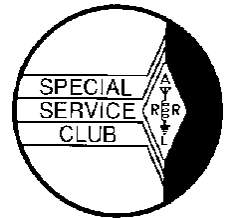
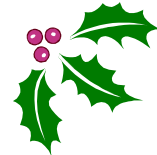
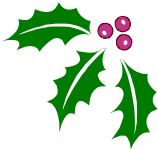


The Repeater

Monthly Newsletter of the Arkansas River Valley Amateur Radio Foundation



December 2006



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT'S BEEN FUN... DON'T ELECT ME AGAIN!

Just kidding. It has been fun and enjoyable. I look back at the beginning of the year and am proud and happy at being ARVARF's president. But I'm not disappearing; I'll still be VP. I'm just letting our new president, Andy, take the reins. And from what I know about Andy, this coming year will be an even better one.

But, of course, I leave with some unfinished business, foxhunts, Direction Finder project, and various other electronics projects.... etc. But then again that's all right. We can keep busy doing those things next year.

One great thing about being the leader of this club is the fact that I got a lot closer to the members than I would otherwise. And what I saw was very pleasant; knowledgeable people who have love and respect for one another and also the desire to include others. I don't like exclusionary groups. I like those that welcome outsiders and help them become part of our group of technocrats. We're such a group. I think that Andy also has that desire. He's not going to be the president of just some of us but **all** of us.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

**Cheers & 73,
Sergio KE5CUY**



Election of Officers

At the November meeting, new officers for the club were elected to serve in the year 2007. They are:

President ----- Andy Ward KD5QJQ
Vice President ---Sergio Picado KE5CUY
Secretary -----Sonia Picado KE5EIW
Treasurer -----Glenn Holmes N5KLE

Board of Directors

Steve Green WB5KUT
Clarence Hesselrode KE5EJA
Butch Tatum KC5AHO

Board members are elected to serve for two years. Continuing on the board are:

Michael McAllister KE5EIY
John Evans WB5BHS

ARES/RACES

At our November meeting, Justin Drittler, Assistant OEM Coordinator, presented the NIMS course. This is FEMA course IS-700. We were glad to see a good turnout, with fifteen people attending the meeting. Justin did a good job of presenting the material, giving us a good overview of the NIMS procedures. All RACES members will need to eventually have courses IS-100, 200, 700, and 800. These courses are also recommended for any hams participating in public service activities even if not RACES members. You can go to www.fema.gov and take the courses online.

We will not have an ARES/RACES meeting in December. I hope everyone has a great Christmas and we will start having meetings again in January. Priority subjects for 2007 will be the packet system and more training and operating activities. If you have digital equipment that will go on packet, D-Star, Pactor, PSK31, and any of the other many digital modes, dust it off and we will learn how digital systems work.

In the meantime, be alert for dangerous winter weather. It's not the same as tornado spotting, but monitoring local repeaters during slippery weather makes sense. Travelers may need help, and cell phones don't always work. An informal net often starts up when roads are slippery and temperatures plunge.

73,
Dennis W5RZ

ARVARF Repeater System - Part 2

Last month I described the ARVARF repeater system equipment located on Mt. Nebo. I mentioned that there were two receivers – one VHF and one UHF. The VHF receiver is equipped with a PL tone because of the unfriendly RF environment on the mountain. That's where the UHF receiver comes in handy.

The club's desire to keep the repeater available to any ham, regardless of whether they have a PL capable radio or not, led us to seek another site for non-PL, or carrier squelch reception. I received permission from my employer to place the secondary receiver on a tower on Crow Mt. at Pottsville, but there were some restrictions. The antenna is only 60 ft. up the tower, which limits range, and all equipment had to be my personal property.



To the right is the crossband repeater used at the secondary receiver site. It is a Motorola Radius GR300 with a twist. The bottom radio is the 146.22 receiver with carrier squelch. The top radio is the 446.82 link transmitter. The two radios are directly wired back-to-back and programmed to retransmit anything received. Below the radios is a 12 volt, 15 amp astron power supply and above the radios is a repeater controller that is not used.

Not pictured in the back of the case is a 6" cooling fan. The fan is a necessary component because the Motorola specifications on the GM300 radio indicate only a 16% duty cycle (transmits 16 seconds out of every 100 seconds). Without cooling the transmitter would eventually burn up. I have a spare in case it does.

It's important to note that both the Nebo and Crow Mt. sites are receiving a signal on 146.22 at the same time. The only thing that determines which received signal gets retransmitted on 146.82 is PL (Nebo) or no PL (Crow Mt.). That switching is done at the Nebo repeater site.

Charles, K5CS

"DIRTY SANTA" PARTY

The ARVARF meeting this month will be held at the Western Sizzlin', as usual. The business meeting will be very short, then we'll have a "Dirty Santa" Christmas party. Each person who brings a WRAPPED gift will be eligible to play the game. Each person will be given a number to indicate when it is your turn to select a gift. When it is your turn, you may select any gift, open it and show it to all. The next person may either select a gift from the tree or the pile, OR they may take the one you just picked. If that person selects the gift that you already have, then you get to select another gift. You may not select the gift that that person just took from you. You may, however, select it after it has changed hands at least once, if someone selects your present gift. This continues until everyone has a gift and all the gifts are taken. Obviously, the last person to select a gift has the opportunity to see what all the gifts are except one, so they can make a better choice, and no one can take their gift. There's usually one or two gifts that everyone wants, so after a gift has changed hands five times, the fifth person gets to keep it. Otherwise, exchanging of one or two gifts could take up the evening, and all the gifts would not be taken. The gift should not be expensive--on the order of \$5 to \$10 maximum. It's just a game, but it's lots of fun.



In case we find ourselves starting to believe all the anti-American sentiment and negativity, we should remember England's Prime Minister Tony Blair's words during a recent interview. When asked by one of his Parliament members why he believes so much in America, he said:

"A simple way to take measure of a country is to look at how many want in... and how many want out."

Only two defining forces have ever offered to die for you:

- 1. Jesus Christ**
- 2. The American G. I.**

One died for your soul, the other died for your freedom. "



MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Arkansas River Valley Amateur Radio Foundation
Monthly Club Meeting
Western Sizzlin' Restaurant
November 21st, 2006

Sonia read the minutes of the October meeting. There were 31 people present. Andy made a motion to accept the minutes of the October meeting. Seconded by Glenn, motion passed.

Sergio said that an organization that helps disabled people is looking forward to visiting us and our club. He said that he would contact them again soon.

Aulton said that the Community Fall fest that was North of Dover was great. Mike's booth was very easy to set up.

Mike talked about the 440 repeater. He filled out the frequency forms and will be sending them off soon. He will tell the club when the next 440-repeater meeting will be so more people can come.

Sonia volunteered to be the net controller for December.

Glenn said that Dick Koski W5VUB, just recently had shoulder surgery. We wish him good luck and fast recovery.

Andy talked about the future ATU Ham Club. The club will start in January of 2007. He intends to invite the Tech members to visit our club and get to know everyone.

Sergio mentioned Aulton's bulletin for people who need to pay their dues and get new people to come join our club.

Dennis Schaefer announced there will be an ARES/RACES meeting Tuesday, November 28th at 9:00 p.m.

Ben said that Charles Hall N5YD, a long time member, is having to have Angioplasty procedure in his veins. He is at the Chandler Hospital in Arizona.

Sergio talked about the Christmas Party. The club decided that the party will be held at Western Sizzlin' at 7pm. We will play the Dirty Santa game like last year. The price limit is \$10.00 and under.

Wayne has announced that he is looking forward to being a 4-H leader. He wants to get children interested in ham radio.

George has an old radio to sell or trade that still works.

The nominating committee has finally decided on who would be a candidate for a club positions. The group, which consisted of Michael McAllister, John Evans, and Sonia Picado, decided on the following:

- Rich Bailey presidential candidate
- Bob Battershell vice President candidate
- Sonia Picado secretary candidate
- Glenn Holmes treasurer
- Clarence Hesselrode and Steve Green to be board members candidates

Both Rich and Bob said that they were going to be busy next year and kindly declined. Dennis Schaefer nominated Andy Ward to be president and Sergio Picado to be vice president. Aulton White seconded the motion. George Murphy nominated Wayne to be vice president. Glenn Holmes seconded it. Sonia Picado nominated George to be the 3rd board member since Sergio will still on the board. A motion was passed and seconded for Butch Tatum to be a board member.

After ALL of those ballots were counted, Andy Ward will be our new President for 2007; Sergio Picado will be Vice President; Sonia Picado will be Secretary; Glenn Holmes will be Treasurer; Clarence Hesselrode, Steve Green, and Butch Tatum are our new board members. Congratulations!

Steve Green moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Charles, the meeting was adjourned.

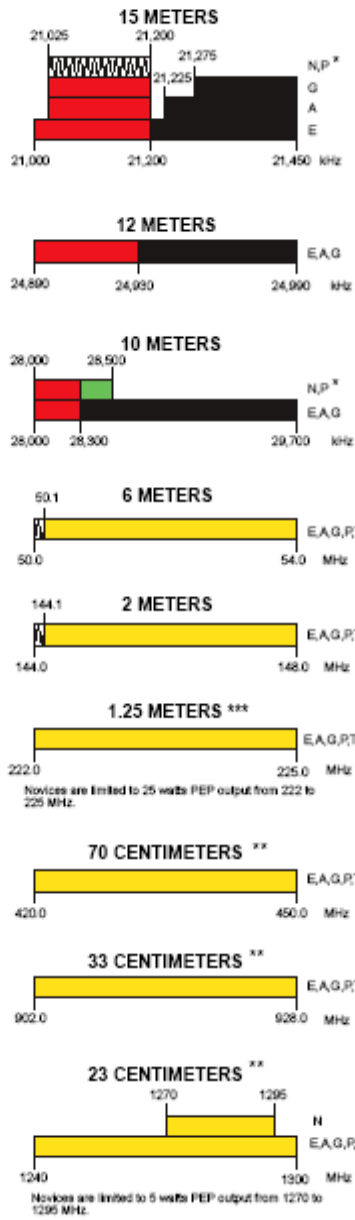
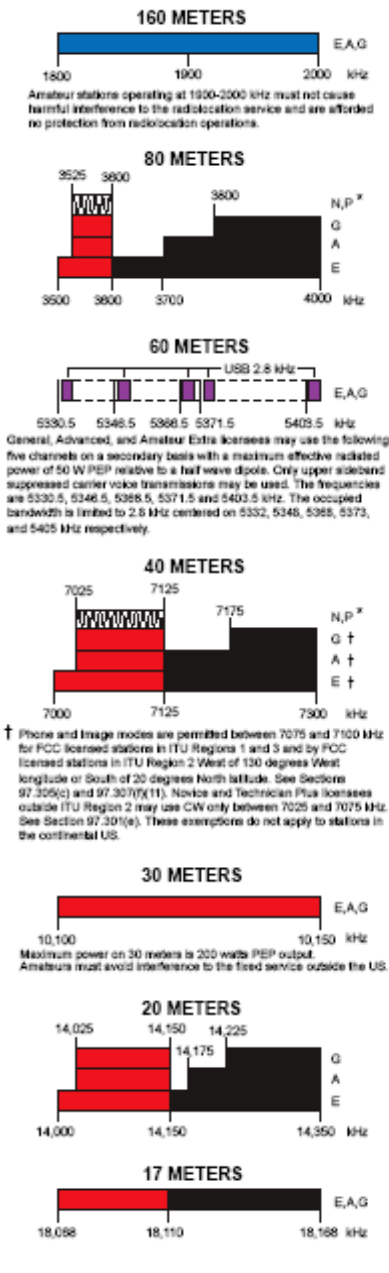
Sonia Picado - KE5EIW Secretary

In accordance with FCC Report & Order WT docket 04-140(FCC 06-149), the so-called "omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, there will be several band-plan changes as of 1201 EST, December 15, 2006. Several questions will be changed on all the exams. The chart below is available for free download at arrl.org website.

US Amateur Bands



Effective Date December 15, 2006



US AMATEUR POWER LIMITS
At all times, transmitter power should be kept down to that necessary to carry out the desired communications. Power is rated in watts PEP output. Unless otherwise stated, the maximum power output is 1500 W. Power for all license classes is limited to 200 W in the 10, 100-10, 150 kHz band. Novices and Technicians are restricted to 200 W below 28.5 MHz. In addition, Novices are restricted to 25 W in the 222-225 MHz band and 5 W in the 1270-1295 MHz subband.

- KEY**
- CW, RTTY and data
 - CW, RTTY, data, MCW, test, phone and image
 - CW, phone and image
 - CW and SSB phone
 - CW, RTTY, data, phone, and image
 - CW only
 - USB Phone only
- E = AMATEUR EXTRA
A = ADVANCED
G = GENERAL
P = TECHNICIAN PLUS
T = TECHNICIAN
N = NOVICE

*Technicians who have passed the 5 wpm Morse code exam are indicated as "P".

**Geographical and power restrictions apply to all bands with frequencies above 420 MHz. See The ARRL FCC Rule Book for more information about your area.

***219-220 MHz allocated to amateurs on a secondary basis for fixed digital message forwarding systems only and can be operated by all licensees except Novices.

All licensees except Novices are authorized all modes on the following frequencies:
2300-2310 MHz
2390-2450 MHz
3300-3500 MHz
5650-5925 MHz
10.0-10.5 GHz
24.0-24.25 GHz
47.0-47.2 GHz
76.0-81.0 GHz
122.25-123.0 GHz
134-141 GHz
241-250 GHz
All above 275 GHz



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ARVARF meeting at Western Sizzlin'

Tuesday, December 19th
 . Regular meeting at 7:00.
 Come at 6:00, if you want to eat.

ARVARF Net:

Every Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. on 146.82
 (except club meeting night)

Net Control Stations:

Dec -- Sonia Picado KE5EIW

ARVARF Board Meeting:

ARES/RACES Meeting:

No meeting this month.

ARVARF web page:

www.cswnet.com/~arvarf/
 & www.arvarf.com (New)

Arkansas Section Web Domain:

www.arkansashams.org

A new Technician course will begin on January 18th at 6:30 p.m. local time. The class will meet each Thursday for ten weeks from 6:30 p.m. 'til 9:00 p.m. It will be held in room 150 of the Ross Pendergraft Library on the ATU campus. Registration at the university is \$10 and the textbooks will be sold in class for \$24.95.

The next test Session will be December 14 at 1900 (7:00 p.m.), at Arkansas Tech University, Ross Pendergraft Library , Room 150. All levels of testing will be held---walk-ins welcome. Test fee is \$14 cash -- bring two IDs and copy of present license and/or CSCE if up-grading.

[The New Year is approaching.](#)

[Support your club with your membership dues.](#)

I am trying to maintain an accurate current membership roster. Please inform me of any changes in your address, phone number and/or e-mail address at n4owb@arrl.net or call me at 479-890-4504.
 73, Aulton N4OWB (editor)

ARVARF Officers

President	Sergio Picado	KE5CUY
Vice President	Roger Sayer	AC5YG
Treasurer	Glenn Holmes	N5KLE
Secretary	Sonia Picado	KE5EIW
Board Members	Michael McAllister	KE5EIIY
	Ben Hillis	W5HH
	Andy Ward	KD5QJQ
	John Evans	WB5BHS
	Rich Bailey	K5RLB
Newsletter	Sergio Picado	KE5CUY
	Roger Sayer	AC5YG
	Sonia Picado	KE5EIW
	Aulton White	N4OWB

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