



# FEEDBACK



## JOHNSON COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS CLUB, Inc.

The Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club normally meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays, 7:30 PM at the Overland Park Christian Church at 75th and Conser streets, west of the Fire Station.

### May Meetings

**Friday, May 10, 2013 7:30 pm**  
The program for this evening will be to develop our 2013 Field Day site plan. A few members went out to survey the Shawnee Mission Park tower site (no Sheriff's tower this year). Please attend this meeting and make your inputs on preferred operating locations, type and location of antennas, what you can contribute, what you like to operate, etc.

**Friday, May 24, 2013 7:30 pm**  
The program for the evening will be announced on the Wheat Shocker Net on Thursday night at 8 pm. In other words, TBA.

### Happy Birthday

When you get a chance, say "Happy Birthday" to the following club member(s). If your birthday is not listed here, it was not listed in [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com), but, you can email us the month and day and we will add it to the list:

Bill Gery	KA2FNK	May 1
Gary Yantis	W0TM	May 12
Sam Goller	KCOLTU	May 31

### JCRAC Dues Choices

Remember, you have an option now on JCRAC dues; pay \$40 for TWO YEARS, as compared to the regular rate of \$24 per year, and your grandchild under the age of 18 qualifies as a member of the family for membership purposes.

NOTICE: Mac W0LQV said he sent out 18 reminders that club dues are overdue but still within the grace period. Please check your membership card or FEEDBACK mailing label for "good thru" date and help Mac update the membership roster.

Thanks  
NOTO, Editor

### Amateur License Testing

**When?**  
Third Saturday of each month, at 9:00 am.  
**Where?**  
Johnson County Public Library  
Blue Valley Branch, 9000 West 151st St.  
Overland Park, KS  
(Just west of Antioch on north side of 151st St.)  
**Fee?** \$14  
Pre-registration is NOT required.  
Walk-ins are welcome!  
For more information contact  
Jim Lee, N0KCB 913-745-5121 or  
e-mail: [JimLee@kc.rr.com](mailto:JimLee@kc.rr.com)  
Commercial RadioTests are also available.

### Public Service Events List

Larry Staples W0AIB compiles, and makes available by e-mail, a list of the public service activities/events in the metro Kansas City area. Please let W0AIB know of any ham-type public service events, with confirmed dates, scheduled to be held in the metro area in 2013.

### Heartland Border Walk to Benefit MS

This event to benefit MS will be in and around the Olathe (Garmin) area and is a two day (June 8th and 9th), 35-mile, event this year. The walkers over-night at a school in Olathe and they assemble at Garmin for the Border Walk pre-finish ceremonies. If you are interested in working a local event contact Duane Haverty WA0BVX at [dhaverty@kc.rr.com](mailto:dhaverty@kc.rr.com)

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# JCRAC Officers

## President's Corner

### **President**

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### **Vice President**

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### **Secretary**

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### **Treasurer**

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Overland Park, KS 66212-1963  
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### **Trustee**

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### **FEEDBACK Editor**

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The club mailing address is: JCRAC, P.O.Box 93, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201. FEEDBACK is published monthly for the JCRAC membership. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Club or the officers. Items for FEEDBACK should be in the Editor's possession by the fourth Friday of each month for publication in FEEDBACK for the following month. The Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club website address is:  
<http://www.w0erh.org/>

Here it is the beginning of May. The first day the weather was great for working in the yard and getting things planted. Sunny with temperature about 80. Advance 24 hours and it is May 2, the temperature is 33 degrees; not only with snow falling, but the grass turning white. At least we are getting much needed precipitation to ease the drought. Let us hope it does dry out enough for farmers to get into the fields to plant.

Field Day, June 22nd and 23rd this year, is fast approaching. We will be at the observation tower at the Shawnee Mission Park again. This will present some new challenges as we will not have the Sheriff's tower this year. A group of club members visited the site and are in the process of developing a plan which will be presented at the first May meeting. There are still several things that need to be decided, so please provide your input. As with the last couple of years, the Friday before field day we will hold the club meeting at the site. We should be able to have the antennas up for testing Friday evening. Volunteers are needed to stay at the FD site over Friday night. Friday evening has proven to be a great time to make some contacts.

The fire pit at Ensor has already been activated by Don W0DEW. Keep an ear on the repeater as to the next evening-fire-gathering as weather is what determines the activity.

May is an active month for both severe weather and public service events in the Kansas City area. If you volunteer for at least one public service event it will improve your skills to aid in the support of real emergencies.

It is time again for electing club officers for the next twelve months. Nominations and election of officers takes place during the second meeting of May.

KA2FNK, JCRAC President

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To make a pound of honey, bees must collect nectar from over 2 million individual flowers. Ergo, "busy as a bee"! See <http://www.captainjohnshoney.com/trivia.htm>  
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## QCWA

Come enjoy lunch with other hams. QCWA Mid-Continent Chapter 35 meets each Thursday at 11:00 am for lunch at Waid's, 103rd and State Line in KC, MO. Waid's is located just east of State Line and north of 103rd Street. You don't have to belong to QCWA to attend the luncheons...just drop in and enjoy the company of other hams. Mid-Continent Chapter 35 serves the Metro KC area in both Kansas and Missouri. Ron Wood KØBRO is President and JCRAC club member George Yantis KØGY is Chapter 35 Secretary and Treasurer. Starting in January 2013 QCWA publications will be on-line only as one means of reducing costs. More information on QCWA and Mid-Continent Chapter events can be found at

<http://www.qcwa.org/>

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## For Sale and Wanted

### FOR SALE:

Name badges with your name, call letters, and QTH; top quality, engraved in a wide range of colors. For sale, 4" diameter multi-colored embroidered patches, with the WØERH call sign, for sale at \$3.00 ea. This will give the club a small profit on each patch. Contact Jim McCoy WØLQV at 913-648-4406 or [w0lqv@arrl.net](mailto:w0lqv@arrl.net)

**WANTED:** 4-post open style rack cabinet. Also looking for 15 to 20ft of 2 ga or larger insulated stranded wire or welding cable.  
John KØIZ, 816-587-8204.

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## Ensor Museum

If you can visit the Ensor Park and Museum, just 5 minutes South of central Olathe but haven't, do it now and see a most interesting and original flashback to the mid-1900's. Our motto "SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT" is true. A site map, Ensor GPS coordinates, and much more can be seen on the website at [www.w9bsp-w9ua.org/](http://www.w9bsp-w9ua.org/)  
Larry Woodworth WØHXS, Ensor Park and Museum Manager

## Wheatshocker Net

The weekly Wheatshocker Net is on Thursday evenings, 8 pm on 145.29 (-). There is usually a 'meeting-after-the-net' on or about 28.475 MHz usb. The Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) net is also called on 145.29 (-) at 7:00 pm local, on Tuesday.

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## An Experiment Gone Wrong

Long long ago in the days before GFI's, ground fault interrupters, I built an intercom using parts I had on hand plus some components from a 5-tube ac/dc radio. The how-to article was published in an electronics magazine and I was going to enter the intercom in the county fair. I used a one pound Folger's™ coffee can and a speaker from another radio for the remote speaker, and cut a piece of screen wire to fit the opening and even painted it to match the radio case, which was now my intercom chassis. That speaker was also used as a "remote microphone" in this design.

I checked everything and the intercom worked fine in my "electronics workshop". In order to test the ability to work from a remote location, I used a length of 300 ohm twinlead between the intercom and the remote speaker, which I had my younger Sister take out to a small shed about 50 feet from the house. Sis was about 11 and interested in what I was doing. I showed her how to push the button to make a call from the remote speaker. The sensitivity of the speaker as a mic was low so you had to be close and speak in a loud voice to get enough audio.

So far, so good...keep in mind we went barefoot in the summer a lot of the time back in those days. Sis understood everything so I went back in and turned the intercom ON. I pressed the button and called her and she pressed her button on the speaker and the next thing we all heard, parents included here, was OUCH HELP!

An Experiment...cont'd on Pg 5



## Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Friday, April 12, 2013. The meeting started at 7:30pm. Attendance: Self-introduction with name and call sign. 42 signed the check in sheet. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Minutes from the March 22, 2013 were read and accepted with one opposed vote. The Treasurer's report, as follows, was read and accepted unanimously.

Cash on Hand	\$ 419.67
Checking Account	\$ 1,346.88
Savings Account	\$ 8,216.71
Total	\$ 9,983.06
Repeater Operating Reserve	\$ 668.25
Memorial Fund	\$ 150.00

### Old Business:

- Field Day 2013 Plans are continuing for this event. Herb Fiddick, NZ0F will be the leader for the PSK station. Joel Meddings, KOJEM and Dennis Baker, KE0QM will be the leaders for the CW station. John Raydo, KOIZ will be the leader for the Phone station. Eddy Paul, KY0F will have a satellite activity. We need a leader or leaders for the Get on the Air station. Porta-Potty rental is \$85. The Parks Department will need a copy of the club's proof of insurance. The dates of Field Day are June 22nd and June 23rd.
- The Club is planning on being a sponsor for this year's Kansas QSO Party. More details to follow.
- The Club is planning Radio Merit Badge class with the Boy Scouts. This will take place during the Ensor Auction. More details to follow.
- Back in February 2013, Brian Short, KC0BS gave a short presentation on the current equipment plans for the new SATERN Communication's Van. As a follow up, Rich Britain, NOENO SATERN Divisional Coordinator presented to the club a list of equipment needs for the Van. An initial motion was made to donate \$500 to the SATERN

Communication Van. After a short discussion the Chairman of The Kansas City Amateur Radio Club Foundation Brian Short, KC0BS said his organization would donate \$1000 to the SATERN Communication Van if the Club would match his \$1000 donation. The initial motion was amended to donate \$1000 to the SATERN Communication Van. The motion was seconded and the subsequent yes vote was unanimous.

### New Business:

- A report was made that the club's repeater was not properly ID-ing itself. We will have the repeater operator look into this.

### Reports:

- 6 m No Report.
- 10 m SSB net 6 check-ins on April 11 and 7 check-ins on April 4.
- 440 Wheat Shocker net 14 check-ins on April 10 and 12 check-ins on April 3.
- 2m Wheat Shocker 24 check-ins on April 11 and 23 check-ins on April 4.
- HF Activity Australia and Hawaii on 10m. Eastern Europe on 15m. Bonaire and Canary Island.

### Announcements:

- National Weather Service HF net Fridays on 7.220 LSB @ 15:00 UTC and 14.250 USB @ 15:15 UTC.
  - Slow speed CW net Mondays on 3.547 @ 7:32 CDT
  - IARU special event station Thursday April 18 see Herb Fiddick, NZ0F for details.
  - Olathe Marathon April 20, 2013.
  - Look for other Public Service events on Larry's List.
- Business meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

### Program:

- The program was a presentation by Rob Underwood KORU titled "The World of CW". Submitted by Ted Knapp, N0TEK, Secretary



## Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Friday, April 26, 2013. The meeting started at 7:30pm. Attendance: Self-introduction with name and call sign. 33 signed the check in sheet. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Minutes from the April 12, 2013 were read and accepted with one opposing vote.

The Treasurer's report, as follows, was read and accepted unanimously.

Cash on Hand	\$ 443.67
Checking Account	\$ 1,514.88
Savings Account	\$ 8,216.71
Total	\$ 10,175.26
Repeater Operating Reserve	\$ 695.25
Memorial Fund	\$ 150.00

### Old Business:

- Field Day 2013 Brian Short, Kc0BS has volunteered to be the lead for the Get on the Air Station. He will be bringing the SATERN Communication Van. Team leaders will be meeting out at the Field Day this week to plan station locations.

### New Business:

- Ted Knapp, N0TEK, as an employee of Hallmark Cards, Inc. has the opportunity to participate in Hallmark's Volunteer Program. The purpose of the Volunteer Program is to recognize Hallmark employees who have volunteered a minimum of 50 hours of service to a non-profit organization in a one year period. As the club's Secretary and having met the non-profit qualification, the Hallmark Corporate Foundation has made a contribution of \$400 to the Johnson County Radio Amateurs Club.

### Reports:

- 6 m Frank Parks, AC0FP report 1 contact with an operator in Leavenworth.
- 10 m SSB net 4 check-ins on April 25.
- 440 Wheat Shocker net 17 check-ins on

April 24 and 20 check-ins on April 17.

- 2m Wheat Shocker 14 check-ins on April 25 and 20 check-ins on April 18.
- HF Activity Indonesia and Hawaii on 17m.

### Announcements:

- Ensor Museum opens for the season on Saturday May 4, 2013.
- Sporadic-E is the most common workhorse for six-meter operators. It generally peaks between June to December.
- Bull Creek Bike Bash, Spring Hill, KS - May 4, 2013.
- March of Dimes, March for Babies Walk April 28, 2103.
- Jun 2 - Tour de Cure (aka Wheel to Weston) June 2, 2013.
- Look for other Public Service events on Larry's List.

Business meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

### Program:

- The program, held before the meeting, was a show-and-tell of mobile ham radio and computer installations.

Submitted by Ted Knapp N0TEK, Secretary.

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An Experiment...cont'd from Pg 3

The ac/dc radios of the 50's were wired so the string of five filaments added up to about 121 volts and so could be powered directly from the ac line. They had no transformer and one side of the power line was connected to the chassis. Her bare feet, even though they were on dry wood, connected her to the hot side of the line with the current limited by skin resistance when she pressed the button to speak. Needless to say, I got a lot wiser on the design and limitations of transformerless ac powered projects in a hurry. And, I did get a blue ribbon on the project which my parents did let me enter in the fair. GFI outlets now serve a very useful purpose!  
Dick N0TO