



Matt Carpenter-KC5CGT

Guy Pigg-WZ5C

*The officers and members of
The Panhandle Amateur Radio Club
congratulate
Brett Simms
Ham of the year 1994*

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.
- ARES Net-444.2 Mhz-7:30 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 JANUARY.

- Tuesday, January 3rd - PARC meeting, 7:30 Amarillo Library, SW Branch.
- Tuesday, January 17th - Hamfest meeting, 7:30 at Malcom's.
- Tuesday, January 24th - RACES meeting, 7:30 at Old Police Academy.
- Sunday, January 8th - Wide area Fox Hunt, 12 noon at lot N. of Civic Center.

EVENTS AT CLUB STATION FOR JANUARY.

- Club station open to all Sundays from approx 12 noon until ? Call on 146.66 Mhz rpt.
- Straight Key Night Saturday, December 31, 6:00 pm.
- Novice Roundup 0000Z January 28-2400Z February 5.

FCC RULES AMENDED

As stated in last months newsletter, changes in FCC rules were to come into effect. (From the Nov 1, 1994 issue of W5YI REPORT).

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that effective December 20, 1994, Part 97 of the Commission's Rules IS AMENDED as set forth below. The Order is signed by Ralph A. Haller, Chief, Private Radio Bureau.

§ 97.5 Station license required.

Section 97.5 is amended by revising the entire text. Current Section 97.5 rules require applicants to "...hold an FCC issued written authorization." New 97.5 does NOT contain the words "written authorization" ...instead the rules refer to station license grants.

§ 97.7 Control operator required.

Current Section 97.7 says "only a person holding one of the following documents may be the control operator of a station." New Section 97.7: "The control operator must be a person who has been granted an amateur operator/primary station license or who holds an unexpired document..."

§ 97.9 Operator license.

Current Section 97.9 refers to five classes. New 97.9 adds a sixth class: "Technician Plus." New Section 97.9(b) changes "holding a ...license" to "granted an operator license."

§ 97.17 Application for new license or reciprocal permit for alien amateur license.

The reference in current Section 97.17(f) to "The FCC will not grant any request for a specific call sign." was deleted in anticipation of the "vanity" call sign system.

§ 97.21 Application for a modified or renewed license (Previously § 97.1g) This section provides for the use of a new renewal short Form 610-R. Here is the wording:

- (a) A person who has been granted an amateur station license that has not expired.
- (3) May apply for a renewal of the license for another term. (The FCC may mail to the licensee a FCC Form 610-R that may be used for this purpose.) The application may be made on the FCC Form 610-R if it is received from the FCC. If the Form 610-R is not received from the FCC at least 30 days before the expiration of the license for an operation/primary station license, the application may be made on FCC Form 610.
- (c) Each application for a modified or renewed amateur service license must be accompanied by a photocopy (or the original) of the license document unless an application for renewal using FCC Form 610-R is being made or unless the original document has been lost, mutilated, or destroyed.

§ 97.23 Mailing address. (Previously § 97.21)

New added wording provides for the "Revocation of the station license or suspension of the operator license may result when correspondence from the FCC is returned as undeliverable because the person failed to provide the correct mailing address."

§ 97.25 License term. (Previously § 97.23)

Wording changes "An amateur service license is normally issued for a 10-year term." to "An amateur service license is normally granted for a 10-year term."

§ 97.27 FCC modification of station license (Previously § 97.25). No change except § 97.25 is renumbered to § 97.27.

§ 97.29 Replacement license document. (Previously just "Replacement license.") New wording provides persons who have been "granted an amateur station license" whose original license is lost, mutilated or destroyed must request a replacement."

§ 97.301 Authorized frequency bands.

New wording changes "holding an operator license" to "granted an operator license." Also frequency privileges for the "Technician Plus" class are added to § 97.301(e.)

§ 97.501 Qualifying for an amateur operator license.

Wording changed from "An applicant must pass an examination for the issuance of a new amateur operator license..." to "Each applicant for the grant of a new amateur operator license..." § 97.501 (d) adds the examination requirements for the Technician Plus Class license.

§ 97.505 Element credit.

Now provides Element 1 (A), 2 and 3(A) examination credit for the Technician Plus Class operator license.

§ 97.507 Preparing an examination.

Now provides that Technician Plus Class operators may prepare Element (Novice) examinations.

§ 97.509 Administering VE requirements.

Adds the Technician Plus Class to list of classes that may administer Novice and Technician Class examinations. Also incorporated are previous Sections 97.511, 97.515 and 97.517 which are now deleted and reserved.

§ 97.511 Examinee conduct. (Previously "Amateur operator license examination.") Specifies that "Each examinee must comply with instructions given by the administering VEs."

§ 97.519 Coordinating examination sessions

Current Section 97.519(b) reads "The coordinating VEC must screen and forward all applications for qualified examinees within 10 days...etc." New 97.519(b) "At the completion of each examination session, the coordinating VEC must collect the FCC Forms 610 documents and test results from the administering VEs. Within 10 days of collecting the FCC Forms 610 documents, the coordinating VEC must screen and, for qualified examinees, forward electronically or on diskette the data contained on the FCC Forms 610 documents, or forward the FCC Form 610 documents to: FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. When the data is forwarded electronically, the coordinating VEC must retain the FCC Forms 610 documents for at least 15 months and make them available to the FCC upon request."

ELECTRONIC NASA PRESS RELEASES

Hams involved in the SAREX program and repeaters that carry space shuttle mission audio should take note that NASA press releases and other information are available automatically by sending an Internet electronic mail message to DOMO@HQ.NASA.GOV. Now, in the body of the message and not the subject line, you must type the words subscribe press-release without any quotes. The system will reply with a confirmation via E-mail of each subscription. A second automatic message will include additional information on this new electronic press release service.

New 144 MHz record

A new tropospheric ducting, continental distance record has been reported on the 144 MHz amateur band. On November 5, Rene Shaw, WB4MJE, of Big Pine Key, Florida, and Serge Szpilfogel, VE1KG, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, worked over a 1687 mile path.

The previous record was 1468 miles, set by K5WXZ and K1RJH, and had stood since October, 1968. WB4MJE is crucially located for this work at the southern tip of the Florida Keys. This information comes from Al Ward, WB5LUA, who maintains VHF and UHF North American distance record information for QST's "World Above 50 MHz" column. Records on bands from 144 MHz to 678 THz are published in April QST each year. (via RelayNet on Radio Online BBS)

From the L O Swap, Trade, or Buy Dept;

Seems as though there are no items to trade, buy, or sell this month. So get them in by the 20th if you want them in next months newsletter.

23RD ANNUAL SKN ON OSCAR

Since New Year's Eve, 1972 (January 1, 1973 UTC), a number of us have been combining the best of the old and the new in Amateur Radio by operating in Straight Key Night on OSCAR. You're most cordially invited to join in the 23rd annual edition. Just call CQ SKN in the CW passband segment of any OSCAR satellite from 0000 to 2359 UTC on January 1, 1995, or answer a CQ SKN call from another station. OSCAR Zero (EME) contacts count too! Of course, all SKN operating must be done with a straight hand key. It's entirely unofficial: no rules, no scoring and no need to send in an entry. However, if you care to send in a "best fist" nomination, please address it via packet to W2RS @ GB7HSN or W2RS @ WA2NDV, via Internet to w2rs@amsat.org, or via "snail-mail" to W2RS' callbook address. Last year's "best fist" nominees included W1NU and W6HDO, both two-time winners, and first-time winner WQ3Y. CU SKN! (From RIME Net on Radio Online BBS.)

FCC ISSUED CALL SIGN UPDATE

The following is a list of the FCC's most recently issued call signs as of December 1.

District	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AA0UN	KG0RV	++	KB0PTK
1	AA1LM	KD1YE	N1TQD	KB1BLO
2	AA2UX	KF2ZD	++	KB2SOZ
3	AA3JD	KE3QE	N3TWX	KB3BFO
4	AE4AD	KS4IM	++	KE4TEA
5	AB5ZA	KK5FX	++	KC5LCE
6	AC6IA	KO6MH	++	KE6ONG
7	AB7GH	KJ7FZ	++	KC7GZS
8	AA8RE	KG8NH	++	KB8VTG
9	AA9NE	KF9ZB	N9ZHC	KB9JBM
N. Mariana	KH0O	++	KH0DO	++
Guam	WH2I	AH2CZ	KH2LP	++
Midway	++	AH4AA	KH4AG	WH4AAH
Hawaii	++	AH6NQ	WH6ZP	WH6CRM
Amer. Samoa	AH8L	AH8AG	KH8BJ	WH8ABB
Alaska	++	AL7PV	WL7ZA	WL7CHW
Virgin	WP2P	KP2CD	NP2HS	WP2AHV
Puerto Rico	++	KP4XY	++	WP4MUL

++All call signs in this group have been issued in this area.

THE LAST NOVICE ROUNDUP

As reported in the January, 1995 issue of QST, the ARRL has announced that this year will be the last Novice Roundup. Stating that the event has only seen 60 or so log submissions in the last four years, the event has served it's purpose and there is no longer a need for the event. This year will be the 44th Novice Roundup. The event will be for two weeks and begins at 6 pm January 27 and ends at 6 pm on February 5. The club station will be open to all on the weekends of this event and any other times as requested.

Have you hugged your club repeater today?

President's Letter

Hello,

I would like to welcome everyone to what is sure to be an exciting new year for the PARC. The executive committee has already met once and laid out some plans and established some goals for the upcoming months. You can read about that elsewhere in this newsletter. I see myself as the catalyst to get these things done. It would be great if I could tell you to sit back and relax, and watch all of these things happen by themselves, but you and I both know better. Don't be surprised in the coming months when your phone rings with some one asking for help.

We have a great opportunity in front of us to have lots of fun and meet some exciting goals in the process. The newsletter has received some reinforcements and several other information sources are being developed. Through the PAIN net, the newsletter, and new member packages we hope to keep the membership more informed than ever before.

The Hamfest is approaching as is Field Day. We are fortunate enough to have some dedicated members already working on these efforts, but help will be needed to make them fun and successful. Keep an ear to the ground for other activities to be announced soon.

I would like to close by adding that if there is anything I can do for you please feel free to contact me. You elected me I work for you!

73 and Happy New Year,
Joe ka0yos
P.O. Box 51274, Amarillo, TX 79159-1274
ka0yos@amsat.org

Executive Committee Meeting Summary

The Executive Committee met at the PARC Club station at 1:30 PM on December 18th. The meeting was a brainstorming session to discuss the clubs assets, and the future of the club. N5SQK, WZ5C, KC5CGT, KA0YOS and ?????? attended. The highlights were as follows:

The club meetings will alternate between the SW branch of the Amarillo public library and the club station. We will meet at the library on odd months (Jan., Mar, May, Jul., etc.) and at the station on even months (Feb., Apr., Jun, etc.) The RFI and Technical committees were merged. A Field Day committee will be formed. These will serve with the existing Hamfest and Nominating committees. A short discussion was held on the club's strong points. Although there are others it was concluded that the club had 5 major assets. 1. Good Fellowship with knowledgeable members 2. The repeaters 3. The club station 4. The Local Oscillator 5. The Hamfest

Several administrative changes were decided on or planned. The club equipment will be thoroughly inventoried. Efforts to publicize the W5WX open house times will be increased. Packets for new members will be developed and given when members pay their dues. These packets will contain info about the club, repeaters, and the like. This packet will also include a list of paid members.

Some time was spent examining some efforts for the club to undertake. They were as follows: 1. Attempt to hold amateur radio classes. Possibly having a blitz class like those conducted by Gordon West. 2. Have an increased effort for Field Day. 3. Develop the participation needed to improve the hamfest.

Lastly we looked at our goals in both the short and long term. I will address the short term first. 1. HAVE FUN!!! if this becomes too much work it will NOT work. 2. Increase the active membership by 25. 3. Make some improvements to the repeaters (see long term goals). 4. Improve our Field Day effort.

Our long term goals may sound overly ambitious, but these are LONG term goals. Other clubs in cities this size and smaller have accomplished these feats. 1. HAVE FUN! 2. Turn our repeaters into top notch modular systems with a complete set of spare modules ready to go at all times. 3. Make W5WX a world class station. 4. Finally, it was decided the ultimate long term goal of the club should be to find a home of our very own. It will take time, effort, luck, and a lot of other things, but it is possible. Reported by ka0yos

Don't even think about forgetting to pay you club dues. If you do, I'll hurle some hot lava at you!!

From the Pigg Pen by Guy Pigg-WZ5C.

WOW!

Here it comes, another new year. Just think, in five short years, we will begin a brand new century. Wonder what Amateur Radio will be like then? The same old thing or new technology? Gonna be interesting to see what will happen in the year 2000. Kinda wonder what everyone will be putting on the date line of the checks they write. If that still exists by then.

As you may know by now, I'm the new PR person for the club. So, what do you want me to do for the newsletter? As you noticed last month and this, I have several sources to grab hold of for information. There have been several ideas passed along which I am going to implement. But, there is always room for your ideas. You got a story to share? How about an ideal way to operate. Maybe even a not so ideal way to operate. Built something lately? I can place the schematic on the newsletter as well as what you got in print. Sometime soon, there may be a call for photographs. How about something you want to buy, sell, or trade for? Give me some ideas and lets run with it.

Now for the basic rules of getting what you have published.

First, the deadline for submitting articles or information will be the 20th of the month. Now this may change if I go on vacation, a work related trip, or emergency. Unless I publish a change, this will be it. One thing to remember, this deadline is only if you want the article in the next months newsletter. Otherwise, I may need to hold it for a later time and space permitting.

Second, here are some ways to get the information to me; by computer disk as a TEXT file, by modem to a land-line BBS also as a TEXT file, on The Internet, and if you have a small list of buy, sell, or trade items; on the phone.

Here are some numbers and codes to use.

Via LLBBS, The Lumber Yard (806)-381-8247

Internet, guy.pigg@radio-online.com

Home Phone, (806)-372-8462 (an answering machine)

Some notes on the land line bbs. You first must log on as a newuser. This is pretty much straight. Also, give your CALL as part of your name. At this time, this is the only way the sysop will grant you access. Negotiations are taking place to change this. Once you are granted permission to go to the Ham area, follow this routing. Pick A for ACess, then E for Engineering, then go to H for The Ham Board. And there you are.

Well, here we go! Good luck in the new year everyone, and PLEASE SUPPORT THE PANHANDLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.

73, Guy-WZ5C.

MAGIC BAND REPEATER

Sometime in 1995, three Amarillo Hams, will begin testing a new six meter repeater. The repeater is the cooperative effort of Chip, N5LTZ; Ronnie, N5ZLU; and Brett, N5SQK. Hopefully testing will begin in the first quarter of 1995. Six meters will present some interesting conditions for those not familiar with the MAGIC BAND. This machine will be on the same frequency, as similar machines in Dallas and Houston. This will open some interesting possibilities. During the Spring and early summer Sporadic E skip will give us the opportunity to work stations all over the U.S. and we anticipate we will be able to access the Houston machine. Tropospheric ducting will hopefully give us occasional access to the Dallas machine. Sub-audible tones will be used when the band is open to prevent interference between the local and out of town machines.

Most six meter machines installed in the U.S. (the greatest number are in California) are set up with what is known as split-sites. The reason is that duplexer cavities for the six meter band are rather large, on the order of 6 feet tall, and expensive. At a cost of around three thousand dollars, six meter duplexers are out of the expense budget of most Amateurs. Those were our original plans, to implement split sites, one for transmit, and one for receive, with a UHF link between the two to implement the repeater function. So we needed two sites, each a couple of hundred feet in the air, with a good line of sight, between the two. Five or so miles apart would be nice. It turns out that my two partners in this effort, each had potential access to such a site.

However, Chip made a trip to Midland one day and every thing changed. Chip just happened, to find us some surplus Texas Railroad Commission duplexers, tuned for 39 MHZ, at a price which is too good to tell, in this article. He brought them back in his Suburban, grinning all the way. It's a six foot tall, cabinet full of duplexers. Christmas had come early. So with a little plumbing work we believe we can re-tune these duplexers to six meters. This vastly simplifies the project by allowing us to implement the repeater at a single site and not have to set up a UHF link. Chip, N5LTZ; has graciously allowed us to use his tower, to site the repeater, and has also donated the controller. So here is the status to date. Brett, N5SQK; has crystallized and tuned the repeater radio, a G.E. EXEC II. Wiring the controller and duplexing the radio remain to be done. Ronnie, N5ZLU is rigging up to install the Ground Plane commercial antenna (donated by Jerold, N5MGU (White Deer). The antenna has been tuned to six meters. Rumor has it that Ken, WB5QLI will assist on the tower climb. Feed line is already in place.

So far it has been a lot of fun. And retuning the duplexers should be educational. All the equipment has been begged, borrowed or scrounged (not stolen) and is available. What remains is some systems work and putting things together, which is starting now. We hope to make some progress over the holidays, depending on weather, of course. If you made it this far in the article, your probably wondering, what frequency is this thing on? Well you deserve to know. Set your radio or scanner to 52.65mhz. The input for the machine will be one megahertz down at 51.mhz.

HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR.... SEE YOU ON THE MAGIC BAND de N5SQK

As we give "Thanks"....by Guy Pigg-WZ5C

"Sometimes as we go about our daily lives, all too often the things we do are unnoticed." Wonder how many times we either seen or heard that phrase or something close to it. It is much as human nature to take things for granted as much as it is to go about eating, breathing, thinking, whatever. Just when you least expect it, the proverbial boot gets placed in the most effective area and you remember.....

Thanks to Glenn-KB5VVM for taking the time to do all the tough things that are demanded as club president.

Thanks to Bret-N5SQK, and Aaron-KJ5ER for helping out with the books, records, and money. And who are doing it all again in 1995.

Thanks to Coleman-WA4NXI for providing the much needed time to handle helping many would-be hams get that chance and to allow those to further there goals through VE testing.

Thanks to Ronnie-N5ZLU for getting our hamfest going in 1994. It was a very hard thing to do for such a short amount of time.

And a very much needed and heartfelt great big THANK YOU to Dale-N5WGR. Here is a person from accounts by others, that has done a lot of driving and off-the-clock work to keep our repeaters up and running. The PARC couldn't do without him.

If anybody got left out, please don't go huffing about it. Let me know. These people need to be recognized in a proper manner for the work accomplished and this will be done so, here, in this forum.

73, Guy-WZ5C

NOW THAT I FINALLY GOT MY "TICKET", WHAT'S NEXT?

Well for one thing, don't just sit there and fuss at it! Try and see just how fed up you may well be with Morse code. You never know. Just might begin to like it. So what if you don't. You have the working knowlege to start studying advanced theory. Then pick up a tech manual, get some tools, and get with it. Why not apply some of that golden opportunity that you have with this hobby and tinker a bit. If you finally give up on the code, you'll at least know the fine points about capacitors, resistors, transistors, diodes, tank-circuits, RC networks, series circuits, parallel circuits, tuned circuits, drivers, buffers, pre-amps, mixers, oscillators, crystals, parallel resonants, series resonants, limiters, duplexers, class A amplifiers, common emitter circuits, audio amps, rf amps, variable frequency oscillators, if stages, harmonics, parasitic oscillations, 555 timers, AND gates, CPUs, filter circuits, transistor bias, class AB amplifiers.....

Happenings at W5WX by Guy Pigg-WZ5C

Changes in the Constitution and By-Laws have created a "Station Manager" position for the Panhandle Amateur Radio Club. I have been asked and have accepted this position for the 1995 calendar year. So, as I have asked about the newsletter, what do you want out of our club repeaters and club station? This is what most of your hard earned money that you pay for dues goes for.

As you may have or will read in the notes from the president and actions taken at the first executive committee meeting, lots of things are in the works to make our repeater system more effective. Don't think for one minute that we left you out. If you have an idea, let me know. Ideas do have a habit of being overlooked at times. Rest easy in knowing, your ideas count for something. But remember; the only way it can get done is with money, time, and manpower.

Our club station is coming along very well. So, why don't you use it? Not open enough for you? Tired of HF or no desire? Do you expect me to read your mind? It's a great place to go for a doughnut and a cup of coffee on the weekend.

OK, enough of the pep talk. Now for what's happening at the station. If you're not busy Saturday night, December 31, at around 6 pm I will be participating in Straight Key Night. This is an annual event with no rules other than you must work CW with a straight key. I will be looking for the "best fist" here at the station as well as the local area. Remember, this is not a contest. There are no rules, and is entirely unofficial. So, please no wagering! And finally, if you have not done so, look at the events area of the newsletter for the times that the club station is open. If you want to schedule another time and day for station operation, call me. More events will be coming up in the next few months so stay tuned to the P.A.I.N. and Cloud Chasers nets for information.

73, Guy-WZ5C

BSA Net/JOTA news

Boy Scouts of America is establishing a new net called BSA Net, International. It will meet every Sunday at 2030 UTC on 14.290 MHz. KB8OCC will act as net control. Thanks to David Michelson, KB8OCC, for the preceding information.

Dates have been set for the 1995 Jamboree On The Air operating event. JOTA is an annual event in which Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur Radio. JOTA 1995 will take place Saturday October 22, at 0001 hours local time to Sunday October 23, at 2359 hours local time. Thanks to Dan Dansby, W5URI, for the preceding information. (RIME Net via Radio Online BBS)

MORE FCC REORGANIZATION

The Federal Communications Commission on December 1 established a new Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, as part of its continuing reorganization begun last summer. The new bureau will have seven divisions and will "handle all FCC domestic wireless telecommunications programs and policies, except satellite communications," the FCC said. The new bureau also will "serve as the Commission's principal policy and administrative resource (regarding) spectrum auctions." Ralph Haller, formerly chief of the Private Radio Bureau, was named one of two deputy bureau chiefs, reporting directly to the chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Regina M. Keeney. Both of Keeney's parents are licensed amateurs. The new Private Radio Division, along with the Licensing Division, will handle Amateur Radio matters at the FCC. The FCC said that the Private Radio Division would "project demand for existing and possible new communications requirements and services." (From RIME Net on Radio Online BBS.)

FREE FEMA TRAINING FOR HAMS

Still with emergency preparedness, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA says that it has available at no cost, several home study courses on disaster preparedness response. According to a posting by KD6RXY these courses can be converted to college credit if desired. Courses of interest for RACES and ARES emergency communicators are Emergency USA, Hazardous Materials Orientation and a Citizens Guide to Disaster Assistance. Emergency Coordinators and other leadership personnel may also find the course Emergency Program Manager of interest. For further information please write to FEMA-EMI Home Study Program, 16825 South Seton Ave, Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727.

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**AMATEUR RADIO.....IT'S NOT A
HOBBY, IT'S A LOT OF PEOPLE WITH
NEET RADIOS!!!!!!!**

