



The LOCAL OSCILLATOR

October 1995

The Publication of the Panhandle Amateur Radio Club

Matt Carpenter-KC5CGT

Guy Pigg-WZ5C

**Thoughts of the Contest Season.
More ideas on getting into HamSats.**

And more in this months issue.

Here is a list of frequencies and time for local nets:

P.A.I.N. Net-146.66 Mhz-8:00 pm, Sundays.

Cloud Chases Net (RACES)-146.92 Mhz- 8:00 pm, Mondays.all

Sidewinders 2M SSB Net-144.2-8:00 pm, Mondays.

ARES Net-146.52 Mhz-8:00 pm, Thursdays.

Panhandle Traffic and Emergency Net-3.933 MHz - 00:00 UTC, Daily.

MidWest Section, AMSAT Net-3.94 0MHz -9:00 pm, Tuesdays.

Here are dates and times for activities and meetings in October.

Tuesday, October 3rd - Regular Meeting, 7:30 at Amarillo Technical Center.
(VEC Testing at 6:00 PM)

Saturday, October 7th - ARES Hamburger fry, ?? at Picnic Area # 9, Thompson Park.

Tuesday, October 10th-ARES Meeting, 7:30 at Polly's Resteraunt on I-40 & Bolton.

Wednesday, October 18-Executive Committee Meeting, 7:00 at ATC Club Station.

Tuesday, October 17th-Randall County ARES, ?? at Main Fire Station, Canyon.

Tuesday, October 24th - RACES meeting, 7:30 at Old Police Academy.

Events at Club Station for October.

How about some contesting in line for this month. Details inside this months nemwsletter.

Presidents Letter

Wow, is it already October? I find it hard to believe. Just the other day it seems we were out having a good time at Field Day. As winter approaches it time to clean out the shack, and line up those indoor projects for the winter. I think I sold some winter projects (or did I give them away) to several people at the junk in the trunk gathering. To my wife's dismay I bought a couple of winter projects as well. Anyway I hope the fall finds your antenna projects complete and your junk box full.

Plenty of things are happening with the PARC as well. In case you haven't heard the first stage of the 94 project is completed. Stage two of the 94 project is underway. Charlie, KB5VLV has donated some prime tower space in a strategic location. A remote receiver is going to be added for the 94 machine at this location. This should be a large help to users in Canyon and southern Amarillo. The input will be on 146.34 MHz just like the one at the repeater sight. A voting circuit will decide which signal to output on 146.94 MHz.

As the end of the year approaches there are other club items we need to consider. Now is the time to think about running for club office. Speaking from experience it is not as bad as you might think. In fact I have kind of enjoyed it. The nominating committee will be represented at the October meeting. If you would like to run for office please contact Aaron, KJ5ER and ask him to put your name in the hat. I would like to have the nominations in by the November meeting (I know that they can be made in December) so the ballot can be published in the Local Oscillator. Also we could have real ballots and a nice secret ballot election in December.

Speaking of the December meeting it is supposed to be our Annual meeting. I think a meeting in restaurant would be appropriate. If you have a place in mind contact our vice president Matt, KC5CGT. I hope to do very little business. Just count the ballots, announce the results, and give the audit report on the books.
73, Joe

P.S. It looks like the final executive committee meeting of the year will be October 18th at 7:00pm. To be sure come to the meeting and find out! Remember everyone is welcome at the executive meetings!!

P.A.R.C. MEMBERSHIP RATES

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Full and Family | \$25.00 per year |
| Associate (Non-Voting /Newsletter only) | \$8.00 per year |
| UHF Repeater Access | \$15.00 per year (Club Member) |
| | \$30.00 per year (Non-Club) |

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

All articles are due by the 20th of the month.
You may send them via the following:

Internet: guy.pigg@radio-online.com

BBS: The Lumber Yard (806) 381-8247
(Must be registered user)

By phone: (806) 372-8462 (An answering machine)

In care of: Panhandle Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 10221
Amarillo, Texas 79116

444.475 Closed PARC Repeater Authorized User List

KA0YOS Joe Mayfield
KB5VLE Terry Mayfield
N5SQK Brett Sims
KJ5ER Aaron Sims
WB5QLI Ken Hanson
KB5VLW Terry Whitaker
KC5DTA Dan McCabe
N5UPC Randy Baker
N5UXW Sherri Baker
N5VRN Leland Carpenter
W5RXC Jim Wilhite
WA5UUS Ron Mashburn
K5WZF John Lisman

Minutes of P.A.R.C.

September 5, 1995, Southwest Library.

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President and Vice-President absent.

Meeting brought to order by Secretary, Brett Sims, N5SQK.

Financial report and previous minutes were read and accepted.

A W5WX OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD was presented to Ken Hanson, WB5QLI for climbing 450ft on the Channel 7 tower to repair the 146.94 repeater antenna.

A W5WX OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD was presented to Chip Andrews, N5LTZ for hosting a fantastic Field Day and Barbecue at his ranch.

Guy, WZ5C, reported that the TS-440 is at Omega Electronics for antenna tuner repair. Maury, W5UGQ offered use of a tech manual for the TS-440.

Jimmy, KB5WIO, suggested the tech committee look at intermod filters reviewed in Sep. QST, with the idea of purchasing one for the 94 repeater.

There was a general discussion of progress on the 94 machine. Some items that will be worked on in the next few weeks are; audio improvements, implement user controlled PL, checkout and implement the auto-patch, and try to eliminate the intermod.

Guy, WZ5C made a motion to purchase a plaque for Channel 7 and Omega thanking those businesses for use of their tower for the many years. Guy volunteered to implement the motion. Plaque cost will not exceed \$100.00. Motion seconded and passed.

Guy, WZ5C, stated that since Matt KC5CGT returned to school full time they have not been able to work on the internet gateway project. If any other members are interested in implementing a internet to packet gateway please see Guy. Some packet, UNIX, and networking skills would be helpful.

Meeting ajourned.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO "FIX 94 FUND" AS OF AUGUST 31, 1995

CONTRIBUTION

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------|
| WA4NXI | COLEMAN WINGATE | \$100.00 |
| N5SQK | BRETT SIMS | \$100.00 |
| N5MGU | JEROLD McCOWAN | \$250.00 |
| KC5JIF | REDDY BIGGS | \$250.00 |
| KK5KK | DAVID WILLIAMS | \$100.00 |
| N5UPC | RANDY/SHERRI BAKER | \$25.00 |
| KB5WIO | JIMMY BURKHALTER | \$50.00 |
| N5YXN | CARL JEANS | \$50.00 |
| KC5DKQ | ROBERT McKEE | \$25.00 |
| KI5VR | DALE HALL | \$100.00 |
| N5VRN | LELAND CARPENTER | \$50.00 |
| W5CKR | JIMMY FOWLER | \$50.00 |
| KC5KCA | DENNIS SCHLEGEL | \$50.00 |
| KA5KHY | BILLIE LOVE | \$25.00 |
| WB5QLI | KEN HANSON | \$50.00 |
| WS5R | BEN POLLARD | \$25.00 |
| KC5CGT | MATT CARPENTER | \$50.00 |
| KC5OMK | MONTE DENNY | \$100.00 |
| KB5VJW | TERRY WHITAKER | \$50.00 |
| N5SXJ | ROBERT MACMILLIAN | \$50.00 |
| W5PSZ | LUTHER ADKINS | \$50.00 |
| W5UGQ/UGR | MAURICE & ELIZABETH SPROUL | \$25.00 |
| KB5EY | BILL BRAIN | \$50.00 |

W5WX STATION NOTES

by Guy Pigg, WZ5C

If you missed out on the tailgate party this past month, you probably didn't have a clue as to what the weather was going to be. After some nippy early morning temps, things did warm up some. There was plenty of stuff to graze over and some real good hamburgers to boot thanks to Don, KC5EZO. All in all, the tailgate party was a little lite, but good. Don't forget the ARES Burger gathering on the 7th of October.

Still wanting to know how attitudes are on the upcoming contesting. Sure we all want to have fun and all, but I'm ready for some gut wrenching, hard core competition. I'm all for us to have fun with our hobby, and we do. But, let's get a little serious. Why not have a little fun competing? Lets see if we can't have the competitive sprit and burn a few antennas to the ground with RF. For those of you that may not have experience in contesting but want to see what it's all about, there is a place for you. You don't have to be a CW fanatic to participate, nor good at it. It all comes with experience. So let me know what you want to do and let's get it on!

Equipment status as of the end of September, the HF rig is still in repair. Hopefully will be out soon. The second phase with the Repeater Upgrade, 94 Project is underway. And all is kinda well with the 66 machine. Seems to have some controller functions inactive. The 94 autopatch is still being programmed with audio rewiring still needed and some more control functions in the works. As stated before, if you are interested in learning about the LINK controller, let me or Bret know. **There will be restrictions on the amount of information given out.** Sorry, but there is a reason for this. The information will not be too restrictive as to not allow you a complete understanding and ability to try your hand at programming and knowledge of control functions. Below is a brief listing of the commands that are available to repeater users as of the end of September.

That's it for this month as we wind down a very busy year and start up a busy contest season.

73, Guy-WZ5C, W5WX Station Manager.

W5WX 146.94 REPEATER COMMAND LIST SEP. 22ND, 1995

1* TIME

2* DATE

3* BATTERY VOLTAGE

101* PL ACCESS MODE (88.5)

102* REMOVE PL ACCESS MODE

NOTE: IF YOU GO TO PL ACCESS YOU WILL NEED PL TO REMOVE PL ACCESS.

Satellite Roundup!!!!

The question I love to hear is "How do I get started in OSCAR operations?". In my opinion the best way to get your feet wet is to get your feet wet. During the last year there have been several nice opportunities. Several area Hams made their first OSCAR contacts at Field Day, others made their first contacts at the dry run before Field Day. I think some of these Hams have become active on the birds as a direct result of this exposure. If you missed these chances I would be happy to make arrangements for you to visit my shack and give it a try (we'll have to work out time when there are birds in view and I am available). Let's take a look at some other information sources that are available.

It is probably impossible to reference all of the OSCAR resources available on the internet, but here are a few goodies. The World Wide Web offers lots of valuable information, and the links to more information are practically endless. A couple of good starters are 1) AMSAT — <http://www.amsat.org/amsat/AmsatHome.html> 2) Ham Radio NCSU — <http://www.acs.ncsu.edu/HamRadio>. AMSAT also maintains an FTP sight at <ftp.amsat.org>.

For general ham stuff it is hard to beat oak.oakland.edu. Check under the pub directory for "hamradio". AMSAT also maintains a remailer allowing you to change your email address to yourcall@amsat.org as well as several news groups including amsat-bb (dealing with everything from what's the best antenna for a beginner to what kind of bird should be built next) and kps (puts the latest Keplerian elements in your email box once a week). For more information send email to "listserv@amsat.org". Use only what's inside the quotes. All of the above internet sources are available at no cost. You don't even need to be an AMSAT member! (but I recommend it).

AMSAT is also the best source for printed information. Their symposium minutes are always interesting and often provide project ideas and or plans. In fact AMSAT sells quite a few publications that are useful, many of which are geared toward the beginner. The bimonthly magazine is good as well.

AMSAT can be contacted at 850 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910-4703, (301) 589-6062. (SUPPORT THE FOLKS THAT BUILD THE BIRDS!!). The ARRL offers many publications that are useful for the OSCAR op they can be reached at ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1494, (203) 594-0200. Their ARRL handbook is a reference every shack should have. Check the used book store for a bargain on an edition a few years old. R. Myers Com., has a couple of nice newsletters for the satellite op. They can be reached at P.O. Box 17108, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269-7108 (602)837-6492. Bob has recently started carrying some equipment as well. The one book I recommend above all others is "The Satellite Experimenters Handbook" by Martin Davidoff, K2UBC (ISBN 0-87259-318-5) (ARRL order No. 3185). It is the bible of OSCAR operation.

There are a couple of OSCAR videos available. The only one that I have seen was produced by "CQ" magazine. It did a wonderful job of explaining many of the basic principles of OSCAR operation. It brings the terms used to life with visual explanations. Unfortunately, it may frighten the new user by implying the myth that OSCAR operation requires a large and very expensive station. I hope this gives you an idea of where to look.

73, Joe

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AMARILLO TX 79116



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6112 CALUMET
AMARILLO, TX 79106

**AMATEUR RADIO.....IT'S NOT JUST A
HOBBY, IT'S CHANGING THE MEANING
OF THE TERM "HUNTING FOR BIRDS!"**