gmail.com)

Two Club events are coming up. The first is our Club sponsoring the World War I station in September. We are looking for a coordinator to line up operators. The second is the Ensor farm activities and auction. They start Friday evening October 24 with the auction beginning at Noon on Saturday the 25th. Keep looking for items for the auction.

Bill, KA2FNK, President

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BIRTHDAYS

When you get a chance, say "Happy Birthday" to the club member(s) listed below. If your birthday is not listed there, it was not listed in www.qrz.com/. But, you can email us the month and day (we don't publish the year!). We will add it to the list.

AUGUST

15 Jim McCoy W0LQV

25 Steve Rainey WD0DPB



TIDBITS

- Mobile HF Shootout Award-First Place Tie



From left, K0WJ Lon, and KCØCL Cal. (N2ØF Herb not pictured).

THIS MONTH'S MEETING SCHEDULE

Friday, August 8, 2014 7:30 pm

The program for this evening will be a Field Day Video and Report by John Raydo and Jay Greenough.

Friday, August 22, 2014 7:30 pm

Program: To Be Announced

August						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Annex Meeting

Generally a post-meeting occurs after each club meeting. Typically this starts about 8:45pm at The Pizza Shoppe, 8915 Santa Fe Dr., Overland Park, KS 66212. A pizza buffet is served including a drink – approx. \$8.20 plus tax. Their regular menu is available and also garden salads in two sizes. All are welcome.



JCRAC CLUB DUES

Remember, you have an option now on JCRAC dues; save with \$40 for TWO YEARS, as compared to the regular rate of \$24 per year. Your grandchild under the age of 18 qualifies as a member of the family for membership purposes. Dues should be received by the end of your subscription month.

Active members receive a copy of the *FEEDBACK*. Is your club membership dormant? Contact Cal, the Treasurer to bring it up to date or this can be done online – see the club website.

WHEATSHOCKER / 10M / ARES NETS

Weekly Nets

The Wheatshocker Nets are called on:

Wednesday evenings, 8 pm on 443.725 (+) PL 151.4
Thursday evenings, 8 pm on 145.29 (-) PL 151.4

10 Meter USB

On Thursday, there is usually a “round-table get-together” on or about 9:00 P.M. using 28.475 MHz USB – after the Wheatshocker Net.

ARES Net

The Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) net is also called on 145.29 at 7:00 pm local, weekly on Tuesday.

NAME BADGES – WØERH PATCHES

Name Badges

Name badges with your name, call letters, and QTH; top quality, engraved in a wide range of colors.

Contact Jim McCoy “Mac”, WØLQV at 913-648-4406 or jmsmccoy85@gmail.com.

WØERH Patches

For sale, 4" diameter multi-colored embroidered patches, with the WØERH call sign, for sale at \$3.00 ea. This will give the club a small profit on each patch.

Contact Cal Lewandowski, KCØCL at 913-961-2175 or clewando@gmail.com.

LICENSE TESTING

Testing takes place on the third Saturday of each month, at 9:00 am at the Johnson County Public Library Blue Valley Branch, 9000 West 151st St., Overland Park, KS - just west of Antioch on north side of 151st St.

There is a \$14 fee. Pre-registration is NOT required. Walk-ins are welcome!

For more information contact Jim Lee, NØKCB 913-745-5121 or e-mail: JimLee@kc.rr.com. Commercial Radio Tests are also available.

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

Come enjoy lunch with other hams. The lunch location has been updated on both the National and the Chapter 35 QCWA webpages. The icon on the local page is also a link to RC's webpage.

Local web site: www.qsl.net/qcwa35/.

National web site: www.qcwa.org/events.php.

Remember, ALL hams are invited to join with the Chapter 35 folks on Thursday, 1100 CDT, RC's, Martin City, MO. Mid-Continent Chapter 35 serves the Metro KC area in both Kansas and Missouri. Ron Wood, KØBRO is President and JCRAC club member George Yantis, KØGY is Chapter 35 Secretary and Treasurer.

Starting in January 2013 QCWA publications will be online only as one means of reducing costs. More information on QCWA and Mid-Continent Chapter events can be found at www.qcwa.org/.

ENSOR PARK AND MUSEUM

If you can visit the Ensor Park and Museum, just 5 minutes South of central Olathe but haven't, do it now and see a most interesting and original flashback to the mid-1900's. Our motto "SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT" is true.

A site map, with Ensor GPS coordinates, and much more can be seen on the website at www.w9bsp-w9ua.org/.

Larry Woodworth, WØHXS, Ensor Park and Museum Manager



Meeting Date: Friday, July 11, 2014

The meeting started at 7:30 pm.

Attendance:

Self introduction was with name and call sign. The check-in sheet had 30 signatures. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Minutes from June 27, 2014 were read and accepted with 1 opposed vote.

The Treasurer's report, as follows, was read and accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Cash on Hand	\$ 221.94
Checking Account	\$ 296.65
Savings Account	\$ 8,196.96
Total	\$ 8,715.55
Repeater Operating Reserve	\$ 592.02
Memorial Fund	\$ 150.00
Active Members	141

Old Business:

- Repeater Updates – Due to construction on the roof, the antenna for the 440 Repeater has been temporarily relocated. Sometime later this summer a permanent mount will be installed.
- Field Day – entries have been submitted, Will have more on the 2014 Field Day for the August 8 program.
- Website Update – no update
- Ensor Auction – October 24 and 25. Brian Short has item for the auction. A short discussion about bagging up items like was done with the donations from the Sheriff. All thought it was a good idea.
- Feedback Newsletter Editor needed – Steven Martin, K0SLM agreed to take on the Editor position temporarily back last fall. Still looking.

New Business:

- Club sponsoring the Sept World War I station. Meeting Saturday July 26 at the memorial. One of our members will attend.

Reports:

6m	NR
440 Wheatshocker	NR
	NR
2m Wheatshocker	NR
	NR
10m USB Roundtable	NR
HF Activity	
No Report	

Announcements:

- None

Business meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Program:

The program was Bill WA0CBW SWR measurements.

Submitted by Ted Knapp, NØTEK, Secretary.

Meeting Date: Friday, July 25, 2014

Tonight's meeting was a Fox Hunt. No official meeting took place.

Submitted by Ted Knapp, NØTEK, Secretary.

LARRY'S LIST



Larry Staples, WØAIB compiles, and makes available by e-mail, a list of Hamfests and Public Service Events in the metro Kansas City area. Please let WØAIB know of any ham-type events, with confirmed dates, scheduled to be held in the metro area in 2014.

Be sure to subscribe to Larry's List for "up-to-the-minute" email messages on many ham-related subjects! Contact lstaples@kc.rr.com.

HAMFESTS – CONFERENCES - SPECIAL EVENTS

Aug 2-3	WW1USA Special Event Station
Aug 17	Kansas State ARRL Convention, Salina, KS
Aug 22-23	Joplin Hamfest 2014
Sep 6-7	WW1USA Special Event Station
Sep 13	Santa Fe Trail Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
Sep 13	Pastur-Fest – Oregon, MO
Oct 4	Wichita Area Hamfest
Oct 18	SouthSide Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
Oct 24-25	Ensor Auction and Campout
Nov 1	Raytown Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
Nov 8	Nixa (MO) Hamfest
Dec 27-28	WW1USA Special Event Station

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Aug 02	Johnson County Fair Parade
Aug 03	Sunflowers To Roses Bike Ride
Aug 10	Midwest Meltdown
Aug 17	Jackson County Triathlon
Aug 24	Summer Breeze Bike Ride
Sep 01	Bike for the Brain Ride
Sep 13	Olathe Medical Center Women's Triathlon
Sep 13-14	MS-Ride
Sep 21	Bikers for Babies
Sep 27	American Royal Parade
Oct 11	Heartland Spirit Of The Prairie Race
Oct 12	Heart Of America Crop Walk
Oct 18	Kansas City Marathon
Oct 31	Scare-IT – Halloween

EDITOR'S NOTE

The *FEEDBACK* is published monthly for the JCRAC active membership and delivered by email. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the club or the officers.

News items and articles for the *FEEDBACK* should be in the Editor's possession by the last week of each month for publication the following month.

Hard copy versions of the *FEEDBACK* are available by special request only (one to a household). These will be printed in B&W and be mailed shortly after the online version becomes available.

A good publication starts with plenty of material. And much of that comes, or should come, from members like you. Feel free to share news. This can be anywhere from one line news items to full articles. Let's make it easy – just email these items to the editor.

The Club Officers will be considering one or more individuals - one of whom will become the Editor of the *FEEDBACK*. Just send an email to Bill, the club President at (ka2fnk@gmail.com) and let him know you are interested in the position. The newly selected Editor will pick up the duties a few weeks after. Helpful skills include:

Word processing with formatting
Photo resizing and balancing
PDF file creation with email distribution
B&W printing and mailing

Steven, K0SLM, Interim Editor

WW1USA – SPECIAL EVENT STATION

2014 Club Hosts

August 02-03 – Santa Fe Trail Amateur Radio Club
The Great War Declared

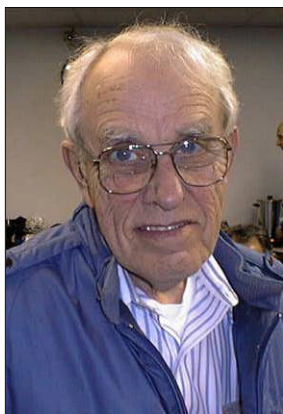
September 06-07 – Johnson County Radio Amateur Club
The Battle Of Marne

December 27-28 – Warrensburg Area Amateur Radio Club
Christmas Truce



Gene Shaprio, WØDLQ

by Tom Wheeler, NØGSG



Gene Shapiro is one of the founding members of the Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club (JCRAC). He has held the call WØDLQ, "Dog Love Queen," since at least 1960.

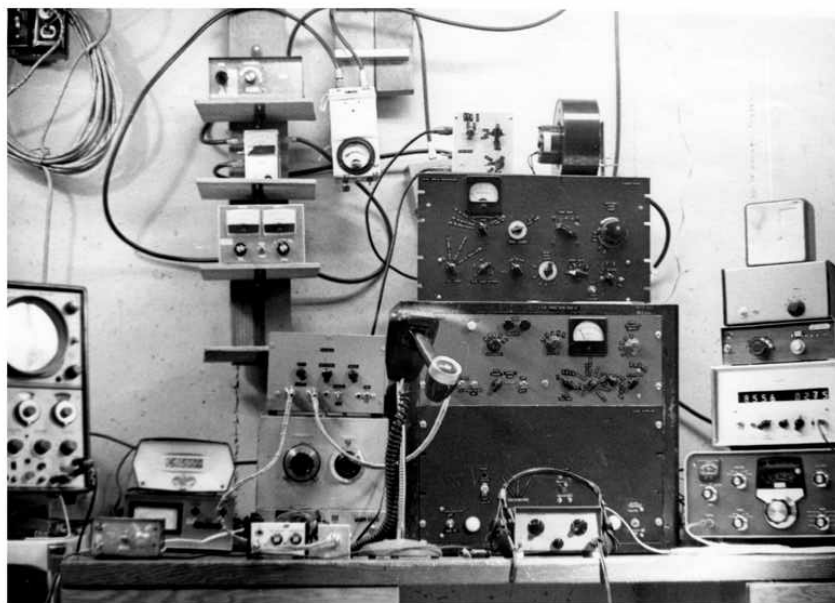
Gene is a multi-talented but modest person; a true scientist at heart, he's always been driven to delve into the "why"

behind the workings of all things, especially electronics, usually with an interest in making things work better. Like many of us, Gene started his foray into radio by building a crystal set while in his teens. He served as an Aviation Chief Radio Technician during World War II.

Upon returning from the war Gene started a family; to complement his degree in journalism, he went back to school to complete a degree in Electrical Engineering under the GI Bill. Gene then worked as a field engineer for Tektronix (the instrument company with a reputation for building "Cadillac-grade" test equipment), and eventually launched his own electronic sales and distribution company, LeeMark Associates, named after his wife and son. LeeMark served the instrumentation industry with a focus on research and medical electronics.

Over the years Gene has been a frequent contributor to many technical journals, including Ham Radio Magazine and QST Magazine. Gene often provides information to improve the performance of existing designs; for example, Gene wrote to QST to detail his improvements to the W9QB Linear Scale Ohmmeter (QST, October 1996) by substituting a higher-performance amplifier IC into the circuit, which extended the circuit's operation below 100 ohms for accurately measuring low-valued resistances.

Gene has always been fascinated (some might say obsessed!) by making instruments more accurate. As an example, the 1980s was a time when capacitance meters traditionally returned perhaps three significant digits of accuracy (for example, a 100 nF capacitor with a 5% tolerance might actually measure 103 nF on a meter from that era). That wasn't anywhere good enough for Gene - - he conceptualized and built prototype digital capacitance meters capable of rendering more than eight significant figures for a part's value. (Gene actually hand-built several of these units, refining the concept each time.)



Gene also does not suffer fools gladly and ignorance is his enemy! He has always offered honest opinions and would help anyone with a project. Many of his articles in our newsletter, dating back through

at least the 80s, offer quite a range of solid technical discussion and advice, always carefully written and

usually aimed at helping us improve our practices. Many of us have learned to be better practitioners and hams through these dialogues with Gene.

I asked Barbara Shapiro, one of Gene's two daughters, to share some memories of Gene from her childhood. She writes:

"During my childhood, Dad sold precision electronics throughout the Midwest (e.g., to research and medical centers) through his company, LeeMark Associates--named for my mother and brother, the family unit at that time. When he was home, he was an avid amateur shutterbug and, of course, ham radio operator. I think he built his first crystal set when he was 17; you should ask him about that. I recently found on his workbench a small, handmade wood and metal box marked "SHAPIRO ACRT," a relic from WWII. Dad spent most of his war service as an Aviation Chief Radio Technician in Fortaleza, Brazil, north of Rio, and he worked with dirigible airships.

What you called his "man cave" in the basement was his special area (other than the obligatory "dad chair" in the family room), and he could often be found there, listening to and talking with people all over the world, especially during contests and, if I recall correctly, sunspots, times when more bands than usual were open.

He tried to interest us in his enthusiasm for ham communications, without success, but we respected his hobby and the world it opened to him as WØDLQ. He also entertained himself by building and refining all kinds of special-purpose "boxes," which he demonstrated to us but which, alas, I rarely understood enough to appreciate. Others tell me many were ingenious.

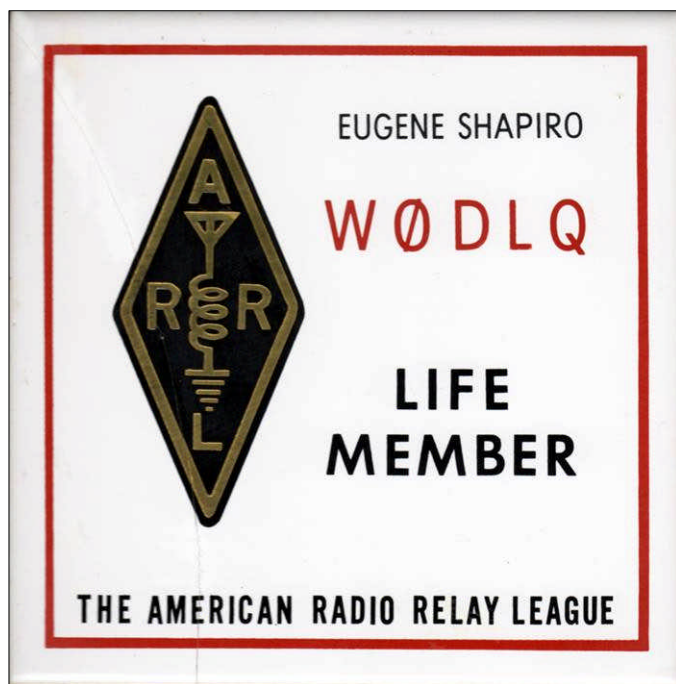
Dad has always been broadly competent; he was keenly interested in how things work and could fix almost anything. That ability was part generational - - people coming up in hard times and learning young how to do what needed to be done - - and part him. He saved odds and ends and, more often than not, could find exactly the right piece he needed to use or adapt.

One of the most admirable qualities about my father has been his lifelong learning in his fields of

interest. When, in his 80s, computers came along commercially (long after ARPANET evolved), he was amazed and wistfully expressed the wish that they'd been around when he was young. He began buying parts online and at local fairs and built many PCs, supplying the grandkids with their own mini-tower setups. My daughter was the first of her peers to have her own PC, thanks to a shipment from grandpa; she still remembers it fondly. And we were among the first of our peers to have transistor radios, thanks to Dad and his business.

Dad was born on Dec. 2, 1914. This is his 100th year. The Johnson Co. Radio Amateurs Club brought to Dad people who share that passion, and--as demonstrated by his desire to donate anything that might be of use to the club and its members--a much appreciated resource of like-minded fans of the art and technology of ham radio."

Gene will be celebrating his 100th birthday on December 2, 2014. We have all benefited from Gene's friendship and knowledge, and wish him many more birthdays to come.



Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 93
Shawnee Mission, KS 66201

