

Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club • KSØLV • Leavenworth, Kansas • EM29 • Volume 20 - No. 4 - Apr, 2024

Welcome to the Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club

From the President of the PKARC

An early spring has enabled POTA, SOTA and Camping activations for several of our members already this year. April also signals the start of area Hamfests, April 5-6 is Ozarkcon in Branson, April 12-13 is the ARRL Oklahoma State Convention in Claremore, OK and right here in Kansas City, MO is Hambash on April 20th.

For those of you who want to air out your equipment, there are 9 State QSO parties in April, including our neighboring states of Missouri on April 6&7 and Nebraska on April 20&21, plus two in Canada. The first weekend in May has too many to count... Any of these will be a great shakeout for what we have coming in June. Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air, June 1-16th and Field Day June 22-23.

We've had great turnouts at our club breakfast gatherings on Thursday mornings, our largest group has been 11 so far. This has been a great opportunity to share ideas and learn from one another, which complements our regular club meetings and build sessions. I personally have enjoyed getting to know our members better, which often is more difficult at just our formal meetings. I understand and appreciate that many of our members have a JOB which makes the breakfast option out of reach.

In the coming months we will have some training segments as part of the regular monthly meetings and build sessions. A portion of these topics will be to address requests from our members and some will be to prepare for our October 5th SET exercise. I anticipate this training will add to the enjoyment and better mastery of the radio equipment we own.

Please continue to share your ideas for presentations and training you would like to see covered, so we can all grow and learn more about this rewarding hobby together.

73,
Steve
WØSER

MEETING INFORMATION

First Thursday of the Month
Next Meeting: 04 Apr 2024
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.org

From the Kickapoo QRP ARC operating desk

The year seems to be passing fast as it's April already and the hamfest season has started. We always start our hamfest season with the annual Ozarkcon event in Branson Missouri. This event is held the first weekend of April and includes a Friday evening banquet followed by a group building session hosted by Martha and I. This year we will have 38 builders in our build session and we will be building a new kit which is a nice set of CW paddles from the Four State QRP Group that puts on the Ozarkcon event. On Saturday there is an all day seminar session covering interesting ham radio topics followed by a huge prize drawing.

At the end of the Ozarkcon event we will be driving over to Petoski, Missouri to be in the zone for observing the Solar Eclipse on April 8th. We observed the last Solar Eclipse in the same place so we're looking forward to that. We'll also take some time to activate a few SOTA summits while in that area.

The next hamfest for us is the Claremore, Oklahoma hamfest the second weekend of April. This hamfest is a Friday evening and all day Saturday event with a lot of swap tables and vendors to check out plus possibly bring home a new ham radio device to add to your station. This hamfest also has a lot of great prizes to give away all during the event.

The next hamfest is the third weekend of April and is the Hambash held here in the Shriner's Temple near I-435 and Eastwood Trafficway. This is the largest hamfest in the Kansas City area and has a lot of swap tables and dealers, plus some great seminars so be sure to attend. This year Martha and I will not be able to attend this hamfest as we'll be driving to Denver that day. We've been invited to attend again the annual WØC SOTA dinner. This dinner brings together a lot of the SOTA activators and chasers in the Colorado SOTA association and it's always fun to visit with all these people that we have worked on the air. Be sure to attend as many hamfest as you can. They need your support if you expect them to stay happening, plus they are fun events and you get to visit with other ham radio friends.

Our PKARC build sessions are still happening and continue to be interesting and educational for those that are attending. Last month in February, we built a 10-meter dipole antenna that proved very effective at the Freeze Your Keys event. A number of European and South Africa stations were contacted with it. The March build session saw a continuation of the dipole antenna building sessions with more 10-meter and a 12-meter antennas built during this session. Come out and join us. You don't need to build as you can also visit and observe our operation. We hold the building sessions on the third Thursday evening at the same place we hold our monthly club meetings.

The last couple of months I have spent a lot of time building an HF transceiver kit put out by the Four State QRP Group. This kit was a challenge as it's an experimental type kit and still somewhat being developed and modified by some of the builders. I have now finished the kit and the transceiver is working as designed and sounding good. I'll possibly put together a slide program for a future PKARC meeting showing the building process and details.

Don't forget about our weekly breakfast gatherings held at the Depot restaurant in Leavenworth. We have been having some great turnouts recently for that event and it's a lot of fun.

See you at the next PKARC meeting or breakfast.

Gary Auchard - WØMNA

Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club
Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2024

Call to Order

The meeting of the PKARC was held on March 7th, at Pilgrim Community Church. It began at 7:00 pm and was presided over by President Steve Rice (WØSER), Keith (KFØKBC), Martha Auchard (WØERI) and Roxann Kosmicki (KZØIMO).

Roll Call

Members in attendance included: Gary (WØMNA), Martha (WØERI), Keith (KFØKBC), Emily (KFØGNS), Vic (KEØSYO), Jeff (KAØARW), Don (KFØMZG), Roxann (KZØIMO), Rob (KFØROB), Max (KØMDP), Dick (KAØDJR), Rick (NJØP), Steve (WØSER), Phil (KFØDQA), Guy (KFØKOS), new member Todd Orłowski (KCØJBE) and guests Loren Knight (NØCALL), Ted (NØCALL) and Scott Hedberg (NØZP)

The meeting opened with Introductions of those present.

Motion to approve last month's minutes was made by Keith and seconded by Gary. No discussion. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was given by Martha (WØERI). Item of note – all taxes are done.

Rick gave thanks to a job well done with the Radiogram training on Sunday nights net. ARES will continue to get familiar with the Radiogram form. A reminder was given about the October 5th SET. Anyone interested is asked to contact Rick. An update was given regarding the ARES calendar will soon be modified to reflect some changes to enable the group to better prepare for the SET now that the SET planning team has finalized some portions of the plan.

Vic reminded the group of the upcoming exercise at Ft. Leavenworth on June 12th. There is need for volunteers. More information to come as this day gets closer.

Gary was given the floor. He handed out a paper that compared different types of coax. He shared that your radio is only as effective as your feedline and selection of antenna. He reviewed LMR400, RG8, RG58, RG174 and a few more. You really must evaluate how you are going to use your coax. Then he discussed the different types of connectors and which types of coax they work well with. Then he passed around a paddle key kit. Lastly, he share his new Elecraft KH1.

Steve, WØSER, asked the group what logging software everyone has used and why they like it. Some responses were: N3FJP, QRZ and fldigi. Then he asked the group if they had any work bench updates. Gary is working on a T41 from 4 state QRP. Ted said he was interested in learning about vacuum tube radios and getting his license.

Adjournment

Vic made a motion to close meeting. Gary seconded. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully typed off notes from Keith (KFØKBC) and Submitted by,
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.org

Thursday ARES Net - 147.000 Mar, 2024 Net Report

07 Mar (N/A)

No Net, Club Meeting

14 Mar (4)

KAØDJR ---- Dick*

KØMDP ---- Max

KFØKBC ---- Keith

WØSER ---- Steve

21 Mar (8)

KAØDJR ---- Dick*

KAØARW ---- Jeff

KB5UKT ---- Mike

WØSER ---- Steve

KFØKOS ---- Guy

KFØROB ---- Rob

KØMDP ---- Max

KFØKBC ---- Keith

28 Mar (8)

KAØDJR ---- Dick*

WØSER ---- Steve

WAØSRS ---- Steve

KFØKBC ---- Keith

NJØP ---- Rick

KAØARW ---- Jeff

KØMDP ---- Max

KBØYME ---- Loren

* = Net Control



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

Mar-2024	Name	03	10	17	24	31
KØAVN	Dave		π*			
KØAWW	Randy	X			X	X
KAØDJR	Dick	X	X	X		X
KZØIMO	Roxann	X				
KFØKBC	Keith	LOG	LOG	LOG	LOG	ANCS
KFØKOS	Guy			X	X	
KØMDP	Max	π*	π*		π*	
WØMNA	Gary	X	π*	π*	π*	π*
NJØP	Rick		NCS	NCS	NCS	NCS
KD7QOR	Ed				X	
NBØR	Brian	X	X	X	X	X
KFØROB	Rob		X			
WØSER	Steve	NCS	ANCS	X	X	LOG
WAØSRS	Steve	X	X	X	X	
KEØSYO	Vic	X	X	ANCS	X	X
KC5VKG	Doug		X	X		
NØZZN	Steve	ANCS	X		ANCS	X

The fastest 1/2 Hour on Ham Radio!

As the June 22, 2024 JARA Annual Meeting approaches, I took out the minutes of the 2023 meeting to look at the 2024 Action Plan. The top three items on our list of improvements were: Install the UHF power amplifier, clean up the rats-nest cabling, and prep the repeater cabinet for additional Mesh equipment. There are no check marks next to these to-do's.

Fortunately, we have a major work day scheduled for Saturday morning, April 27. We'll assemble as two teams: A large team with climber(s) at Saint John (SJH) and a smaller roof-only team at Providence (PMC). The punch list for Providence is limited. The one for SJH is very lengthy. Some SJH tasks are prerequisites for others and will need to be done before 4/27. These can be done by one or two people. A punchlist should be available for both facilities before Apr 17th. Anyone interested in doing the prereq or workday work should contact Rick - NJØP.

The main work on Apr 27th will be the alignment of the WiFi microwave antennas for Prime Healthcare. This is a parallel system that provides an encrypted link for passing sensitive information, such as HIPAA protected information, that cannot go over the Amateur Radio Mesh system. Our Mesh equipment was acquired under the same grant as the WiFi equipment.

We will also install a 3rd microwave dish at SJH that will connect SJH Mesh node to the Roswell Tower hub in Kansas City, KS. That hub, when activated this summer, will pave the way for an on-air Mesh explosion. Our next steps will be to create an access point for Leavenworth-based Amateurs to gain access to the national Mesh network.

We live in exciting times and now is the best time to be a Radio Amateur. Our hobby is so great that we amaze even ourselves with what we've been able to accomplish. See you on April 27 and at the June meeting. 73



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 Service®

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.

SET PREPARATION

The 2024 Simulated Emergency Test (SET) should already be on your calendar for Saturday morning, October 5, 2024. If not, please reserve 0700 – 1200 hours on your calendar that day for SET participation. We need you. All are welcome to participate.

This year, we will be exercising capabilities that should, or will soon be in your core competency; things we had problems with in the last several SETs. These capabilities include: Using the “Golden-99” standard KS-LV-ARES channel list. Using a cross-band repeater. Use APRS to send your location. Communicate from an infrastructure-less environment back to the EOC (relay) and with other nearby stations (simplex).

LEADING TO THE SET ON

As of this writing, the SET Planning Team (WØSER, KD7QOR and KFØKBC) are doing a lot of behind-the-scenes work to develop the perfect environment to test our mettle for a very likely scenario (prairie fire) doing what emergency managers consider our forte (observe and report).

What we do may seem relatively simple, and it is easy for us until we operate where the environment is a bit more challenging than day-to-day operations. The exercised and ready skills ARES brings to communications problem solving puts us at top-of-mind as a capable, ready, willing, and active group that is a highly respected tool in the emergency response tool bag.

ON OCTOBER 5, 2024

Please join us for Sunday evening ARES Information & Training nets and check KS-LV-ARES.signaleer.us regularly. We'll update you on both as the SET plans are developed.

“Let's be as transparent as possible as we train and perfect skills and utilization of radios we own.” WØSER

“I think stretching our radio capabilities will add confidence to the toolkit.” KFØKBC

***Let's have fun
doing what we do best!***

Sunday ARES Info & Training Net - 145.330 - Mar, 2024 Net Report

03 Mar (9)

NBØR ---- Brian*
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KØAWW ---- Randy
KZØIMO ---- Roxann
WAØSRS ---- Steve
KEØSYO ---- Vic
WØSER ---- Steve
KD7QOR ---- Ed
KAØDJR ---- Dick

10 Mar (16)

NBØR ---- Brian*
KFØKBC ---- Keith
NØZZN ---- Steven
K2SCT ---- Scott
KØAVN ---- David
KC5VKG ---- Doug
WØSER ---- Steve
KEØSYO ---- Vic
WAØSRS ---- Steve
KFØROB ---- Rob
KAØDJR ---- Dick
NJØP ---- Rick
KFØKOS ---- Guy
KØMDP ---- Max
KD7QOR ---- Ed
KZØIMO ---- Roxann

17 Mar (9)

NBØR ---- Brian*
KFØKBC ---- Keith
NJØP ---- Rick
KEØSYO ---- Vic
WAØSRS ---- Steve
KFØKOS ---- Guy
WØSER ---- Steve
KAØDJR ---- Dick
KZØIMO ---- Roxann

24 Mar (12)

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

31 Mar (7)

NBØR ---- Brian*
KFØKBC ---- Keith
WØSER ---- Steve**
NJØP ---- Rick
KEØSYO ---- Vic
KØAWW ---- Randy
KZØIMO ---- Roxann

(*) - Net Control Station

(**) - Alternate NCS



Wednesday PKARC Net - 147.000 Mar, 2024 Net Report

06 Mar (20)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
 K2SCT ---- Scott
 KDØNBN ---- Brandon
 KBØYME ---- Loren
 WØSER ---- Steve
 KEØYOA ---- Austin
 KFØLHD ---- Phil
 KBØYUV ---- Cliff
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KD5MDA ---- Jan
 KFØKBC ---- Keith
 KAØARW ---- Jeff
 KEØSYO ---- Vic
 KFØDQA ---- Phil
 KB5UKT ---- Mike
 W6BDD ---- George
 KØMDP ---- Max
 NRØR ---- Mark
 KFØKOS ---- Guy

13 Mar (17)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
 AAØMV ---- Steve
 W6BDD ---- George
 KB5UKT ---- Mike
 KBØSCT ---- Lindsay
 KBØYME ---- Loren
 KDØNBN ---- Brandon
 WØSER ---- Steve
 KD7QOR ---- Ed
 KEØZKA ---- Sam
 KAØARW ---- Jeff
 KEØSYO ---- Vic
 KFØKBC ---- Keith
 K2SCT ---- Scott
 NØRCI ---- J.R.
 KØMDP ---- Max
 KFØDQA ---- Phil

20 Mar (14)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
 AAØMV ---- Steve
 WØSER ---- Steve
 K2SCT ---- Scott
 KBØYME ---- Loren
 KB5UKT ---- Mike
 KGØHG ---- Joe
 KAØARW ---- Jeff
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KFØKOS ---- Guy
 NRØR ---- Mark
 KFØFLL ---- Donnie
 KDØHOY ---- Ron
 NØIH ---- Bill

27 Mar (16)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
 AAØMV ---- Steve
 KFØKBC ---- Keith
 KGØHG ---- Joe
 W6BDD ---- George
 KBØYME ---- Loren
 KFØDQA ---- Phil
 KAØARW ---- Jeff
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KØMDP ---- Max
 KFØKOS ---- Guy
 KDØTAU ---- Dave
 KAØDJR ---- Dick
 NØRCI ---- J.R.
 NRØR ---- Mark
 KFØLNZ ---- John

*NCS



From Max, KØMDP:

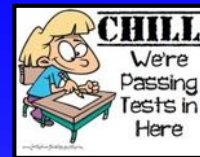
This is my youngest son, Kyan. He wants to be a ham in the not-too-distant future. I thought this 10 meter antenna would be a great first build and something he could actually use when he gets his license.



QRZ is a monthly publication of the Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club and may be quoted in other publications provided a credit line is included and the author (if known) is given acknowledgment. Items related to amateur radio will be advertised free of charge. Articles for publication in QRZ are always welcome and willingly accepted in any form. We reserve the right to edit material as necessary. Please let the Editor know if you experience problems getting your issues of QRZ, or if it is received in a difficult to read state. 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 WØER1 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.

**Saint John
Hospital
Amateur
Radio
Club**



Welcome to the SHARC Tank!

President - Max Pfrimmer KØMDP
Vice President - Steve Rice WØSER
Trustee - Roxann Kosmicki KZØIMO



If you only see one SHARC - the rest are behind you!

April is upon us. SHARC teams are doing a fabulous job reporting to their assigned shifts. I appreciate that you give your time and talent. I am also thankful for the comradery that is developing within each team.

John Knutson, Emergency Preparedness Regional Coordinator for both Saint John Hospital and Providence Medical Center is anxious to get the WiFi bridge completed between the command centers of the two hospitals. This is part of the grant package that made our Mesh link possible. Work day to complete the WiFi bridge, Mesh antenna installation, and maintenance work on repeaters and SHARC radios is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2024. Please sign up with Rick NJØP and join us.

We heard on the April 1st KCHEART net that there will be no KCHEART participation in the Medical Surge and Response Exercise (MRSE) at the end of April. We are still waiting on word as to our possible participation in a Full Scale Exercise (FSE) to take place on Fort Leavenworth on June 12th.

I hope you continue to "Swim for the Fin" by completing the online training and the quickie evaluation for each exercise.

Thank you everyone,
Roxann Kosmicki -KZØIMO
AEC KCHEART/SHARC Trustee

**I also encourage you to continue to
"Swim for the Fin"**