

Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club • KSØLV • Leavenworth, Kansas • EM29 • Volume 19 - No. 12 - Dec, 2023

Welcome to the Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club

From the President of the PKARC

With the arrival of December comes our annual club Christmas dinner, please join us on Friday, December 1st, at 6:00 p.m., at Pilgrim Community Church. Doors open at 5:30. This will be a potluck, but do not let the lack of a dish to bring keep you from coming.

There will be no regular meeting in December. Please join us on January 4, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. for our next meeting.

This is my last time coming to you as president of the club, and I wanted to say how honored I feel to have been able to serve in this post in 2023. As I made clear when I was elected, I was out of town 1/3 to 1/2 the time, it seemed, but I still think we had a good year. We had some great presentations, especially from Keith WAØTJT, and we were honored at one of the build sessions to have Joe KØNEB with us. Speaking of the build sessions, please let Gary WØMNA and Martha WØERI know how much we all appreciated their generosity in guiding us toward greater proficiency in these essential skills for our hobby. It was great to welcome several new members, even as we said goodbye to our past Vice President (and ACTING President!) Pete NØCS. Our outdoor operating events went very well, with increased participation especially at the Harvey House on the Air event, and we greatly increased our participation in Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air. Many thanks to all who participated and organized these events. Last, but certainly not least, the ARES side of our activities has prospered and developed greatly under the dedicated leadership of Rick NJØP and the Assistant Emergency Coordinators. Please express your appreciation to them for all their hard work... and get involved yourself if at all possible. The Amateur Radio Service is precisely a service, and we all need to be willing to put the skills we are developing at the disposal of the public when emergencies -- or even important public events -- arise.

After all the frustrations involved in dealing with TWO governments, I am proud that we have finally achieved tax-exempt status under section 501(c)3 with the IRS. This will both save us tax money and open the doors to tax-exempt donations and grants. If anyone has experience in grant-writing, please let me know.

Finally, I would like to thank our intrepid continuing officers (Keith KFØKBC, Martha WØERI, and Roxann KZØIMO) for all of their hard work and continued willingness to serve. I would also like to welcome Steve WØSER, who will take over as President on January 1st. Thanks for being willing to take on this commitment, Steve! It is only when members get involved and volunteer to help that future leadership can be developed and a secure foundation can be laid for the future of our club (which is entering its sixtieth year!) and our hobby itself. I know that is what we all want to see!

Please accept my gratitude and warmest regards for all that you have all done to make 2023 a great year for the PKARC.

73,

Scott - K2SCT

MEETING INFORMATION

First Thursday of the Month
Next Meeting: 04 Jan 2023
Time: 7:00 p.m., Central Time
Location: *Pilgrim Community Church*
500 Arch St, Leavenworth, KS 66048

MAILING INFORMATION

The Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club
34058 167th Street
Leavenworth, KS 66048
www.PKARC.net

From the Kickapoo QRP ARC operating desk

The month of October was a slow month for doing any SOTA activations. Not that we didn't want to, it's just that the time and opportunities did not come about for us to do so.

We did take a cruise to the inside passage of Alaska and I was hoping to maybe operate from our stateroom on board the ship, but alas... in the fine print for the cruise it said "No ham radio allowed on board ship". That was a real downer as we had a nice deck on our stateroom with a railing I could have attached a simple antenna on for operating HF. That would have been a lot of fun to do while at sea. I'm sure the big metal ship would have worked as a reflector and our signals would have looked fairly good into the Asian countries and Canada.

I did take a dual band handheld radio with me with the hopes of operating into some of the local repeaters in Ketchikan, Juneau, or Skagway, but again the time didn't work out for even that type of operating. On our land trips while in port, they keep you moving pretty fast with little time to do other things. I never even took the handheld radio out of the backpack.

But, all was not lost when it came to operating some type of ham radio while on the ship. It's called EchoLink. I used the WiFi on the ship to link up to the Leavenworth 145.330 repeater which we recently connected to EchoLink. I contacted Bob – WØAO who was on vacation up in Washington State. We were using our cell phones via EchoLink to talk to each other and it was very clear communications. As the old saying goes... "There's more than one way to skin a cat." or something like that. At least I was on the air down in the Leavenworth area if you happened to be monitoring the 145.330 repeater that day. I was in port not in Skagway but on board the ship when this link was made.

The build session for November was to build a dual band 144/440 "J-Pole" type antenna that you can carry in your backpack or radio case for portable use. This antenna was made using TV Twin Lead type wire and some RG-174 coax with the connector that matches your handheld radio or mobile radio possibly. This is a very handy antenna for use while camping or operating portable and give you much more gain than the rubber duckie antenna on a handheld radio.

The October build session was dedicated to the final tuning of the 40/20 dual band trap dipole antennas and the EFHW antennas we have built in previous build sessions. These antennas are very good antennas and I have made hundreds of contacts using them while on a SOTA activation.

November found us very busy activating SOTA summits in Arkansas and southern Missouri. We activated a total of five summits.

The first summit we activated was Magazine Mountain, Arkansas and is the highest point in Arkansas. We made 37 contacts mostly on 20 meters, but also a few on 40 meters.

The second summit we activated was Mount Nebo, Arkansas. This is a nice State Park area also and we made 43 contacts on this summit with all of them being on 20 meters.

The next day we activated Health Lookout, Arkansas. This is an easy drive-up summit to access and we made 29 contacts on this summit. Again, most were on 20 meters but a few were on 40 meters also.

The next summit this day was called Yates Benchmark, Arkansas. On this summit you set up just off the highway close to the trees. We made a total of 59 contacts which was a record for us for any summit. The pileup was fun, but kept us very busy trying to work everyone.

The next day we headed to the Branson, Missouri area to visit Silver Dollar City over the next two days. On the way there we stopped by Pilot Knob Mountain, Missouri and activated it. On this summit we made 27 contacts. The hike up on this mountain is not hard and is actually an old road used many years ago for the ranger to drive up to the fire tower that is no longer there. Rick – NJØP and Steve – WØSER made contact with us on most of these summits.

Overall, this was a very fun trip and we look forward to repeating it next year.

Hope to see many of you at our Thursday morning breakfast gatherings at the Depot restaurant or at the monthly club meetings.

Don't forget about the annual club Christmas Dinner on December 1st. We'll start arriving at around 5:30 and eat around 6:00. See you there.

Gary Auchard - WØMNA

Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2023

Call to Order

The meeting of the PKARC was held on November 2nd, at Saint John Main Hospital in Leavenworth Co. It began at 7:00 pm and was presided over by President Scott Gardner (K2SCT), Keith (KFØKBC), Martha Auchard (WØERI) and Roxann Kosmicki (KZØIMO) as Secretary.

Roll Call

Members in attendance included: Gary (WØMNA), Martha (WØERI), Randy (KØAWW), Keith (KFØKBC), Scott (K2SCT), Roxann (KZØIMØ), Rob (KØROB), Max (KØMDP), Steve (WØSER) via phone from Providence, Rick (NJØP), Guy (KFØKOS), Emily (KFØGNS), Sarah (KEØYXG), Doug (KFØHHW), John (KFØLNZ) and Ron (NØCALL).

The meeting opened with Introductions of those present.

The Treasurers report was given by Martha (WØERI).

Scott passed around the certificate the club received for participation in the Lewis and Clark Trail On the Air.

Next Scott reviewed the nominations presented by the nomination committee last month. Called for any discussion. Rick motioned to close nomination and put it to a vote. Seconded by Gary. Scott called for a vote. All were in favor of the following:

President - Steve Rice
Vice President - Keith Collier
Treasurer - Martha Auchard
Secretary - Roxann Kosmicki

Congratulations to the Officers for 2024!

Gary was then given the opportunity to discuss the build session that is to take place November 16th at 6pm at Pilgrim Community Church. It will be a dual band antenna for 2m/440. Cost is \$10.00. No build session for December.

For the December meeting it will be our holiday dinner which will be Friday December 1st. Scott will send out a signup genius so members can sign up to bring a dish. There will be drawings for prizes. (This going to be at Pilgrim Church) Setup will start at 5:30 and the plan is to start eating by 6.

Then Rick was given the floor to discuss the MESH set up. The club members broke in to two groups. Rick took group one to the radio room and the roof to show them the setup of the MESH radio and the antennas. The other group stayed with Roxann in the SHARC tank to hear about KCHEART and how the MESH transfers take place between Providence Medical Center and Saint John Hospital. Then the groups switched.

Adjournment

When the groups came back together Gary motioned for adjournment. Guy seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann Kosmicki, KZØIMO

ARES and Emergency Management Links

Leavenworth County Emergency Management:

<https://www.lvsheriff.org/emergency-management>

Leavenworth County ARES:

<https://ks-lv-ares.signaleer.us>

ARRL ARES Information: <http://www.arrl.org/ares>

ARRL ARES Manual:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/ARES/ARESmanual2015.pdf>



KCHEART Net Information

The KCHEART Net takes place on the first Monday of the month. If that falls on a holiday, it will be delayed until the next week. The frequency is 443.500 with positive offset and 151.4 tone.

This repeater is located at the Kansas City VA hospital. Please feel free to check in from time to time. Participation is never mandatory, but always appreciated!



We're on the Web @ www.pkarc.net

Thursday ARES Net - 147.000 Nov, 2023 Net Report

02 Nov (N/A)

No net, club meeting

09 Nov (6)

KA0DJR ---- Dick*

K0MDP ---- Max

W0SER ---- Steve

KF0KBE ---- Keith

KA0ARW ---- Jeff

KF0KOS ---- Guy

16 Nov (8)

KA0DJR ---- Dick*

KZ0IMO ---- Roxann

WA0SRS ---- Steve

K0AWW ---- Randy

KB0YME ---- Loren

W0SER ---- Steve

W0MNA ---- Gary

KF0KOS ---- Guy

23 Nov (N/A)

No net, Thanksgiving

30 Nov (4)

KA0DJR ---- Dick

W0SER ---- Steve

KA0ARW ---- Steve

KF0KBC ---- Keith



Detailed Net Information:



Wednesdays - PKARC Club Net on 147.00 at 7:30pm
Steve Stalker (WAØSRS) as Net Control

You are always welcome to discuss swap-meet style items on the PKARC Wednesday Net

Thursdays - Leavenworth County ARES Net on 147.00 at 7:30pm
Dick Quinlan (KAØDJR) as Net Control.

Sundays - JARA UHF Fusion Net on 444.800 at 7:00pm
Rick Reichert (NJØP) as Net Control

And also the **ARES Information and Training Net** on 145.33 at 7:30 pm
Brian Resch (NBØR) as Net Control

All repeaters use a 151.4 Hz sub-audible tone

Jarbalo Amateur Radio Association

 Activate **WIRES-X** on your UHF radio. Experiment and have fun!

President: Max Pfrimmer – KØMDP
Vice President: Steve Rice – WØSER
Trustee: Rick Reichert – NJØP

Sunday 7 pm Net

Agenda
Pre-Net Admin
NTS Traffic
Check-ins
Picture-of-the-Week
Announcements
Training
Comments
Adjourn



Jarbalo Amateur Radio Association

Sunday Evening UHF Net Roster
WØROO/R 444.800 MHz + C4FM DN T:00 R:00

Nov-2023	Name	05	12	19	26
KØAVN	Dave		Pi		
KØAWW	Randy		X	X	
WØERI	Martha	Pi		X	X
ABØGD	Gregg	X		X	
KZØIMO	Roxann	X	X	X	X
KFØKBC	Keith	X	NCS	LOG	LOG
KFØKOS	Guy	LOG			X
KØMDP	Max	Pi			Pi
WØMNA	Gary	Pi	Pi	Pi	Pi
NJØP	Rick	NCS	Pi	NCS	X
KD7QOR	Ed	X	X	X	X
NBØR	Brian	X	X	X	X
KFØROB	Rob		X		
K2SCT	Scott			X	
WØSER	Steve	X	LOG	X	NCS
WAØSRS	Steve	X	X	X	X
KEØSYO	Vic	X	X	X	
KC5VKG	Doug		X		
NØZZN	Steve		Pi	X	X

The fastest 1/2 Hour on Ham Radio!

Network Status

UHF Repeater ●
WiresX ●
Pi-Star ●

VHF Repeater ●
Echolink ●

Year in Review

This year, we added Echolink to the VHF Repeater and solved several stability issues with WiresX and Pi-Star. Our coverage now spans wherever there is Internet access.

Thanks are due to the many who use, operate, maintain, provide parts, and, most of all, give time and expertise benefitting our repeater service. If Mac WØROO SK could see how much progress has been made, he'd be very proud and would probably tell us we were "functioning at a high level."



AFFILIATIONS

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL)
Leavenworth County Emergency Management
American Red Cross



AREA REPEATERS	ENCODE	TRUSTEE	LOCAL NETS	DAY - TIME - FREQ
145.330(-)	151.4	WØROO	PKARC Net	Wed. - 7:30pm - 147.000
147.000(+)	151.4	KDØZKP	ARES Net	Thur. - 7:30pm - 147.000
444.800(+)	YSF TØØRØØ	WØROO	JARA UHF Net	Sun. - 7:00pm - 444.800
442.350(+)	DMR CC1 TS1	KCØDMR	ARES Info & Training	Sun. - 7:30pm - 145.330



Amateur Radio Emergency Services®

Section Manager: Ron Cowan, KBØDTI
Emergency Coordinator (Dist 4, Zone C): Rick Reichert, NJØP

See list of Assistant Emergency Coordinators and new opportunities on KS-LV-ARES.signaleer.us on the About Us -> Leadership page.

YEAR END WRAP UP

2023 Vet Day Parade

November was another busy month for employing our emergency communications capabilities to support our fellow citizens. Thanks to those who participated in the 2023 Leavenworth County Veterans Day Parade on November 11th. Ed Menard KD7QOR led the team providing Amateur Radio back-up to the parade committee's Family Radio Service radios. Supporting Ed were Vic Henke KEØSYO, Max Pfrimmer KØMDP, and Austin Frase KEØYOA. Ed was praised for his simple but effective Operations Order (OPORD). The Leavenworth parade is the nation's oldest Veterans Day annual observance since November 11, 1919. This year's parade had a record number of entries.

End of Year Events

This has been one of the busiest years with numerous accomplishments and advancements across a broad range of interests that make up the Amateur Radio hobby. While much of our emergency communications skill enhancements are serious business, I hope it gave all participants satisfaction of great accomplishment and much fun. Other than nets, ARES training and exercises will be taking a break throughout the holiday period. Happy holidays!

Let's have fun doing what we do best!

Sunday ARES Info & Training Net - 145.330 - Nov, 2023 Net Report

05 Nov (9)

NBØR ---- Brian*
NJØP ---- Rick
KFØKOS ---- Guy
KZØIMO ---- Roxann
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KØMDP ---- Max
KD7QOR ---- Ed
KEØSYO ---- Vic
WØSER ---- Steve

12 Nov (9)

NBØR ---- Brian*
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KC5VKG ---- Doug
WAØSRS ---- Steve
NJØP ---- Rick
KD7QOR ---- Ed
WØSER ---- Steve
KEØSYO ---- Vic
KZØIMO ---- Roxann

(*) - Net Control Station

19 Nov (10)

KFØKBC ---- Keith*
NJØP ---- Rick
K2SCT ---- Scott
WØSER ---- Steve
KZØIMO ---- Roxann
WAØSRS ---- Steve
KEØSYO ---- Vic
KD7QOR ---- Ed
NØZZN ---- Steve
KØAWW ---- Randy

26 Nov (11)

NBØR ---- Brian*
KFØKBC ---- Keith
NJØP ---- Rick
WØSER ---- Steven
KZØIMO ---- Roxann
KØAVN ---- Dave
WAØSRS ---- Steve
KØMDP ---- Max
KD7QOR ---- Ed
KFØKOS ---- Guy
KEØSYO ---- Vic



Wednesday PKARC Net - 147.000

Nov, 2023 Net Report

01 Nov (9)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
AAØMV ---- Steve
KZØIMO ---- Roxann
KØMDP ---- Max
NJØP ---- Rick
WØSER ---- Steve
KAØARW ---- Jeff
KFØLHD ---- Phil
KFØKBC ---- Keith

08 Nov (12)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
AAØMV ---- Steve
KØAWW ---- Randy
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KFØLHD ---- Phil
WØSER ---- Steve
KØMDP ---- Max
NJØP ---- Rick
KAØARW ---- Jeff
KØRON ---- Ron
NRØR ---- Mark
W6BDD ---- George

15 Nov (15)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
AAØMV ---- Steve
NØZZN ---- Steve
WX4STM ---- Gerard
KFØLHD ---- Phil
K2SCT ---- Scott
KØMDP ---- Max
KFØKBC ---- Keith
WØSER ---- Steve
W6BDD ---- George
KAØARW ---- Jeff
KEØSYO ---- Vic
WDØGNU ---- Rick
KDØTAU ---- Dave
KFØLNZ ---- John

22 Nov (10)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
KAØARW ---- Jeff
AAØMV ---- Steve
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KFØKOS ---- Guy
WØSER ---- Steve
KDØTAU ---- Dave
W6BDD ---- George
KEØDSV ---- David
NØRCI ---- J.R.

29 Nov (14)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
AAØMV ---- Steve
KFØKBC ---- Keith
K2SCT ---- Scott
KFØKOS ---- Guy
KAØARW ---- Jeff
KØMDP ---- Max
WØSER ---- Steve
KDØHOY ---- Ron
KEØNZQ ---- Andy
KFØLHD ---- Phil
NRØR ---- Mark
WX4STM ---- Gerard
KFØBQY ---- Brian

(*) - Net Control Station

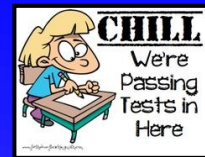


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Members are encouraged to receive their QRZ via E-mail, rather than paper copy. Requests to receive the hard copy version will be honored. Your effort to reduce club expenses will be appreciated.

Comments or suggestions regarding the QRZ format are welcome and appreciated.

VE BITS



FCC examinations for the Technician, General and Extra Class licenses are available on request for anyone. The charge is \$10.00. Exams are usually given at the Thursday Morning Breakfast or prior to the regular Club Meeting, but can be scheduled for any convenient time. If you need assistance preparing for a test, please ask any Club member. The FCC requires that all amateurs have an email address. Also, if you are testing for the first time you must have an FRN. To acquire that 10-digit number you can either find "How to Register for your FRN" through Ham Radio Prep or visit the following link: <https://apps.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do> and select register, individual and continue to fill out the form. You will receive your FRN number as soon as the form is submitted. That number will be used for all communications with the FCC. Save it!!

If you have any questions about testing, would like to schedule a test or are interested in becoming a Volunteer Examiner, please contact Martha Auchard WØERI or Gary Auchard WØMNA, at (913) 772-7350. Please leave a message if no one answers. If you are testing for General or Extra class, please bring an extra copy of your current license.

This Space for Rent (for Free)

If you have something to say, something for sale, photos to share or anything else related to Amateur Radio, PLEASE send it to the editor and we'll get it in the newsletter!