

Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club • KSØLV • Leavenworth, Kansas • EM29 • Volume 20 - No. 7 - Jul, 2024

Welcome to the Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club

From Our Club President

June has been a busy radio month. I want to thank Scott and all of the activators that participated in the third annual Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air event. There were more stations involved this year which made it a very popular two week event.

And then there was Field Day weekend. We had a great turnout of operators and number of stations that setup, along with I believe a record number of guests that stopped by. A big thank you to Randy, KØAWW, for his organization and breakfast cooking skills. Also to Rick, NJØP, for our WIFI/Logging setup that worked very well. We had several good write ups before and after the events in the local newspaper (thank you Jeff, KAØARW) which gave our club added exposure. And finally, we will be able to enjoy the numerous photos taken by Jeff and Steve, WAØSRS, for years to come. I will be looking forward to the flashbacks at our Christmas Party...

We continue to have new members joining our club and taking exams, from what I believe is in part due to the good publicity we have received and our fresh and current website. Thanks to each of you for sharing the good word about our club. Congratulations to Thadd, KFØPXE, our new General, along with Bill, KFØQZE, and Sean, KFØQQF, on their Tech license.

As many of you have heard we will not have our regular monthly meeting on Thursday, July 4th. I hope everyone will be celebrating our Independence Day with family and friends. We will have a meeting on July 18th at 7PM, we will be reviewing this year's Field Day activities and an overview of a few digital operating modes like FT8, FT4 and JS8 Call.

Please take a look at our club calendar for our upcoming events; July 6th we will be testing the coverage area of our portable Cross-Band Repeater in remote areas of Leavenworth County.

73,
Steve - WØSER

MEETING INFORMATION

First Thursday of the Month
Next Meeting: **18 July 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

Well, Field Day 2024 has come and gone and what a great Field Day it was. We had a good number of stations set up to operate with the newer members trying out new modes to them, plus learning a lot about how Field Day actually works.

We operated in a 3A mode this year, plus had a GOTA station on the air also. We had a large number of visitors to our Field Day site asking a lot of interesting and good questions concerning our operating reasons, methods, and goals.

The last I saw we had over 500 contacts in the log with those contacts being FT8, CW and SSB modes. The network linking all of the logging computers together was working very well with very few problems noted this year.

The food on Saturday evening was excellent and the crew made quick work of consuming it. The same could be said for the breakfast on Sunday morning which has become a tradition for our Field Day experience. Many thanks go out to Martha Auchard – WØERI, Austin Frase – KEØYOA, Steve Rice – WØSER, Randy Brooks – KØAWW and anyone else that helped make the meals happen.

Many pictures were taken of the event both by cell phone, and with the help of Steve Stalker – WAØSRS and Jeff Latz – KAØARW. Some of these pictures ended up in the Leavenworth Times newspaper which was seen by many people, plus even resulting in comments from some of the people that have breakfast each week at the Depot Restaurant in Leavenworth along with our group.

Overall, I would have to say this was one of the best Field Day events we have had. Mother nature worked with us and didn't produce any storms and the breeze helped keep us cool, especially on Saturday. It will be interesting to see our final score in the December issue of QST Magazine.

The next event for the PKARC will be the special event station at the Fred Harvey house and museum. This will be in September so plan on attending that and doing some operating. More info will be provided at the monthly club meetings.

We will continue doing our monthly build sessions but we need input as to what you would like for us to present at those meetings. We are interested in hearing what type of items you would like to build, plus programs to show that will enhance your building and operating skills. Please give me or Steve – WØSER some feedback so we can find what you are wanting.

See you at our weekly breakfast gatherings on Thursday mornings.

Gary Auchard - WØMNA

Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes

Jun 6, 2024

Call to Order

The meeting of the PKARC was held on June 6th, at Pilgrim Community Church. It began at 7:00 pm and was presided over by President Steve Rice (WØSER), Keith (KFØKBC) VP, Martha (WØERI) Treasure and Roxann (KZØIMO) secretary.

Roll Call

Members in attendance included: Gary (WØMNA), Martha (WØERI), Randy (KØAWW), Keith (KFØKBC), Scott (K2SCT), Emily (KFØGNS), Vic (KEØSYO), Roxann (KZØIMO), John (KFØLNZ), Ron (NØCALL), Loren M (KBØYME), Don (KFØMZG), Max (KØMDP), Dick (KAØDJR), Steve (WØSER), Jeff (KAØARW), Rick (NJØP), Guy (KFØKOS), Thadd (KFØPXE), Loren K (KFØQAL) and guests Christa (KI4ODI), Bill (NOCALL), Sean (KFØQQF),

The meeting opened with Introductions of those present. Keith made a motion to approve the minutes. Roxann seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

Martha gave a treasures report.

Steve gave a reminder to respond to the survey regarding attendance and meals for Field Day.

Rick was given the floor to discuss the field day software setup on individual computers. The group took some time setting up or helping others set up their computers. Next Rick brought up his experience at Hamvention and the discussion will some ARRL representatives regarding the development of club grants. The next item of discussion was the Saint John Hospital Configuration and the potential to have remote operation using laptops on the MESH (using Software Defined Radios). Further discussion took place regarding the grant and how it can help us achieve some goals. Keith, Randy and Martha had some contacts who might be able to help. John McBurney volunteered to help with paper modeling of diagrams.

Next Scott was given the floor to talk about the club's participation in Lewis and Clark Trail on the air. He thanked those who participated.

A review by Randy regarding the various components of Field Day that have been filled. Followed by a request for a follow-up with the Boy Scout troops that members may know who wish to come out and get their radio badge.

A few more minutes were spent wrapping up some N3FJP software or field day log questions.

Adjournment

Keith made a motion to close meeting. Max seconded. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully 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 Jun, 2024 Net Report

02 Jun (NA)
No net, PKARC meeting

13 Jun (6)
KAØDJR ---- Dick*
KØMDP ---- Max
WAØSRS ---- Steve
KAØARW ---- Jeff
WØSER ---- Steve
KFØKOS ---- Guy

20 Jun (7)
KAØDJR ---- Dick*
KØMDP ---- Max
WAØSRS ---- Steve
KAØARW ---- Jeff
WØSER ---- Steve
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KZØIMO ---- Roxann

27 Jun (7)
KAØDJR ---- Dick*
WØSER ---- Steve
KAØARW ---- Jeff
KZØIMO ---- Roxann
NJØP ---- Dick
KEØSYO ---- Vic
KEØWLM ---- Ty

* = 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

Jun-2024	Name	02	09	16	23	30
KØAVN	Dave		π*			π*
KØAWW	Randy		X			
KAØDJR	Dick		X			X
KZØIMO	Roxann	X				
KFØKBC	Keith	LOG			LOG	
KFØKOS	Guy	X	X	X		
KØMDP	Max				π*	
WØMNA	Gary	π*	π*	π*	π*	π*
NJØP	Rick	NCS	NCS	NCS	NCS	NCS
KD7QOR	Ed				X	
NBØR	Brian		X	X	X	ANCS
K2SCT	Scott				X	
WØSER	Steve	ANCS	LOG	LOG		LOG
WAØSRS	Steve	X	X	X	X	X
KEØSYO	Vic	X	X	ANCS		X
KC5VKG	Doug		X			

The fastest 1/2 Hour on Ham Radio!

ANNUAL MEETING

JARA's Annual Meeting took place the evening of June 22nd at Field Day 20-24. Thanks to all who participated. All officers agreed to be extended another year.

Main take-away was that our system is working very well but there is always room for improvement. One goal is to get the VHF repeater performing as well or better than the UHF repeater.

Meanwhile, on UHF, we enjoy a very stable Yaesu System Fusion platform with better-than-ever Pi-Star performance. WiresX remains reliable.

On VHF, the Echolink system continues to get good reviews. Next step is to move the Echolink node to the home QTH of Randy-KØAWW before autumn.

SURVEY COMING

Sunday evening nets need an upgrade. Areas that need focus are a better NCS, a list of training topics, and participants who will step up to be Trainer and Alternate NCS. Many thanks to those who have been LOGging for the nets. The logs have been super.

To develop a list of topics and to solicit for net improvement ideas, a survey for all JARA members will be made available this month. When the survey comes out, please give this your prompt and honest input.

Our nets should be the fastest half hour on Amateur Radio, not because of the duration but because the net is so compelling that, as P.T. Barnum would say, it leaves you wanting more.



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.

CBR TEST II - JUL 6

As part of SET preparation, ARES will be conducting a second test of our Cross-Band Repeater to see if our successful set-up on April 14th can now be used to extend coverage to the west end of the county.

On **Saturday morning, July 6th**, we can use as many mobile and hand-held operators as possible to test coverage in west Leavenworth County.

The plan is to start the **CBR set up at 0800 hours** and be operational NLT 0830. We need volunteers to start heading toward the objective area beginning at 0800 so **testing can begin promptly at 0830**. We should be done by 0930 hours.

Results should be available before Sunday evening nets. **Contact Rick-NJØP if you can participate.**

SET - OCTOBER 5

The 2024 Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on October 5th is quickly approaching. We need you. All Radio Amateurs are welcome to participate.

This year's SET is intended to build confidence and skill in operating a suite of modes in an area not well covered by repeaters and digital gateways.

WX EVENTS

Springtime is over but the storms keep rolling in. Whether you're out spotting or at home and just want to keep in-the-know, tune to **ARES 1** of the Golden-99 (**147 repeater**). The county repeater seems to have the best coverage. Being able to chat makes the spotter time go faster.

FIELD DAY 2024

448 Hours. That's the number of Field Day volunteer hours recorded on the monthly EC report going to the Section Manager. This is probably a low-end estimate.

Although every participant and guest have earned our appreciation and thanks, there were several key people who went above and beyond:

- Randy-KØAWW - Event Coordinator
- Jeff-KAØARW - Public Info Officer
- Gary-WØMNA - Safety Officer
- Roxann-KZØIMO - Public Relations
- Max-KØMDP - GOTA Station
- Steve-WAØSRS - Photography

Thanks to everyone who made this year's Field Day the best ever!

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

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

02 Jun (7)

WØSER ---- Steve*
 KFØKBC ---- Keith
 KEØSYO ---- Vic
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KFØKOS ---- Guy
 KZØIMO ---- Roxann
 WAØSRS ---- Steve

09 Jun (8)

NBØR ---- Brian*
 WØSER ---- Steve
 WAØSRS ---- Steve
 KEØSYO ---- Vic
 KAØDJR ---- Dick
 KØAWW ---- Randy
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KD7QOR ---- Ed

16 Jun (7)

NBØR ---- Brian*
 WØSER ---- Steve
 KEØSYO ---- Vic**
 WAØSRS ---- Steve
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KØMDP ---- Max
 KFØKOS ---- Guy

23 Jun (8)

NBØR ---- Brian*
 KFØKBC ---- Keith
 WAØSRS ---- Steve
 KØMDP ---- Max
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KD7QOR ---- Ed
 KEØSYO ---- Vic
 KØAVN ---- Dave

30 Jun (9)

NBØR ---- Brian*
 KEØSYO ---- Vic**
 KZØIMØ ---- Roxann
 WAØSRS ---- Steve
 KFØKOS ---- Guy
 KAØDJR ---- Dick
 NJØP ---- Rick
 NØCS ---- Pete
 KEØWLM ---- Ty



(*) - Net Control Station

(**) - Alternate NCS

Wednesday PKARC Net - 147.000 Jun, 2024 Net Report

5 Jun (18)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
K2SCT ---- Scott
AAØMV ---- Steve
KFØQAL ---- Loren
WØSER ---- Steve
KBØYME ---- Loren
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KØMDP ---- Max
NJØP ---- Rick
KCØNVS ---- Tom
KEØLWM ---- Ty
KEØSYO ---- Vic
KØAWW ---- Randy
KDØHOY ---- Ron
KFØPIB ---- Chris
KBØBBQ ---- Bill
KFØKOS ---- Guy
NRØR ---- Mark

12 Jun (14)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
AAØMV ---- Steve
KBØYME ---- Loren
WØSER ---- Steve
K2SCT ---- Scott
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KEØSYO ---- Vic
NJØP ---- Rick
KAØARW ---- Jeff
KFØDQA ---- Phil
NRØR ---- Mark
KDØHOY ---- Ron
KAØREN ---- Vern
KCØNVS ---- Tom

21 Jun (20)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
KBØYME ---- Loren
AAØMV ---- Steve
KFØOOS ---- Tom
WØSER ---- Steve
K2SCT ---- Scott
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KØAWW ---- Randy
KFØKOS ---- Guy
KAØARW ---- Jeff
KEØSYO ---- Vic
KFØPXE ---- Thad
KØRON ---- Ron
NJØP ---- Rick
KFØQQF ---- Sean
KFØQAL ---- Loren
KDØHOY ---- Ron
KFØDFC ---- John
KFØLNZ ---- John
KCØNVS ---- Tom

26 Jun (14)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
AAØMV ---- Steve
KBØYME ---- Loren
WØSER ---- Steve
KØMDP ---- Max
K2SCT ---- Scott
KFØOOS ---- Tom
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KAØARW ---- Jeff
NJØP ---- Rick
KD5MDA ---- Jan
W6BDD ---- George
KEØWLM ---- Ty
KEØPIB ---- Chris

(*) - Net Control Station



Field Day Notes from Pete, NØCS

Field Day 2024 is now in the books and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I operated 1E NFL. I like to operate using emergency power so I am not scrambling to figure it out in an actual emergency. I was disappointed that I wasn't able to get WØEBB in my log. I was able to get several stations in Kansas and Missouri but the VA park proved to be unreachable. I finally logged some states that were elusive while living in Lansing, KS. Amazing what distance does in ham radio!

Below I am sharing pictures of my shack and antenna with you so you can see what operating and living in Florida looks like! You will notice water in the antenna picture and that is just the tip of the iceberg. I am surrounded by canals that lead all over the swamps and to several lakes. So, I think it is safe to say I have a decent ground plane in the area. The antenna is a Mosley TA-33 Jr up around 30 ft and I use that because of Rick, NJØP that sets up his full-size Mosley. As an Elmer I looked to for knowledge, Rick was correct, that driven element by itself works amazing. And yes, it is pointed directly at Leavenworth and was for the duration of field day. You will notice a battery in my shack photo and I want to share my experience with you about it. If anyone is thinking about getting a LiFePO4 (Lithium Iron Phosphate) battery for mobile or emergency power, I would highly recommend it. Capacity is 100 Ah, size is group 34. It is large, but surprisingly light. The battery was used for about 10 hours on Saturday and 3 hours on Sunday. It was fully charged at the beginning and according to documentation on the battery I only used about 40% of the capacity. Comparing my experience with using lead acid batteries, this one is amazingly superior in providing constant power with minimal voltage drop. I used a marine deep cycle lead acid battery the first year I operated portable in the Kansas QSO Party and by the end of day one it was very low. I didn't attempt that again, instead I had to be cool like Gary (WØMNA) and get a Honda generator. I still have that generator and it is a great power source.

I hope you have enjoyed the update from Florida. I miss each and every one of you.

73,
Pete Jackson, NØCS



Field Day 2024

Photos courtesy of Steve and Donna Stalker (WAØSRS)



Field Day 2024

Photos courtesy of Steve and Donna Stalker (WAØSRS)



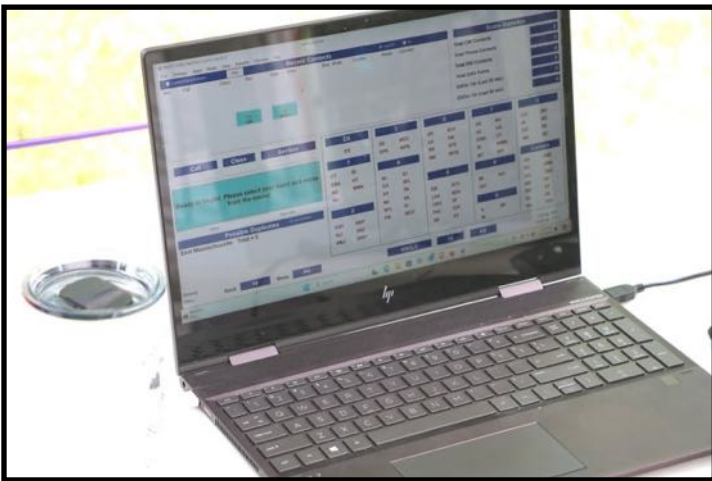
Field Day 2024

Photos courtesy of Steve and Donna Stalker (WAØSRS)



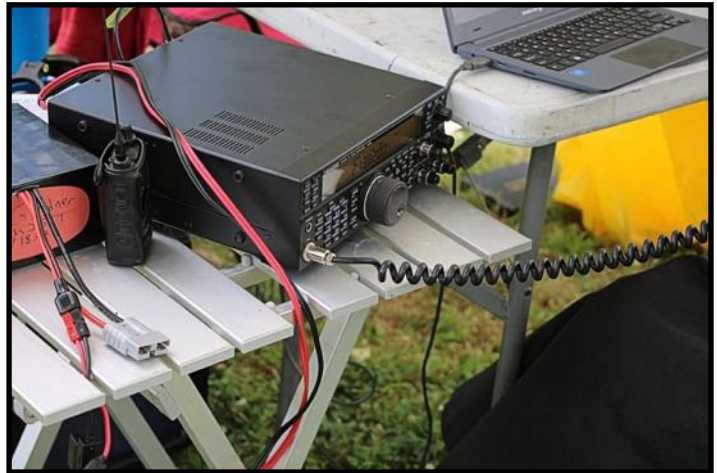
Field Day 2024

Photos courtesy of Steve and Donna Stalker (WAØSRS)



Field Day 2024

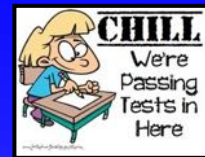
Photos courtesy of Steve and Donna Stalker (WAØSRS)



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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!