



KARS KEY KLICKS

JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY



Volume 81 Issue 11

Editors: K9QT, K9NR, Photos: K9QT, N9QXZ, AK9F
Contributors: AK9F, K9KOC, WD9AYI

November 2006

RTTY & NOMINATIONS AT NOVEMBER MEETING

The KARS November meeting will be on November 7th, 7:00 PM at St. Mary's Hospital. However, we will meet in a different room (see article below). The nomination of KARS officers and directors for 2007 will take place prior to a RTTY presentation by Howard, AK9F and Pete, NI9H. They will provide a demonstration of RTTY as well as set up two functioning stations on opposite ends of the meeting room to communicate with each other. The presentation will demonstrate the software for making general contacts, as well as software for contest competition. Everyone is welcome to try their hand at RTTY!

See you at the meeting for an informative hands on program and while you're there, put your hat in the ring and run for an office or a position on the board of directors.

Again, we're meeting in a new location, this month only, because our regular meeting room is an election polling place. Talk in on .34/.94, if you get lost!

MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

Our regular meeting room will serve as a polling place for the November elections. Therefore we will meet in a new location at St. Mary's Hospital. It's in the lower level, below the Emergency Room area. The room is: Delaplace A & B, in the Human Resources Dept.

Here's how you get there...

Park on the WEST side of the building, near the Alpiner Park ball diamond, then walk toward the hospital, and to the "Lower Level West Entrance", which is under the Emergency Room driveway ramp, and just to the left of the big white oxygen tanks. Go in the doors and proceed straight down the hallway to the Human Resources Department, then turn right and go a short distance to a left turn, then proceed to the room, on the right side of the hall.

Note: The outside doors are locked at around 8 PM you can exit, just cannot enter after 8 PM. 73, AK9F



AUCTIONEER WILL K9FO WIELDS THE GAVEL AT THE KARS OCTOBER AUCTION, WHILE BILL N9QXZ AND GREG WR9L DECIDE WHAT TO BUY

KARS KALENDAR

Nov 7.....KARS General Meeting
Nov 4-6.....ARRL CW Sweepstakes
Nov 18-20.....ARRL SSB Sweepstakes
Nov 21.....KARS Board Meeting
Nov 23.....*Thanksgiving*
Nov 25-26.....CQWW CW DX Contest

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

146.34/.94 107.2 PL Access

449.8/444.8 114.8 PL Access

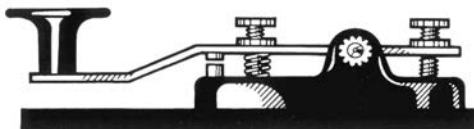
Also, co-sponsors:

145.130 107.2 PL Access

Additionally, KARS sponsors:

144.39 Wide Area APRS digi-peater

145.53 KARS DX Cluster



W9AZ

KARS SEEKS TAX FREE STATUS

Work has begun to prepare an application for KARS to apply for Tax Free status. This will offer a savings to the club when purchases are made and also enable us to receive donations that would be tax deductible to the donor. As part of this process it is necessary to amend our By-laws to reflect the intention that in the event of the dissolution of KARS, our assets would be forwarded to another non profit organization (namely the ARRL).

An amendment to the By-laws requires a vote from the members of the club. An announcement will be made at the next Monthly meeting, in November, and a vote taken at that time. 73 for now, WD9AYI

KARS MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN EMERGENCY DRILL

A county wide emergency drill was held on October 21st. Many KARS members participated in the exercise. Active participants included the following: John K9BYT, Howard AK9F (who served as net control), Will K9FO, Brandon K9BAC, Sam KC9GWF, Don K9NR, Bob K9CWF, Billie K9QT and visiting ham Jonathan, N9TJX from the hospital in Morris. Harry WD9FYF and Paul W9IEY also checked in to the emergency net offering their services if needed. Lots of pictures on page 3.

FCC MOVES ON OMNIBUS REPORT AND ORDER

The much anticipated, wide ranging change in FCC Rules specified in Docket 04-140 was adopted October 4 and released October 10, 2006. For a more detailed description of these actions, see "FCC REPORT AND ORDER" on page two.

Happy Thanksgiving to All!

KARS HOMEPAGE— WWW.W9AZ.COM —KARS HOMEPAGE

FCC REPORT AND ORDER

The long awaited FCC "Omnibus" ruling was announced October 10th.

In it, the FCC adopted nearly all of the proposed changes in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released back in 2004. The FCC has:

- Expanded the phone subbands in the 75 and 40 meter bands;

- Permitted auxiliary stations to transmit on portions of the 2 meter band;

- Permitted the use of spread spectrum on 222-225 MHz;

- Permitted amateurs to retransmit communications from the International Space Station;

- Permitted amateur licensees to designate a specific Amateur Radio club to receive their call sign in memoriam;

- Prohibited an applicant from filing more than one application for a specific vanity call sign;

- Eliminated certain restrictions on equipment manufacturers;

- Permitted Amateur Radio stations in Alaska and surrounding waters more flexibility in providing emergency communications;

- Clarified that "amateur stations may, at all times and on all frequencies authorized to the control operator, make transmissions necessary to meet essential communication needs and to facilitate relief actions";

- Deleted the frequency bands and segments specified for RACES stations;

- Deleted the requirement for public announcement of test locations and times.

In addition, the FCC took several other miscellaneous actions. In "refarming" the frequencies currently authorized to Novice and Technician Plus licensees, the Commission increased the voice segments for General, Advanced and Amateur Extra licensees.

On 75 meters:

Generals will be able to use voice from 3800-4000 kHz, an increase of 50 kHz. Advanced class licensees will be able to use voice from 3700-4000, an increase of 75 kHz, and Amateur Extras will be able to use voice from 3600 to 4000 kHz, a generous increase of 150 kHz.

On 40 meters:

Advanced and Extra Class licensees will be able to use voice from 7125-7300 kHz, an increase of 25 kHz. General class licensees will be able to use voice on 7175-7300 kHz, an increase of 50 kHz.

On 15 meters:

General class operators will have phone privileges on 21275-21450 kHz, an increase of 25 kHz.

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN,

expressed the ARRL's gratitude to the FCC Commissioners in a letter dated October 11: "On behalf of the ARRL and the Commission's licensees in the Amateur Radio Service I want to express appreciation for your release yesterday of the Report and Order in WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) amending Part 97 of the Commission's Rules. The Commission's action in clearing this pending proceeding will assist the Amateur Radio Service in meeting its objectives, particularly with regard to providing emergency and public service communications."

The changes will go into effect 30 days after the R&O is published in the Federal Register.

NCS FOR NOVEMBER

Net control stations-Monday night net

Nov 6 KC9FAV

Nov 13 K9BYT

Nov 20 KE9MG

Nov 27 WD9AYI

Don't forget the net!

Mondays at 2100 hrs. local time

"HAM BAND" WEB SITE

John K9KOC sent us the following URL: http://www.tmedlin.com/misc/100k%20video/hamband_100K.wmv

Check it out, definitely worth a look and listen!

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY

11/3 KC9FAV 11/8 KC6FJO

11/12 N9IO 11/20 AI9L

Let the newsletter editors know if we miss your birthday or get it wrong.

UPCOMING ARTICLES

Be sure to check out the KARS KEY CLICKS in December for some interesting reading. Jamie KC9DEP will have an adventuresome article about the Illinois QSO Party. Ken W9YNI will have the first of a series of articles about his new "FLEX RADIO." Final Field Day report by Howard AK9F, will also be featured.

INDIANA QSO PARTY WON BY AK9F/K9NR TEAM

Howard AK9F and Don K9NR combined their efforts to become the top station in the Indiana QSO Party, in ALL Categories. Check out their impressive score at:

<<http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/scores.html>>

More impressive than their score is the fact that they were able to play the contest as well as blow a hole in the side of Howard's barn with a potato cannon. Good going Howard!

RTTY ENJOYS RESURGANCE OF POPULARITY

by Howard, AK9F

What was the first digital mode transmission used in amateur radio? Most know it was Morse code. What was the second oldest digital transmission mode? Less well known is that it was **RTTY**, or **Radio TeleType**. It involved taking a 1930 or 1940 vintage teletype machine and hooking it to through some seriously difficult interface equipment to the HF transmitters and receivers of the day, most of which, incidentally, had to be home made. For many years the mode was used by only a select few dedicated hams, considered a bit weird by some because they liked to tinker with the huge, noisy, oily surplus teletype machines that required constant maintenance and copious amounts of oil to function.

RTTY is undergoing a great resurgence in popularity, due to the fact that those old, noisy machines can now be replaced with a computer and a sound card. RTTY is a "keyboard to keyboard" method of making QSO's, and by adding a simple, inexpensive connection between the computer in most ham shacks, and about any radio, you can easily get in on the fun. Some great software is now available to turn your computer and radio into a very capable RTTY system, and to top it off, the very best software is FREE!

Typical ham RTTY systems send messages at about 60 words per minute, which is about twice as fast as the faster CW operators, and about half again as fast as the popular PSK31 mode. And because it is so easy to put a competition grade RTTY station together, there has been a great increase in its popularity for contesting. In recent years, the number of entries in the many RTTY contests has ballooned.



1950 vintage Teletype station, now replaced by a computer

KARS BOARD MEETING

The KARS board meeting will be held in the banquet room of El Campesino Mexican restaurant on November 21st. All KARS members and spouses are welcome to attend. Eat at 6:00. Meet at 7:00



SAM, KC9GWF; BRANDON, K9BAC; DON, K9NR; HOWARD, AK9F CHECKING OUT THE COMMUNICATIONS ROOM AT THE EOC



SALVATION ARMY WORKERS BRING FOOD TO THE EOC FOR VOLUNTEERS



JOHN, K9BYT AND HOWARD, AK9F ASSUME THEIR OPERATING POSITIONS AT THE EOC FOR THE EMERGENCY DRILL



WILL, K9FO CHOWS DOWN AFTER THE EMERGENCY EXERCISE. HE CLAIMS THAT ANY "EXERCISE" MAKES HIM HUNGRY



BILL, N9QXZ'S NEW TOWER PROJECT GLISTENS IN THE SUN



SAM, KC9GWF; BRANDON, K9BAC AND JONATHAN, N9TJX (VISITOR FROM MORRIS HOSPITAL) PARTAKE OF THE FOOD OFFERED AFTER THE DRILL



CROWD LOOKS OVER ITEMS BEING SOLD AT OCTOBER KARS AUCTION



KARS MEMBERS AT OCTOBER MEETING ANXIOUSLY AWAITING THE START OF THE AUCTION



SALVATION ARMY EMERGENCY DISASTER SERVICES VEHICLE AT THE EOC DURING EMERGENCY DRILL