



KARS KEY KLICKS

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Editors: K9QT, K9NR, Contributors: K9KOC

Photos: K9QT, K9NR, AK9F, K9KOC

December 2007

ELECTIONS, DX, VOLCANOES & EARTHQUAKES AT NEXT MEETING

The next KARS general meeting will be at 7PM on Tuesday, December 11th (one week later than normal) in the public meeting room at St. Mary's Hospital.

On the agenda for the meeting is the election of officers and board members for the 2008 year. Don't be shy! If you wish to run for the board, head up a committee or run for one of the four main offices, put your hat in the ring. We need hard working, dedicated people in those positions who are willing to put forth a concerted effort for the benefit of our great club.

KARS members returning from Montserrat will give a short talk on their contest efforts, the famed volcano as well as the earthquake that rocked their world. They promise a polished presentation complete with pictures and short video clips at a future meeting.

KARS BOARD MEETING

KARS December board meeting will be held in the banquet room of El Campesino Mexican restaurant on December 18th.

All KARS members, spouses and invited guests are welcome to attend.

Eat at 6:00. Meet at 7:00.

NCS FOR DECEMBER

Dec 3rd	KC9FAV
Dec 10th	K9BYT
Dec 17th	KE9MG
Dec 24th	WD9AYI
Dec 31st	WD9FYF

NCS FOR JANUARY

Jan 7th	KC9FAV
Jan 14th	WR9L
Jan 21st	KE9MG
Jan 28th	WD9FYF

Don't forget the net!
Mondays at 2100 hrs. local time



John K9BYT, using one of the many donated laptops presented the November program on digital modes

KARS KALENDAR

Dec 8-9.....	ARRL 10 Meter Contest
Dec 11.....	KARS General Meeting
Dec 18.....	KARS Board Meeting
Dec 29-30.....	Stew Perry 160 Contest
Jan 1.....	Straight Key Night
Jan 5.....	KARS Banquet/meeting
Jan 5-6.....	ARRL RTTY Roundup
Jan 12-13.....	NA QSO Party CW
Jan 15.....	KARS Board Meeting
Jan 19-20.....	NA QSO Party SSB
Jan 26-27	CQ 160 Contest CW

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

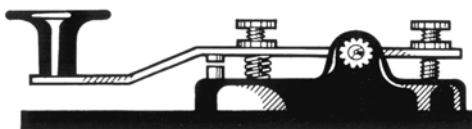
146.34/.94	107.2 PL Access
449.8/444.8	114.8 PL Access

Also, co-sponsors:

145.130	107.2 PL Access
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Additionally, KARS sponsors:

144.39	Wide Area APRS digi-peater
145.53	KARS DX Cluster



W9AZ

KARS ANNUAL BANQUET

The KARS annual banquet will be held at the Moose Lodge on Rt. 50 in Bradley, Illinois, on January 5th. All KARS club members and their spouse/significant other are invited to attend. Socializing begins at 6 PM. Dinner at 7 PM. Menu choices are:

Prime Rib-\$22
Butt steak-\$20
Fish-\$16.25
Chicken-\$15.25

Be sure to contact Francis, KE9MG, with your choice of entree and to pay your dues.

A **VERY** short business meeting will take place after the dinner.

The banquet takes the place of the general meeting. Regular meetings will resume on February 5th at St. Mary's hospital.



VP2MFO (aka Will K9FO), VP2MVX (aka Larry K3VX), VP2MSC (aka Carl K9CS), VP2MLH (aka Greg WR9L), and VP2MNR (aka Don K9NR) with the Montserrat volcano in the background

2008 DUES ARE DUE!

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND ALL!

KARS HOMEPAGE— WWW.W9AZ.COM —KARS HOMEPAGE

K9KOC ANTENNA PROJECT

Despite incurring some serious injuries, which put his antenna project on hold, it is a pleasure to announce that John, K9KOC finally has his new antenna up and running. With the help of KARS members Tim, W9TRF and Carl, K9CS as well as John's wife Lois, the project is now complete.

The following are excerpts from a series of Emails received by the editors from John:

Sept. 20...I had plans to work on getting the antenna up on my tower when I returned home from dad's after celebrating his 101st birthday. But I fell on my way into the church in Chrisman last Sunday morning and tore the end off of the 4th finger on my right hand, skinned up both shins, banged up left knee and have a bump just above my left elbow and I am sore!!! Antenna project on hold now for a while.

Sept. 24...I did get an email from W9TRF Tim Focken who offered to help. I will let all know when I am able to work again a few days before I am ready to give time for planning.

Oct. 31...Lois helped me yesterday and we ran the control cable from the shack down to the basement and then pulled 30 feet of it through 1/2 inch diameter clear plastic tubing, and then we pulled it outside and buried it in a 28 foot ditch 4 inches deep that I dug from the house to the tower. I wanted the wire inside the tubing to weather-proof it.

Today I installed the rotator in the tower and wired it to the control box cable. **It works fine.** I had a friend come today and unbolt the tower from the stabilizer that is bolted to the garage, and hook up a device to the tower that I am going to use to tilt the tower over so I can install the pipe from the rotator to the top of the tower. Then I am going to have a fellow Ham operator come and install the antenna after I raise the tower back up. Then I will be using my MP-33 Triband Beam. The last antenna I am going to put up. Just too much work for an old man.

Nov. 1.... Today, a couple of friends came over and we lowered the tower so I could install the pipe from

the rotator to the top of the tower in preparation to mounting the big antenna. THEN I FELL AGAIN AND BANGED UP MY RIGHT KNEE AGAIN AND I SAT ALL AFTERNOON IN MY RECLINER WITH ICE AND THEN HEAT ON MY REALLY SORE KNEE. THE PROJECT HAS BEEN DELAYED. **PRAY FOR ME AND MY KNEE.** I had total joint replacement in this knee in 1995 and the mechanism seems to be OK but the flesh and knee cap are bruised.

Nov. 5...I finished the tower job today and now it is ready to go up. My last job was kind of a flourish for the top of the pipe. I used a portion of an old baseball bat and turned it in my lathe so that it was a tight fit into the top of the pipe with a crown. The crown was dome shaped and it protrudes over the pipe just a little, like an eave, so water will drain off of it. This will keep birds from slipping down inside the pipe.

I then cranked up the lathe and used a block of beeswax to rub on the work of art at high speed and used a piece of cloth to polish it and at high speed the wax melts and soaks into the wood for a waterproof seal. Then I used a clean cloth and while it was turning high speed I polished it.

Then I hammered it into place in the top of the pipe. I bet I have the only tower in the country topped with a polished wooden dome.

Nov. 9...My tower was raised into position at 10 AM this morning and I have assembled the Director, Driven Element and Reflector and they are ready to be attached to the beam and then placed atop of the tower. Let me know when it fits into your schedule to mount the antenna atop of the 38 foot tower. I am not acquainted with this type of activity, so I don't know how many guys it will take to do the job.

Nov. 14...This morning Tim W9TRF and Carl, K9CS came about 8:45 AM and put the MP-33 Mosley beam up. I was pleasantly surprised at the speed he worked. He certainly knew what he was doing, and I highly recommend his expertise in antenna installation to any who need such assistance.

I am somewhat better but still have lot of pain in my back and legs. I spend a good deal of time at my Chiropractor's office and he is helping me.

73, John K9KOC



**Antenna project finally completed
K9KOC MP-33 Triband beam**

CERTS MEMBERS WANT TO GET HAM LICENSE

John, K9BYT was informed by ESDA that several of their citizen volunteers would like to become licensed. It was apparent during the recent emergency drill that they required a better means of communication than cell phones and CB. John has been working with ESDA to set up a series of classes taught by volunteer KARS members. Your help is needed. Contact John for the details and to volunteer.



John K9BYT looks on as Brandon K9BAC takes a message at the EOC during the autumn emergency drill.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Happy January Birthday

Jan 7	N9IOQ
Jan 17	WD9FYF
Jan 20	K9XM
Jan 25	W9LIZ

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