

**JOHNSON COUNTY RADIO  
AMATEURS CLUB, INC.**  
P.O. Box 93  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66201

# FEEDBACK

NOVEMBER 2018

## NOVEMBER MEETING

**November 9** -- Ron Cowan, ARRL  
Section Manager

**November 23** - No Meeting - Happy  
Thanksgiving

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

Much of the membership travels to the Pizza Shoppe at 8915 Santa Fe Drive for pizza buffet and an informal continuation/criticism/clarification of the topics raised at the meeting ... or anything else.

*LEAVE THE CHURCH, TURN RIGHT (WEST) ON 75TH. TURN LEFT (SOUTH) ON ANTIOCH. TURN RIGHT (WEST) ON SANTA FE. PIZZA SHOPPE IS JUST PAST THE SONIC ON YOUR LEFT.*

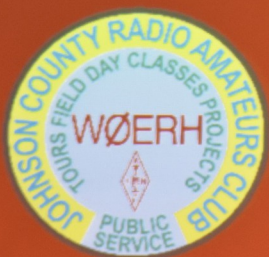
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Charlton, ADØAB

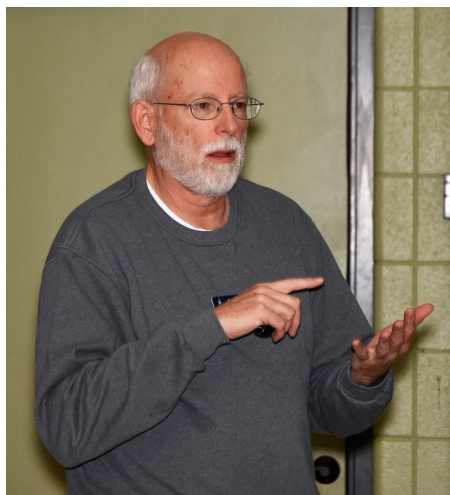
## Emergency Communications 101

October 12, 2018

Entry level information to help you get involved.



[www.KCHamLink.org](http://www.KCHamLink.org)



At the October 12 meeting, Herb Fiddick, NZØF (left) introduced the club to a variety of groups who work in emergency communications. Certain core skills and abilities will ready hams to join any of these groups, but experience with a particular group best prepares a volunteer for emergency work.



Kendra Eitel, KEØSVW, (right) made her first visit on October 12.

Herb's program was particular appropriate, as Kendra grew up in Salina where her father and uncle were storm spotters. She is active in the Shawnee Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

*Photography by NØCVW,*

## **-> FEEDBACK <-**

*A publication of the  
Johnson County Radio Amateur Club, Inc.*

**Bill Gery, KA2FNK, President**

**Jaimie Charlton, ADØAB, Vice President**

**Ted Knapp, NØTEK, Secretary**

**Cal Lewandowski, KCØCL, Treasurer / FEEDBACK distribution**

\* \* \*

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**Deb Buckner, KDØRYE, Contributing Editor**

*All email addresses are available at w0erh.org*

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*John Raydo, KØIZ (rear) smiles knowingly as Herb Fiddick, NZØF (left) examines Dave Schulman's, WDØERU (right) auction item.*

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

The weather could not have been better for the Ensor auction and other activities. We do not have the final



figures of what the auction brought in for the club and the museum. We should have that shortly. There are a lot of people to thank for making Ensor successful by

giving up their time. The started Friday morning with the set up on the table, followed by the moving van with Jack's items. These were all placed on the tables in a short order. We do need special thanks to David Schulman for his continue support as auctioneer.

November is here and there will be only one meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> and the second meeting would conflict with Thanksgiving. I due hope everyone has a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

There will also only be one meeting in December. The Club Christmas party will be in place of the meeting. The Party is open to the entire family.

Skywarn recognition Day will be December 1 from 00z to 24z. That is the first Saturday in December

We ware looking for volunteers to operate the stations at the NWS Central Region Headquarters (near the airport) . The event starts Friday evening November 30 at 6 pm CST and goes to Saturday evening at 6 PM CST. If you can not volunteer to operate, please plan to operate from home and see how made NWS offices you can contact.

**– Bill Gery – WA2FNK**



## ***Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club - October 12, 2018***

Meeting Date: Friday October 12, 2018. The meeting Started at 7:00PM.

Attendance: Self introduction with name and call sign. 30 signed the check in sheet. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Minutes from the September 28, 2018 meeting were read and accepted with 1 opposed vote.

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

Cash on Hand	\$ 82.00	Repeater Operating Reserve	\$ 1,110.83
Checking Account	\$ 315.99	Memorial Fund	\$ 310.00
Savings Account	\$ 8,185.10	Active Members	148
PayPal Account	\$ 100.08		
Total	\$ 8,683.17		

### Old Business:

- We welcomed all 1<sup>st</sup> time visitors to the meeting.
- Repeater Update – Bill Brinker, WA0CBW has had surgery and is currently at Shawnee Mission Medical Center.
- Ensor Auction and Activities October 26-27.
- Ray, K0RSE reported that the club logo hats were ordered with darker green lettering so it shows up better. It was also reported that the hats should be completed within the next week.
- WW1USA November 3-4.

### New Business:

- The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in December will be the Christmas party.

### Reports:

- 6 m – NR.
- 10 m SSB Roundtable – NR.
- 40m SSB Roundtable – NR.
- Fusion Digital 440 net – 10 Check-ins on October 10 and 12 Check-ins on October 3.
- 2m Wheat Shocker net – 18 Check-ins on October 11 and 13 Check-ins on October 4.
- HF Activity – Mexico City, Estonia, Europe, Republic of Panama.

### Announcements:

- See Larry's List for upcoming Events.

Business meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

### Program:

- The Program for this evening was a presentation on Emergency Communications 101 by Herb Fiddick, NZ0F.

Submitted by Ted Knapp, N0TEK, Secretary.

## ***Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club - October 26, 2018***

Meeting Date: Friday October 26, 2018.

Due to the Club's annual Auction, no official meeting took place. We did gather around the campfire at the Ensor Park and Museum.

Submitted by Ted Knapp, N0TEK, Secretary.





## *Hambone and Spirit Voices*

### **Prologue - Day before Halloween**

It's an unusually warm October evening and Hambone's fraternity is preparing for their legendary Halloween Party. In a rare turn of events, although Hambone's brother, Dude and his friend, Joey are not frat brothers, they have been allowed to attend. Probably because they volunteered to bring all the equipment and act as DJs for free.

"Hey Dude, give me a hand with these microphone cables, they gotta go outside on the patio."

"What's the matter, Hammy? A little work getting you down?" asked his brother, Dude, never missing an opportunity to take a cheap shot.

"Don't talk, just pull." Replied Hambone. "We've still gotta set up speakers and microphones inside and outside. That's a lot of cables. And, we still have to test everything tonight. We don't want any equipment problems tomorrow."

"Oh, heavens no! That would be a disaster!"

"It would be," continued Hambone oblivious to his brother's sarcasm. "The only thing worse would be running out of beer."

Hambone was right. His fraternity has had kegs at its parties since, well, no one knows for sure. Old scrapbooks support this claim, but the stains on the pages seem to obscure the dates. However, the sources of said brew during the 1920s are a bit sketchy. Yet, the

jovial looks on the faces in the photos seem to indicate that plenty of good cheer was had even then.



The fact that both Dude and Joey are a year or so short of the age of public consumption is being overlooked in view of their

generous donation of equipment. Besides, they promised to drink nothing stronger than tepid green tea.

Late that night the boys finally completed their installation of speakers, microphones and laptops. Hundreds of feet of cables stretched over and around, well, everything. In the daylight, it looked like a large spider web converging on their DJ stand. But, at night, the cables blended right into the party's Halloween theme.

"Testing mic one, now I'm testing mic two and now I'm testing mic three," said Dude as he walked from one to the other.

"They all sound good to me," said Joey. "Number three had some squeal, but it stopped by itself.

I guess everything's ready, let's party!"

### **November 1 The day after Halloween.**

An unseasonably warm and sunny 72 degree afternoon in Kansas finds Elmer reclining on his deck and enjoying the Indian summer's last gasp, when his young nephews,

Hambone and Dude and their pal, Joey, come running over.

"I hear you had quite a party last night," said Elmer.

"It was awesome!" enthused Hambone. "Dude and Joey were dressed up like pirates and were awesome DJs at keeping the party up."

"True, we were awesome," added Joey, but things really got started when those girls from the sorority showed up. They were all in smokin' hot costumes. Everybody was dancing and having a really good time."

"Yeah, especially Hambone," said Dude. "His nearly naked Tarzan get-up was a big hit with the ladies. They all wanted to dance with him. I think he's a closet Casanova. Who knew he had such smooth moves?"

Hammy, are you blushing?"

Crediting the late afternoon sun for his sudden pinkish tinge, Hambone changed the subject, "It was a lot of fun and the music was great right up until..."

"Well, there was that," said Dude.

"What was, 'that'?" asked Elmer anxious to learn more about his boys' social life.

Hambone continued, "It started a little after midnight when the party was really going. At first I thought it was part of some strange music. It sort of faded in and out, kinda moving with the beat."

**see HAMBONE on page 6**

**from HAMBONE on page 5**

"We heard it, too," said Dude. "We were looking to see if a microphone was feeding back or something, but it went away by itself."

"I don't think anybody else really noticed it," said Joey. "But then it came back, only louder and lasted longer."

"Some of the guys thought it was a scary trick. But some of the girls weren't so sure. One said she thought it might be real ghosts. To me, it sounded sort of like whistles and odd under-water voices. Listen, I recorded it on my phone," said Hambone as he played the sounds.

"That does sound like ghosts, all right," commented Elmer. "So, what happened?"

"The sounds faded away, but the party was less fun. One guy said he thought it might be signals from outer space or aliens trying to communicate with us. He said he saw a documentary with space sounds a lot like that.

The party finally ended at about 3:00AM with most of the guys and girls thanking us for the best party and scariest Halloween trick, ever. They said we really pulled it off."

"We really pulled it off, all right," said Dude. "Only we don't know what we did. After everybody left, we checked everything again and could find no problem. But the strange sounds still came and went, each time a little different. I'm beginning to think maybe it was ghosts in the audio equipment. We finally said the heck with it and went home."

"This morning," said Hambone, "I took the amp into my ham shack to troubleshoot it. But I could not get

it to make a single weird sound. Maybe Dude is right, there were ghosts that night."

"Well," said Elmer, "I have never believed in ghosts. But, with what you said and the recording and it happening on Halloween, maybe there was something out-of-this-world going on.

Why don't you visit Professor Flask at your school and tell him what happened. He's an expert in paranormal activity. Maybe he can explain it."

"I know Professor Flask," said Hambone. "He's teaching my electromagnetics class."

"Go now and don't forget to take your amplifier and maybe a microphone with you."

After the boys were well out of his shack, Elmer takes out his phone and punches a speed-dial button. "Hi Erlen, this is Elmer. Oh, fine, and you? Hey, I've sent my nephew, who is one of your students, and two of his friends over there ..."

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"I guess this is his office," said Hambone pointing to the name on the door plaque. Hambone knocked.

"Do come in, boys," said the professor.

The boys entered and gasped in unison. Instead of the usual drab, everything shades of beige school office, they were greeted by darkness broken only by a few candle flames. On one wall the vestige of a large web with the dried remains of several unlucky insects still visible. Along side the dilapidated wooden desk sat a manikin wearing an owl mask. In

the center, and clearly the focus of the room, stood a round stone table with a large pentagram engraved deeply in its surface. A dull red glow throbbed within the lines.

Although the dim candlelight made it difficult to see, the professor appeared to be dressed in black and wearing a long black and red cape that rustled when he walked. On his head was a black tam with a few tufts of gray hair sticking out. His skin seemed to have a greenish pallor and his eyes excessively wide.

The boys walked into the room and a gray fog, which they had not noticed before, began to surge and encircle their feet.

The door slammed shut behind them.

"I've been expecting you since I heard about your Halloween party. Tell me, what actually happened."

Hambone stammered, "Well, professor, sir ..."

The professor walked up to Hambone and squinting through his round wire-rim glasses asked, "You're in one of my classes, aren't you? What's your name? And what's that you're carrying?"

"Ham, Hambone, sir. I, we, think this amplifier has ghosts in it, or something, and maybe you could help find out why it makes ghost sounds or, maybe outer space sounds or, something. But, maybe we could come back some time when you're not busy or, maybe figure this out ourselves like you always say to do in class." Mercifully, Hambone ran out of breath and was forced to stop talking.

**see HAMBONE on page 7**

<p><b>from HAMBONE on page 6</b></p> <p>“Let’s have a look, er, Hambone. Put that amp on that table right in the center of the pentagram. That will bring out any nasty ghosts. Be careful not to touch the pentagram because we all know what that means, heh, heh.”</p> <p>As Hambone was about to place the amp on the table, the dull red glow blazed to an angry orange. Startled, he dropped the amp on the pentagram and jumped back.</p> <p>The professor continued, “Good. You three stand around the table and hold hands forming a triangle. Now, chant over and over again the ancient phrase, ‘semper ubi sub ubi.’”</p> <p>As the boys chanted, they began to feel, more than hear, a deep rumble. The pentagram was flaring to almost blinding brightness and the fog from the floor now filled the room.</p> <p>“Louder, chant louder,” shouted the professor as the rumble shook the room. And the boys did so.</p> <p>Suddenly, at the height of the cacophony, the rumble stopped, bright lights filled the room and the manikin with the owl mask jumped up and shouted, “Trick or treat!”</p> <p>Nearly doubling over with laughter, the manikin removed his owl mask and revealed himself to be Uncle Elmer. Removing the theatrical makeup, Professor Flask revealed himself not to be green.</p> <p>The boys, apparently not sharing their uncle’s and the professor’s senses of humor, beat a hasty retreat to the men’s room. Later, they returned wearing Hambone’s spare sets of gym clothes.</p>	<p>Still upset, Dude whined, “That was just plain mean. I’m not going to go to college here.”</p> <p>“Give it up, Dude,” said his uncle. “You guys are always playing jokes. Now, you see what it’s like to receive one. Oh, and please, put that bag of smelly laundry out in the hall.”</p> <p>“Look at it this way,” said the professor. “Now you can be sure there are no evil spirits in your amp.</p> <p>By the way, this is not my office. This is the faculty lounge where we had our own Halloween party last night.”</p> <p>Emboldened by all the levity, Joey asked, “So, what caused the strange sounds we heard?”</p> <p>“That’s easy,” said Elmer, still enjoying the joke. “You heard whistlers.”</p> <p>“Yeah, whistlers,” added Professor Flask. “Whistlers are a common atmospheric effect occurring at very low radio frequencies, say, two or three hundred hertz up to thirty or forty kilohertz.</p> <p>Lightning strikes provide electromagnetic waves with energy distributed over a wide range of frequencies. This energy excites free electrons that are just roaming around in the ionosphere. These</p>	<p>now energetic electrons more or less move along the lines of force of the earth’s magnetic field. Remember, the electrons will circle the lines of force which means they are accelerating and they are doing it at different speeds. Electrons experiencing various amounts of acceleration generate various frequencies of electromagnetic radiation or radio waves. That’s what you hear.”</p> <p>“Why do they last so long when a lightning strike is over in a second or two?” asked Hambone.</p> <p>“Their path along the magnetic lines of force is very long. It actually takes the electrons two to four earth diameters out into space and back again. Since the low frequencies travel slower than high frequencies in this environment, you hear the high frequencies arrive first followed by the low ones. This is called frequency or chromatic dispersion.”</p> <p>Still puzzled, Dude asked, “If these whistlers are really radio waves, why did we hear them on our PA system?”</p> <p>“They are radio waves, but their frequencies are so low some are in the audio range. Since you guys had so much microphone and speaker wire strung all over the place, you really had a big antenna that picked them up. You probably had a few grounds missing, too.”</p> <p>“One last thing, Professor,” asked Hambone. “What does, ‘semper ubi sub ubi’, mean?”</p> <p>“It is an old Latin chant used by ancient sorcerers. It more or less means, ‘always wear under wear.’”</p>
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ENSOR AUCTION PHOTOGRAPHY  
BY CHARLIE VAN WAY, NØCVW

