



Matt Carpenter-KC5CGT

Guy Pigg-WZ5C

So, you thought balloons were for parties? Come to this months meeting and find out what other ways you can use them. Another balloon event is in the works for this month, details inside this months newsletter.

August is "National Clean-Up Your Shack" Month.

(Well, in Amarillo at least.)

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.
- Sidewinders 2M SSB Net-144.2-8:00 pm, Mondays.
- ARES Net-146.66 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 August.

- Tuesday, August 1st - Regular Meeting, 7:30 at Amarillo Technical Center Club Station.
(VEC Testing at 6:00 PM)
- Tuesday, August 8th-ARES Meeting, 7:30 at Polly's Resteraunt on I-40 & Bolton.
- Tuesday, August 29th - RACES meeting, 7:30 at Old Police Academy.

Events at Club Station for August.

Special events are in line for this month. Details inside this months newsletter.

President's Letter

Wow, wasn't Field Day a BLAST! Thanks and Kudos to Chip and Janet for wonderful food, a great sight, and an all around good time! I would also like to thank Dick, Guy, Matt, and all of the others who made this great Field Day a success. For more details on Field Day check other articles in this edition of the Oscillator.

There are many other happenings going on in the club. We have a new repeater that has been donated to the club (see additional article), and several members are working hard on some new packet capabilities. The "fix 94 group" has decided on a new controller for the machine and several other improvements are in the works. August is officially club station fix up month. The station is going to be open every weekend (Saturday or Sunday afternoon...ED) in August for repair, clean up, operation and of course good fellowship. Come join the fun and get involved. If the PARC isn't actively doing something that interests you why not start the ball rolling yourself!

On a more serious note the Amarillo Hamfest as large organized event has been indefinitely suspended. Many attempts to gather the support needed for such an event have been made. Sign up sheets have been repeatedly passed at meetings with little response. I would like to thank the few people who did come forward and volunteer, but there was not enough overall interest to warrant setting one up. Until the official Hamfest is resumed we hope to have two throw your junk in the trunk events a year with the next one being in September. In the past the Hamfest has been a big money raiser for the club. Without the Hamfest to raise funds serious consideration will need to be given to costs of maintaining the equipment and services the club provides. Just a thought.

The August meeting promises to be fun! The program will be a video from the North Texas Balloon Project (NTBP). This video shows the efforts of the some Dallas area hams launching amateur radio packages on weather balloons.

73, Joe

P.A.R.C. MEMBERSHIP RATES

Full and Family	\$25.00 per year
Associate (Non-Voting /Newsletter only)	\$8.00 per year

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

HAM RADIO AND MORE

A radio program about ham radio can be heard via several ways. The program is on the Talk America Network originating from KFNN, 1510 AM Phoenix, Arizona and can be heard every Sunday at 5:00 pm central time. If you have a TVRO, the network is on Spacenet 3, Transponder 9, 6.8 Audio. The program is also aired via tape delay via commercial shortwave radio on WWCR at 11:00 pm central time Sunday's and at 4:00 am central time on Monday's on a frequency of 7.435 Mhz. Tune in when you get a chance. There are always good information about ham radio with exciting guest and good information. You may be hearing the program locally. Stay tuned for further developments.

Minutes of Panhandle Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

T.S.T.C. July 4, 1995

Meeting brought to order by President, Joe, KA0YOS.

Previous minutes were read by Brett, N5SQK and accepted.

Treasure's report was read by Brett, N5SQK due to Aaron's, KJ5ER absence and accepted. Dick N5AE gave a wrap up of Field Day and thanked Chip N5LTZ for his hospitality and his donation of the Barbecue dinner for the participants. Field Day was deemed extremely successful. Brett, N5SQK discussed the recent repair actions for the 146.94 repeater which lost a P.A. Thanks were in order to Robert, KC5DKQ who purchased a P.A. and donated it to the Club. Dale, N5WGR assisted with the repair. The Club also purchased a backup Master II and cable for spare parts. It is expected that the new controller decision will be made soon.

Brett, N5SQK announced that the Club has the opportunity to assume maintenance and control of the 444.475 repeater at T.S.T.C. A motion was made and approved to assume control and maintenance of the 444.475 repeater. A new ID chip has been ordered and the machine will be coordinated with the W5WX club call.

George, N5WTW, stated that testing will be held prior to the August Club meeting at T.S.T.C.
Meeting Adjourned.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The executive committee met on the TSTC (ATC) campus at the W5WX club station at 7:00pm on Tuesday, July 18th. All of the club officers were in attendance. This was an open meeting and all members were invited to attend.

The first item discussed was the Hamfest. The sign up sheets for Hamfest participation were brought out and only one person had volunteered for a position on the sheet. After a very short discussion it was unanimously decided to suspend the Hamfest and transfer the Hamfest money into an account bearing interest. All were agreed that at some point in time it was hoped the Hamfest could be revived. Further discussion yielded a desire to continue with the "junk in the trunk events" and that they be made biannual. The club will be presented with a proposal to hold the next one in September.

The second item was a brief over view of the 94 machine progress. It was reported that a controller had been selected by the group and an effort to clean up a cabinet for housing the repeater will be undertaken. It was noted that the same over view would be given at the next general club meeting.

The third item discussed was the new UHF repeater. A lively discussion took place on what arrangements should be made with this machine. As a result of the discussion a proposal was developed to present to the club on the closing of this repeater (see related article elsewhere in this Local Oscillator containing the proposal). The high points of the proposal were as follows: coordinate the repeater as a closed machine / have revenues from the repeater go directly in to the Tech fund for maintenance and upgrading of ALL of the W5WX repeaters / the repeater would always be available to TSTC (ATC) students and instructors at no charge (condition for transfer of the repeater to the club) / the cost for access to the machine would \$15 per year per club member or \$30 per year per nonclub member. The exact proposal can be found elsewhere in this addition of the Local Oscillator.

The forth item discussed was the need for a PARC property inventory. Guy Pigg, WZ5C was asked to select a volunteer to help him with this task. The object is to account for all of the club property and document its location.

As item number five the executive committee requested an estimate of the cost to repair the antenna tuner on the club's HF rig. The station manger will get the estimate.

The committee adjourned at 9:00pm. Gary "Joe" Mayfield, KA0YOS.

W5WX STATION NOTES

by Guy Pigg, WZ5C

The W5WX repeater system up-grade "North Site" project is progressing along very well. The group of contributors headed by Bret, N5SQK met on July 13, and a decision was made to purchase the ACC RC-96 controller. However, just as the newsletter was about to go to press; Reddy Biggs, KC5JIF informed the group that ACC was no longer in the repeater controller business. So, after a canvas of the group of contributors between the DRC 186 made by A/D Technology and the LINK RLC-2, the LINK is now on order. Work is progressing on site preparation for the new controller.

As you probably are also aware, the 94 repeater is not active. The decision was made to turn off the present system due to the present controller having problems. Rather than spending the needed time at present finding the faults, our time is being devoted to the new control system for '94.

This is also "**NATIONAL CLEAN UP YOUR SHACK MONTH**". Well here in Amarillo at least. Every weekend during August, either Saturday or Sunday, there will be some kind of activity at the Club Station. This will be to tidy up and straighten out items in and around the station to prep for the fall and winter seasons. There is plenty of antenna work and equipment twicking to be done. There is also a call to anyone who has equipment that is not a part of the club station to claim it by the end of August. If this is not done, the equipment will be unclaimed and become the property of PARC to be disposed of. ALSO, I need to know where our MFJ-1270 controller is. This and a partial spool of 9913 coax is missing. The serial number of the controller is (will be available at the monthly meeting). If this device and the partial spool of coax is not presented to me or any of the club officers as to it's location and use by the end of August; these items will be reported to law enforcement as STOLEN. All that I am asking is the location and use of this equipment/supplies. If the whereabouts are know, no action will be taken other than either reimbursment for and/or recovery of the items.

Results of Field Day will be given at the meeting and in next months newsletter. That's it for now, so happy hamming!

73, Guy-WZ5C, W5WX Station Manager.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FROM THE ESTATE OF K5KNA ARE FOR SALE.

KENWOOD

TS-940S HF TRANCEIVER \$1200.00

SP-940 SPEAKER W/FILTERS \$50.00

ML-60A MICROPHONE \$65.00

SM-200 STATION MONITOR \$250.00

TH-21AT HANDITAKIE \$120.00

Chargers: WO9-0334 \$10.00

W09-0315 \$10.00

HEATHKIT

SB 200 10-80 Meter Amp \$325.00

DUMMY LOAD \$20.00

MOSLEY TA33 TRI-BAND BEAM \$125.00

JOHNSON LOW PASS FILTER \$10.00

For information concerning this equipment, call Charles Seitz-WA5PEO at (806) 352-1123.

Prices listed on equipment are firm and non-negotiable.

UHF Repeater Proposal

The following is a proposal from the executive committee on what to do with the club's new UHF repeater.

In light of the fact the club no longer has a Hamfest creating revenue we cannot afford to take on new expenses without additional sources of revenue. Many individuals have been very generous towards the recent effort to repair the 94 repeater and we are all very grateful. In reality the club should be able to cover its own expenses and while providing the benefits we all enjoy. With this in mind the executive committee has recommended that the 444.475 MHz repeater be coordinated as a closed repeater. The conditions of this proposal are as follows:

1. The repeater will remain open for the use of TSTC (ATC) students and faculty. They will also be allowed full access to the repeater sight for instructional purposes. This is a condition of the property transfer to the club. A written biannual list of the ATC students wanting to use machine will be provided to the PARC by the active faculty members of ATC. Any changes in the ATC faculty members using the machine will be given to the PARC in writing.
2. For ALL others this will be a closed repeater. The repeater frequency will remain coordinated, but will not be listed in the repeater directory. To use the repeater club members will have to pay \$15 per person per year in addition to their regular dues. If a family membership has three members all wanting access to the repeater it would be \$45 in addition to the dues. If only one family member wanted access to the repeater it be \$15 plus the normal dues. Non PARC members can gain access to the repeater for \$30 per person per year. There will be NO group discounts or family deals.
3. As an introductory offer members can pay \$1.00 per month per person until they need to renew their dues. Then the \$15 per person per year will apply.
4. All funds raised from this closed system will go directly into the club technical fund used for repair and upgrading of ALL the W5WX repeaters. The club's technical fund resources are too small to divide among the various machines. We are one lightning strike away from what could be a major expense. Consider this your way of supporting all of the club's repeaters.

No one intendeds to close all of the clubs repeaters. This is not a trend where 94 or 66 will be next. The club and the amateur community at large have a history of public service provided through open systems. We hope this tradition will continue to survive. Any one who has traveled with amateur radio has enjoyed open machines just as visitors to Amarillo enjoy ours. But if you have traveled with 440 MHz you also know that there is a precedence for closed UHF machines. These machines are typically used by groups with common interests and/or goals. Many of the remote control functions commonly used by hams today were pioneered on closed repeaters wanting to offer something unique to their club members.

Balloon Party at W5WX?????
BALLOON LAUNCH ANNOUNCEMENT
THE NORTH TEXAS BALLOON PROJECT, MISSION #7

The North Texas balloon project will launch its seventh high altitude balloon experiment carrying amateur radio payloads on the 19th of August, 1995. The payload carries a variety of radios and instruments that can be easily used by any amateur with a Technician's license or above.

The launch will be from Clifton, Texas (located 30 miles west of Hillsboro) at approximately 9:30 AM. In the event of inclement weather, the launch will be delayed to the next day, and then to the next Saturday (the 26th).

There will be a pre-launch net at 8:30 PM on the Ft. Worth 146.76 repeater the evening before the launch. The morning of launch there will be an HF net on 7.155 MHz +/- QRM. The Net control station will probably be W5IU.

Approximately two hours after launch, the balloon is expected to reach an altitude of 95,000 feet before burst. At this altitude the area of visibility will be about 370 miles in any direction for a total 740 mile communications range. In past missions, there have been QSO's between Corpus Christi, TX and Salina, Kansas.

The following is a list of the available experiments onboard:

Two Crossband FM Voice Repeaters:

There will be two crossband FM repeaters open to all.
 Uplink #1 147.450 MHz Downlink #1 445.850 MHz.
 Uplink #2 147.570 MHz Downlink #2 445.970 MHz.

Packet Telemetry on 144.290 MHz:

This GPS and telemetry information will be the data downlink (downlink ONLY) of the mission. The packet format is the common 1200 baud AFSK found in all TNC's. The data will be presented in an easy to read format with no conversions required and is NOT in APRS format. Packet digipeating and packet connects to the package will NOT be possible.

GPS:

Precise longitude, latitude and altitude data will be provided by a donated Rockwell NavCore V GPS receiver. The following data will be measured and can be seen on the 144.290 MHz packet downlink:
 * UTC day and time * Longitude * Latitude * Altitude * Bearing * Ground Velocity * Velocity up

Telemetry:

There will be an onboard 12 bit, 8 channel Analog to Digital converter. Six of the eight channels are used to measure the following: * Inside Temperature * Outside Temperature * Barometric Altitude * Main Battery Voltage * ATV Battery Voltage * Summed Battery Voltage

Amateur Television (ATV):

There will be a live, full motion, Amateur Television camera and 10 Watt transmitter onboard. The downlink frequency will be 439.250 MHz VERTICALLY Polarized. This frequency was chosen to exactly correspond to Cable channel # 60. With a 440 MHz beam and reasonable Low Noise Amplifier, a cable ready TV tuned to Cable channel 60 should be able to receive an acceptable signal. The camera will be remotely pointed via ground command to any of 256 possible positions.

Other Innovations On NTBP #7

Active package stabilization:.....Remotely controlled air foils to cancel package spin.

Power distribution:.....Non essential equipment turned off after touchdown and batteries summed to provide power to essential DF'ing beacons.

Audio Distribution:.....Ground commands allow audio from crossband repeaters, packet downlink, or command uplink to be piped through ATV audio.

Improved Parachute/Tow line:.....New spreader ring design, swivels and woven tow line should help ensure that parachute does not tangle.

QSL's can be had through KG5OA via the Callbook address.

Fines for 4 amateurs

Four amateurs cited by the Federal Communications Commission for malicious interference on the 2-meter band have had the amounts of their monetary forfeitures adjusted.

The four, all in the New Orleans area, were cited for transmissions made in the spring of 1993. In September 1993 all four received Notices of Apparent Liability from the FCC's New Orleans office.

The FCC, after reviewing responses from all four, then issued Notices of Forfeiture in November 1993, all in the amount of 2000 dollars. All four appealed the NOFs.

While these appeals were pending, the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit vacated the forfeiture guidelines that the New Orleans Field Office had followed in the forfeitures, and on reconsideration, the FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau reduced them.

On July 10, 1995, the FCC issued Orders in all four cases, noting that the cases were based on information provided by the Amateur Auxiliary, and saying that "use of amateur volunteers for the purposes of monitoring violations in the amateur service is permitted by the (Communications) Act. In fact, the amateur radio community has distinguished itself for its self policing operations."

The FCC reduced the fine for Joseph F. Richard III, N5JNX, from 2000 dollars to 1000 dollars, rejecting his contention that tape recordings used by the FCC in the case are "inaccurate or misleading."

Vernon Paroli, KA5OWW, had his forfeiture amount reduced to 700 dollars, based on his claim of being financially unable to pay the 2,000 dollar forfeiture originally assessed.

The forfeiture amount for Will T. Blanton, N5ROC, was reduced from 2,000 dollars to 1,000 dollars. That of John B. Genovese, WB5LOC, was lowered to 500 dollars, because of the shorter duration of his transmissions.

Satellite Roundup!!!

First, I would like to start by thanking Chip and Janet for the fabulous hospitality shown us for Field Day! It was a great sight with wonderful food and outstanding fellowship. Amazingly even the weather cooperated. I hope everyone had as good a time as I had.

Murphy struck big this year at the W5WX OSCAR station! We ran a dry run the week before Field Day and things went flawlessly, but when the day came things went a little differently. Sometime between the dry run and Field Day our transponder frequency chart vanished. WZ5C came to the rescue with his chart! We dropped an antenna on the way to the sight breaking the feed section requiring repairs during valuable operating time. When it was all over we discovered Murphy had eaten an entire page of our log taking all of our AO-10 contacts (estimated at 30). Any way we had run, and several ops got to make their first OSCAR contacts. To the best of my knowledge the Panhandle Amateur Radio Club had seven ops make OSCAR contacts (Joe Mayfield, KA0YOS / Bob Hill, W5FBQ / Aaron Sims, KJ5ER / David Williams, KK5KK / Marshall Cook, AB5ZA / David Hundley, KB5WUF / Matt Carpenter, KC5CGT). All contacts used in the totals were made on mode B AO-13.

We made 54 SSB contacts and 7 CW contacts. Contacts were completed with 29 states and 34 ARRL sections, 3 JA's were also worked. These totals may seem low, but when the 100 point satellite bonus, and the 100 point 'natural power' bonus are added in things become more respectable. Let's do it again next year!

73, Joe. (ED. Note: The missing log page was found.)

FIX 94 CONTRIBUTIONS AS OF JULY 17, 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	LEYLAND 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
		<hr/>
		\$ 1550.00

Here is some advice from a noted 6-meter DXer in Engand concerning the best way W8/9/0 can make European contacts:

First, The Do's:

- 1) Do stick to CW - your signal will be much weaker than the East Coasters you hear running pile-ups on SSB.
- 2) Do pick a frequency well clear of QRM, 50075-50.085 is usually nice and quiet in Europe.
- 3) Do CQ as much as possible - Europe is activity seeking MidWest stations in this lower window during ALL transatlantic-openings, many of us can run QRO, but EMC/high 6m amateur population density restricts many to the "hunt and pounce" method.
- 4) DO keep going.....Many "Big Gun" Europeans now tend to leave the "Big Gun" East Coasters alone - (we've worked each other too many times!) in preference to looking for those signals in the noise further down the band.
- 5) Do of course call those you hear CQing - with no takers - however you are unlikely to break a East Coast pile-up!

Second, The Do not's:

- 1) Do not, spend all your time calling the one or two Europeans you can hear working strings of East Coast, you are wasting valuable time! Once you have established you have EU propagation get on your own frequency ASAP.
- 2) Do not go anywhere near 50.110, it might appear dead on your side, but it's the last place you will be heard in Europe.
- 3) Do not stop after a few CQs, propagation changes very quickly and you just might miss that 2 minute window into your square.
- 4) Do not call at 30WPM. 20WPM limit.
- 5) Do not waste time exchanging grids - consentrate on logging reports and calls only, and get other details off East Coasters later.

Rest assured many stations in Western Europe are trying just as hard to break though the East Coast barrier from this side as you are from that side. These few basic guidelines should increase your chances 100%. Remember don't complain you worked no EU stations during the opening as you couldn't break though the East Coast wall. Get your own frequency and stay there. If the propagation is there, Europe WILL find you! (Information provided by Reddy, KC5JIF from the Internet.)

AMATEUR TESTING

With appologies to George, N5WTW, here are results from test sessions held so far this year in Amarillo.

February: (3 Testing)

G.T.-KB5ZRK-Passed elements 3B and 4A
David-KC5GDI-Passed element 4A now ADVANCED

March: (3 Testing)

Two new Technicians-
Earl Burkhalter-KC5
Jared Read

April: (3 Testing)

Reddy Biggs-KC5JIF-Tech +

May: (7 Testing)

ADVANCE CLASS:

Martin Mayfield-N5JDV

GENERAL CLASS:

John Bridwell-KB5VVJ
Woodford Peebles-KC5KST

TECHNICIAN:

Monty Denny
Jerry Pollard
Dan Pomeroy
Les Randy

June: (10 Testing)

TECHNICIAN Plus:

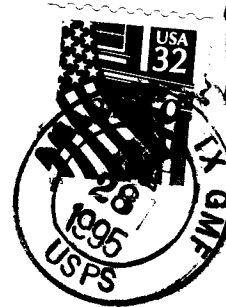
George Awalt-KB5ZRK

TECHNICIAN:

Bobby Gurbbs
Debra Castagnetta
Donald Childers
Thomas Davis
David hedges
Claude Hollis
Joe Rice
Judy West
Fred Wieck

Thanks to the following VE's for their assistance:
WB2UZZ, N5DJG, KB5EDP, N5SQK, KJ5ER, AND
WA4NXI.

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6112 CALUMET
AMARILLO, TX 79106

**AMATEUR RADIO...It's not just a hobby, it's
remembering the fuses you forgot to get just
about the time the equipm (poooof!!!!)**