President's Corner

October is here with less daylight for those outdoor activities. However, there are a couple of October events that you should not want to miss so take a look at your calendars.

Ted (NØTEK) will be sending out a request for volunteers to cover the Ensor Museum. It is the Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club turn at bat for covering the museum which is Saturday and Sunday from 1 PM to 4 PM. Volunteering is easy and there is no pressure. You are not alone as there are others present to conduct the tours. It is a great way to learn the history of Amateur Radio in the Kansas City area. So, look at your calendar and select a day you can help.

Vince (KEØCGR) has already spun up with the Ensor raffle. Get your tickets from his directly or from the club website which should be available. Gift certificates from both Associated Radio and Dave Schulman Auction are raffle prizes. Dave is our auctioneer, and he volunteers his time and supplies to help with the auction.

The auction will be on Saturday, October 28. See the club’s website and Facebook page for details. This is our club’s main fundraising effort for the year. Your task is to go through your shack and identify those items you thought you needed and bring them to the auction. Items can be placed on consignment as well as a minimum bid.

I want to thank everyone that helped with the Hawk 100 this year. We had a lot of very good help with both setup and breakdown. A thank you to those that supplied equipment. All shifts were covered, and everyone found their assignment in the dark. Also, again this year no deer were injured during the event.

Bill
KA2FNK

Upcoming Club Events

- Tue. Oct 3 @ 1830 - Club VE Testing - JoCo Library 9875 W 87th St, OPKS
- Fri. Oct 13 @ 1900 - Club Meeting - Biz meeting and presentation - Topic: Getting Started w/ POTA & Overview of the Upcoming WW1USA Event by Dave Porter KØDVP
- Fri. Oct 27 @ 1900 - Club Meeting at Ensor Farm and Museum* - Campfire!
- Fri. Oct 28 @ 1100 - Annual Ensor Auction - Ensor Farm and Museum* - Club Fundraiser
- Tue. Nov 7 @ 1830 - Club VE Testing - JoCo Library 9875 W 87th St, OPKS

* Ensor Farm and Museum is located at 18995 W. 183rd Street, Olathe KS 66062. That is just east of US Highway 169 a few miles south of I-35.
Meeting Minutes 08-11-2023
Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club

These minutes were approved by the membership in attendance at the 08-11-2023 meeting.

Meeting Date: Friday August 11, 2023. The meeting Started at 7:00 PM.

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

As per the new By-Laws, the Minutes of the previous meeting from July 28, 2023, were posted on the club website instead of being read. The posted minutes were approved unanimously.

The Treasurer’s report was read and accepted unanimously. We currently have 147 active members.

Old Business:
• We welcomed all 1st time visitors to the meeting.
• Repeater Update – Bill Brinker, WA0CBW reported that all Repeater are working well.
• The Club’s VE team held a testing session on Tuesday August 1st. Three candidates were present to take the exams.
• The Ensor Auction will be on Saturday October 28th.

New Business:
• The Kansas QSO Party is August 26th and 27th. In the past the Club has supported this statewide event with a donation of $200. A motion was made to support this event again and increase the amount to $300 due to the cost of everything going up. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Reports:
• 6m – North Carolina and Maryland on 100 Watts.
• 10m SSB Roundtable – 3 on August 10 and 3 on August 3.
• 40m SSB Roundtable – 5 on August 9 and 5 on August 2.
• Fusion Digital 440 net – 6 on July 26, 9 on July 19, 11 on July 12, and 14 on July 5.
• 2m Wheat Shocker net – 16 on July 27, 10 on July 20, 16 on July 13, and 15 on July 6.
• HF Activity – Bands are yucky.
• Pota Activation – 3.

Announcements:
• See Larry’s List and Herb Fiddick, NZ0F email for any upcoming Public Service Events.

Business meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Program:
The program was "Lessons Learned with Permanently Installing a Portable Generator for Backup Power" by Ted Knapp, N0TEK.

Submitted by Ted Knapp, N0TEK Secretary.
Meeting Presentation 09-08-2023

For this club meeting, there was a business session conducted prior to our meeting presentation. The Meeting Minutes from this business meeting have not been approved by the membership at the time of this publication, but they are available for review on the club website at www.w0erh.org and will be voted on for approval by the membership at the October 13, 2023 meeting. Once approved, they will be published in the following issue of Feedback.

Following the conclusion of the business meeting, Bill Brinker, WAØCBW, showed the meeting attendees a video from Bell Telephone Laboratories originally produced in 1959 titled “Similarities in Wave Behavior.” In the video, Dr. John N. Shive demonstrated behaviors of waves using a wave machine. During the video, he spoke on a variety of subjects including the standing wave pattern, reflected waves, impedance and impedance matching, and much more. It truly was a very fascinating and informative video and show how waves of all types, radio, sound, etc., behavior in similar manners. This video is easily accessible on YouTube and I suggest you invest the half hour to watch it.

Meeting Presentation 09-22-2023

Given the new club meeting format and this being the second meeting of the month, this meeting consisted of an extended program. For this extended presentation, Jaimie Charlton, ADØAB presented on building up his Ham shack from a more entry level shack to one that is capable of the full legal power limits. The title of his presentation is “On the Road to 1500!”

Jaime was very candid about this experience as a growing Ham. he discussed the first radio, tuner, antennas and switches that he had purchased and how, while they did work, they were limiting when he would try to go after the distant, faint DX contact. In the effort to make more DX contacts, Jaimie knew the answer was simple... MORE POWER! After attending a hamfest and purchasing a used, not operational amplifier thanks his persuasive friend and fellow Ham Don, WØDEW, essentially forcing Jaimie to spend his money, he was the proud owner of an amplifier. Yes, it was not operational, but Jaimie was able to get it up and running after repairs and just a few dollars spent. From there, he was on the air with more power and started making more DX contacts.

And in typical manly Tim Taylor fashion, Jaimie wanted MORE POWER to make even more contacts. He has upgraded his shack transceiver to something that is full SDR, plus a high power amplifier, automatic switches and more. All this now allows him to operate at full legal limit. But of course there were some complications along the way. He burned out some of his equipment, making special mention that just because the documentation says it is supposed to handle certain power limits doesn’t necessarily make it true, and had interference issues to deal with. His garage door opener would receive signals to raise and lower the door, one of his neighbors reported interference in his home while he was transmitting, and he managed to somehow manufacture a remote control for his clothes washing machine. Ferrite cores and beads helped with a lot of this, but other actions also needed to be taken.

Jaime was kind enough to provide an electronic slideshow of his presentation. You can access those slides via the club website under the “Programs” tab. The presentation is available in convenient PDF format. And, knowing Jaimie, if you have any questions about how you can boost your power, I am sure he would be more than willing to help.

Now, Jaimie, when is the field trip to your shack? Some of us want to operate your setup! Haha!
“Hambone! What are you doing in here?” shouted Tim barging through the slightly open door.

Shooting straight in a really great startle-jump, Hambone replied, “Holy crap, Tim, don’t speak up like that. Knock or somethin’.”

“Sorry, Hammy, but what are you doing here in Professor Flask’s library? He never lets anybody in here. Some think it’s because this is where he keeps his stash of porn.”

“I doubt that, Tim. His wife maintain this library for him. But don’t worry, I have permission from the old prof himself to peruse his old books.”

“How’d you get that?”

“I told him i have to write an essay for the Lit 101 class I’m taking. I thought that something about the early discoverers and inventors of electricity and electronics would be interesting.”

“Not interesting, Hammy. Everyone already knows about Ben Franklin and his kit and about Tom Edison and the told of stuff he invented. Nothing new there.”

“True, but Flask said that there were many others that have been lost to time that made contributions, too. That’s why he’s letting me use his library to do some research.”

“That’s nice, but have you found anything? Your paper is due tomorrow, you know.”

“Have faith, Tim. I always get in under the deadline. Well... usually.”

“I was going through this pile of dusty old folders and found this great writeup about early electronic developments in England. Here. Read it.”

“Hambone & the Origins of Electricity”

A Hambone story by Jaimie Charlton ADQAB

ELECTRICAL THEORY BY JOSEPH LUCAS

Positive ground depends on proper circuit functioning, which is the transmission of negative ions by retention of the visible spectral manifestation known as “smoke.”

Smoke is the things that makes electrical circuits work. We know this to be true because every time one lets the smoke out of an electrical circuit, it stops working. This can be verified repeatedly through empirical testing.

For example, if one places a copper bar across the terminals of a battery, prodigious quantities of smoke are liberated and the battery shortly ceases to function. In addition, if one observes smoke escaping from an electrical component such as a Lucas voltage regulator, it will also be observed that the component no longer functions. The logic is elementary and inescapable!

The function of the wiring harness is to conduct the smoke from one device to another. When the wiring springs a leak and lets all the smoke out of the system, nothing works afterward.

Starter motors were considered unsuitable for British motorcycles for some time largely because they consumed large quantities of smoke, require very unsightly large wires.

It has been reported that Lucas electrical components are possibly more prone to electrical leakage than their Bosch, Japanese or American counterparts. Experts point out that this is because Lucas is British, and all things British leak. British engines leak oil, British shock absorbers, hydraulic forks and disk brake systems leak fluid, British tires leak air and British Intelligence leaks national defense secrets.

Therefore, it follows that British electrical systems must leak smoke. Once again, the logic is clear and inescapable.
**Hambone cont'd**

In conclusion, the basic concept of transmission of electrical energy in the form of smoke provides a logical explanation of the mysteries of electrical components especially British units manufactured by Joseph Lucas, Ltd.

And remember: “A gentleman does not motor about after dark!” Joseph Lucas: The Prince of Darkness” 1842-1903

A few Lucas quips:
- The Lucas motto: “Get home before dark.”
- Lucas is the patent holder for the short circuit.
- Lucas - Inventor of the first intermittent wiper.
- Lucas - Inventor of the self-dimming headlamp.
- The three-position Lucas switch--DIM, FLICKER and OFF. The other three switch settings--SMOKE, SMOLDER and IGNITE.
- The Original Anti-Theft Device - Lucas Electrics.
- If Lucas made guns, wars would not start.

Q: Why do the British drink warm beer?
A: Because Lucas makes their refrigerators.

Today’s scientific question is: What in the world is electricity and where does it go after it leaves the toaster?

Here is a simple experiment that will teach you an important electrical lesson: On a cool dry day, scuff your feet along a carpet, then reach your hand into a friend’s mouth and touch one of his dental filling. Did you notice how your friend twitched violently and cried out in pain?

This teaches one that electricity can be a very powerful force, but we must never use it to hurt others unless we need to learn an important lesson about electricity.

It also illustrates how an electrical circuit works. When you scuffed your feet, you picked up batches of “electrons,” which are very small objects that carpet manufacturers weave into carpet so that they will attract dirt.

The electrons travel through your bloodstream and collect in your finger, where they form a spark that leaps to your friend’s filling, then travel down to his feet and back into the carpet, thus completing a "round trip", since the total number of electrons in the carpet must remain constant.

AMAZING ELECTRONIC FACT: If you scuffed your feet long enough without touching anything, you would build up so many electrons that your finger would explode! But this is nothing to worry about unless you have carpets throughout your house or place of employment.

Although we modern persons tend to take our electric lights, radios, mixers, etc. for granted, hundreds of years ago people did not have any of these things, which is just as well because there was no place to plug them in. Then along came the first Electrical Pioneer, Benjamin Franklin, who flew a kite in a lightning storm and received a serious electrical shock.

This proved that lightning was powered by the same force as carpets, but it also damaged Franklin's brain so severely that he started speaking only in incomprehensible maxims, such as, "A penny saved is a penny earned." Eventually he had to be given a job running the post office.

After Franklin came a herd of Electrical Pioneers whose names have become part of our electrical terminology: Myron Volt, Mary Louise Amp, James Watt, Bob Transformer, etc.

These pioneers conducted many important electrical experiments. Among them, Galvani discovered (this is the truth) that when he attached two different kinds of metal to the leg of a frog, an electrical current developed and the frog's leg kicked, even though it was no longer attached to the frog, which was dead anyway.
Now - I can vouch for the Smoke Theory.

Two weekends ago my TV (A German Telefunken - doesn't always have to be Lucas) lost some of its smoke and stopped. While I was trying to plug that smoke leak with a screwdriver it sprung another bigger leak and lost a LOT MORE SMOKE and hasn't worked since.

No shop I've been to can sell me any "Telefunken Smoke" that I can put back inside. They all tell me that I need to buy parts with the smoke already sealed in, which cost a heap more than a bottle of smoke. Sort of like a sealed beam headlight.

"Wow, Hammy, do you suppose all that is true?"

"I do, Tim, because I found this paper right here in Professor Flask's library. I don't know who wrote it or even how old it is, but why would he keep any papers that weren't true?

"I'm going to use parts of it and quote it as from an anonymous source."

"Well good luck, Hammy, they'll love it in LIT 101. That group will believe anything and sounds even a little techie. But for me, I'm goin' with Ohm’s Law instead of purple smoke.

Jaimie "Unck" Charlton
ADOAB
Author of Hambone

Intentional QRM

What do you get when you cross a centipede with a parrot? A little walkie talkie!

My son kept chewing on electrical cords so I had to ground him. Don’t worry! He’s doing better and conducting himself properly now.

What happens when a witch breaks the sound barrier? There’s a sonic broom.

A zombie’s favorite kind of bread is Whole Brain!
Upcoming Public Service Events

Fall has arrived and almost all of the KC area Public Service Events have come to a close. While these are not PSEs that our club typically gets involved in, there are still a couple of opportunities left to participate in an event if you are so inclined. If you are interested in helping with any event, send an email to the Point of Contract provided.

October 7 - Blue Springs Night Bike Ride, Blue Springs - Frank KDØMQO - kd0mqo@yahoo.com

October 28-29 - Ozark Trail 100 Mile Endurance Run, Mark Twain National Forest in Bunker MO - Peggy KDØMAL - ozarktrail100run@gmail.com

It is unknown the number of volunteer positions left unfilled for either event. These events were taken from posts on Larry’s List. You can go to Larry’s List or contact any POC listed for more information about the event and what available opportunities remain.

Remember that participation in these events helps support our communities while giving us a change to meet other Hams, test out equipment, and hone our communications skills.

This is Only a Test

Are you new to the hobby? Maybe you recently received your Technician class ticket and what you have learned is still fresh. Or maybe you have held your Extra class ticket for a while and have forgotten some of what you have learned. Regardless, let’s keep those mental pencils sharp by reviewing some of the questions from each of the question pools. Only a Tech? Push yourself and try the higher class questions. You might surprise yourself and be encouraged to try your hand at upgrading!

General pool questions changed effective 1 July 2023. Amateur Extra pool questions will change effective 1 July 2024.

1. T9B11 – Which of the following types of feed line has the lowest loss at VHF and UHF?
   A. 75-ohm flexible coax
   B. 50-ohm flexible coax
   C. Multi-conductor unbalanced cable
   D. Air-insulated hardline

2. T0B04 – Which of the following is an important safety precaution to observe when putting up an antenna tower?
   A. Wear a ground strap connected to your wrist at all times
   B. Insulate the base of the tower to avoid lightning strikes
   C. All these choices are correct
   D. Look for and stay clear of any overhead electrical wires

3. G4B09 – When is an analog multimeter preferred to a digital multimeter?
   A. When testing logic circuits
   B. When high precision is desired
   C. When measuring the frequency of an oscillator
   D. When adjusting circuits for maximum or minimum values

4. G6A07 – What are the operating points for a bipolar transistor used as a switch?
   A. The active region (between cutoff and saturation)
   B. Enhancement and depletion modes
   C. Saturations and cutoff
   D. Peak and valley current points
FEEDBACK - OCTOBER 2023

Test cont’d

5. E1F10 – Who may be the control operator of an auxiliary station?
A. Only Amateur Extra Class operators
B. Only Technician, General, Advanced or Amateur Extra Class operators
C. Any licensed amateur operator
D. Only General, Advanced or Amateur Extra Class operators

6. E4D09 – What is the purpose of the preselector in a communications receiver?
A. To allow selection of the optimum RF amplifier device
B. To increase rejection of signals outside the desired band
C. To provide a range of AGC time constants
D. To store often-used frequencies

How did you do?
If you got all the questions correct, Congrats! If you hold a Technician or General class license, this may be the sign you need to work on that upgrade. Plenty of resources are available for study. The JCRAC VE Team holds testing sessions on the first Tuesday of each month at the Johnson County Library at 87th & Farley in Overland Park. The VEs start arriving and setting up about 6:30 PM, but as long as you arrive by around 7:00 PM or shortly thereafter, you should be able to complete your test. The library does close at 8:00 PM.

Are you ready and don’t feel like you can wait? Contact Kevin, ADØIM, and see if a pop-up VE session can be held. Only 3 VEs are needed and there a plenty of Club VEs, so it usually isn’t too difficult to arrange. They understand that when you are ready, YOU ARE READY!

Where’s the Ham?
It’s Pumpkin Month. Let’s use some of that pumpkin for some Vegan Pumpkin Gnocchi. This fall recipe only has 4 ingredients and can be found online from sweetsimplevegan.com.

Ingredients:
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 large russet potato, peeled and chunked
- 1 cup pumpkin puree
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Optional: 1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Instructions:
1. In a medium pot, cover the potatoes with water and bring them to a boil. Lower the heat to a simmer and cook for 20-30 minutes or until easily pierced with a fork. Drain the water, reserving 1/4 cup of starchy water for later use, and set aside to cool to room temp.
2. Mash the potatoes until very finely broken down and smooth. Measure 3/4 cup (packed) potatoes.
3. Flour a clean work surface and place mashed potatoes on it. Sift on the flour, add the pumpkin and salt. Mix everything together with floured hands until a smooth dough is formed, adding 1 tablespoon at a time of additional flour or of the starchy water if too wet or too dry. The end dough ball should be soft and slightly sticky.
4. Once the dough is smooth, knead it for 30-60 seconds until soft. Don’t overwork the dough.
5. Form dough into a rectangular loaf about 3/4-inch tall. Cut into slices horizontally and roll each slice into a rope about 1/2-inch in diameter, then cut the ropes into gnocchi. Dust work surface with flour as needed.
6. Bring a large pot of salted water to boil. Add in gnocchi, stir to prevent sticking. Boil until gnocchi float, then for an additional 30 seconds. Scoop out using a slotted spoon.
7. Crisp up gnocchi in a medium pan by sautéing in a butter sauce for a few minutes.
8. Serve with a sprinkle of vegan parmesan and a crack of fresh black pepper.

JOHNSON COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS CLUB, INC.  P.O. Box 93  Shawnee Mission, KS 66201  pg. 8 of 10
I hoped you liked the new section of this issue of Feedback titled “Where’s the Ham?” You may have thought I was joking when I said I was going to include vegan recipes. I was not. And I’m going to be completely honest, I have no idea how good that recipe is. It sounds okay since gnocchi itself is already vegetarian. This just adds some pumpkin to it. And if you decide to Google search that recipe, there is a complementary garlic and sage butter sauce recipe.

As for the title of the section... well, as the publisher of this newsletter, I am more just a curator and not a writer. I edit and format what is sent to me. I need you to help me by providing me content! So, I decided to put a non-ham recipe that can from a non-ham source. It is also a play on the old Wendy’s commercials, “Where’s the beef?”

If you want more vegan recipes, then don’t send me anything. I already have an idea for a recipe for November. It might even be a dish you serve at Thanksgiving. If not, send me some content! Maybe you are new to POTA. Tell us about your hunting and/or your first activation. Did you build the 10-meter dipole antenna? How is that working for you? What contacts have you made? Those are just some ideas on the content you could provide.

Outside of that, it is October and that is typically a spooky month filled with witches, ghosts, goblins and long lines at various coffee shops for PSLs. What is scarier is this month has Friday the 13th, followed by an annular solar eclipse on Saturday the 14th starting in Oregon at 11:13 AM CDT and ending in Texas at 12:03 PM CDT. We will experience about a 62% eclipse in the KC area. So, heads up for that cool phenomenon.

Now, the scariest thing... it isn’t vegan recipes or ghosts. Nope! It is the return of the McRib at McDonald’s in November!

73!

Tim Wiegman, Jr.
KBØYQN

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Have you wondered what it takes to be Net Control? Do you want to be a Net Control for the club? If so, contact Dave Porter, KØDVP, expressing your interest in learning how to become Net Control for the Wheatshockers nets.

Dave and other veteran Net Controls will put together a training session to teach what it takes to become an effective Net Control, how to log check-ins, how to identify and handle “doubles,” and other tips and techniques. Don’t worry! Being Net Control is not a weekly commitment. And more Net Controls allows for more flexibility in when and how often you act at Net Control. Plus it provides experience when the need arises for a formal net.

Again, contact Dave KØDVP if you have interest in becoming at Net Control for the club.

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Know someone who is interested in becoming an amateur radio operator? Are they struggling to find appropriate material to study and pass their tests? Are they taking practice tests online and receiving undesirable results? Do they need the structure of a classroom setting to better grasp the information and better learn the material?

HamClass.org is hosting a Technician Class license class in November at Centerpoint Medical Center in Independence. For just $35 plus FCC fees, one can attend these classes held on November 11th and 18th. A VE testing session is held at the conclusion of the second class that Saturday afternoon. That means you could leave class the afternoon of November 18th having passed your licensing examination and be issued your license within just a few short days!

Signing up is easy! Just visit www.HamClass.org to enroll and you could be on your way to being a newly licensed amateur radio operator.
What's Your Traffic?

Have something you'd like to announce to the club? What about a useful Tech Tip? Is there club member that should be spotlighted? Photos from a presentation?

Your input including ideas, photos, news bits, etc. will help me curate the monthly "Feedback" newsletters. Together, we can create an awesome publication to advance and further the Amateur Radio hobby.

Submit a contribution by emailing me at twiegman+feedback@gmail.com

Thank you to those that submit photos for events and meetings as well as provide tech tips and other information.

Need Club Swag?

If want to show off your JCRAC pride and need some club swag, you may order some by visiting the "Store" tab on the club website where you can purchase hats, patches, name badges and shirts. Also, some items along with other goodies may be available for purchase at club meetings.

Club website: https://www.w0erh.org

Club Nets

The club has weekly nets on Wednesday and Thursday. It is a great way to test your equipment. Many public service events conduct their communications in a similar way, so this is also a great way to gain experience applicable to assisting in public service events.

Wednesday @ 1900 - Yaesu Fusion net via Kansas City Room, also accessible from select local KC repeaters (visit www.kansascityroom.com for a list)

Wednesday @ Conclusion of Fusion net - 40M Roundtable near 7.273 MHz LSB

Thursday @ 1900 - Wheatshocker analog net on 145.29 MHz club analog repeater (negative offset, PL Tone of 151.4 Hz)

Thursday @ Conclusion of analog net - 10M Afterglow net on 28.475 MHz USB (within Technician Class portion of band)