



Don KFØMZG doing his best to stay warm at FYK's

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CLUB MEETING INFORMATION

Meetings

Monthly on First Thursdays

Next Meeting Date/Time
7:00 pm
Thurs, March 6, 2025

Build & Learn Sessions

Monthly on Third Thursdays

Next Session Date/Time
6:00 pm or 7:00 pm
Check the club calendar

Location
Pilgrim Community Church
500 Arch Street
Leavenworth, KS 66048

Club Breakfast

Every Thursday
7:30 am
at

The Depot 1887
781 Shawnee Street
Leavenworth, KS 66048



The depot
est 1887

From the President's Desk

What a difference a week makes.... It truly was a Freeze Your Keys event last week. We had a great turnout despite the cold temperatures and snow on the ground, including several of our newest members and numerous visitors. I will let Gary WØMNA give details, but he suggested that we spread out around the shelter house complex to set up our stations, and did we, the only people in the shelter house were those occasionally warming by the fire and when we all answered the chili dinner bell. A big thank you to Martha WØERI for the very delicious chili and cornbread, it really warmed the soul and the soles of my feet.

I also want to thank Jeff KAØARW for braving the weather to take photos, some of which were featured along with an article in the Leavenworth Times. Now the community knows we aren't just a bunch of fair-weather radio operators.

We will have a guest speaker at our regular club meeting on March 6th, Eli KFØQFD will share his Ham Radio history and make a presentation on how to use DTMF to control Echolink, along with his use of our Echolink equipped 145.33 repeater.

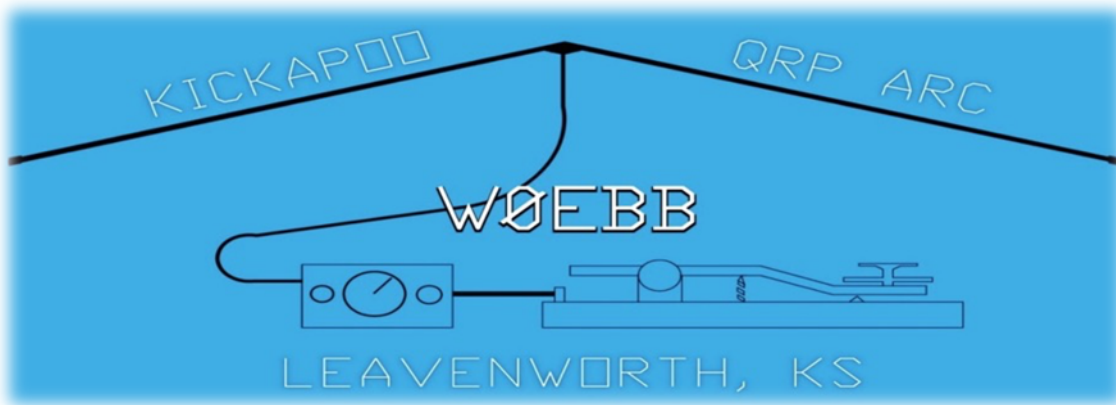
We hope to hear feedback from those that attended Freeze Your Keys at our meeting. I know it was a learning experience for me as I was using for the first time a 'second owner' radio (KX3) and an antenna configuration (POTA PERformer) that I had constructed from the plans we saw at our last club meeting. I was pleasantly surprised how well I was able to work stations on the east and gulf coast on SSB with just 12 watts on 20 Meters in less than ideal conditions. Now I just need to improve my CW and digital skills to really get the most out of this equipment combination.

Again, Gary would like to hear from our members about what they would like to learn and construct at our build session meetings. In April we could have single lever CW key kit for those interested, let us know we will try to order or purchase at the Branson OzarkCon meeting on April 5th.

Hopefully the extreme cold weather is finished for this year, we hated to cancel the weekly breakfast gathering and build session last week. I know I didn't venture out except to refill the birdfeeder that day. I am looking forward to our next gathering, hope to see you then....

73,

Steve WØSER



From the Kickapoo QRP ARC operating desk

The 21st year of the “Freeze Your Keys” winter operating event is now in the history books and it was definitely a very cold event to start with. When I arrived at the shelter house in Weston Bend State Park at 7:00 a.m. it was only 12 degrees. There was a lot of snow on the ground, but the park service had plowed the roads and parking lot so it was an easy access to the shelter house.

Upon arrival we found there was a lot of snow still on the floor of the shelter house that needed to be removed so Steve – W0SER took on the task with his snow shovel and leaf blower. Even though this snow removal cleaned up the area, the cement floor was very slick and you needed to be careful how you walked.

One of the first tasks was to get a fire started in one of the BBQ grills in the shelter. Thanks to Phil – KF0DQA and Loren – KF0QAL we had firewood to burn as they had visited the site the day before and cut some fallen logs and limbs to burn. In short order we had a fire going and it sure felt good.

People started showing up and getting things set up to operate. We focused on setting up on the picnic tables around the shelter house as it was a nice sunny day and the sun was helping warm things up. Nobody elected to set up inside the shelter house, but a number of people kept coming back inside to warm up by the fire.

All in all we had six locations set up to operate. The best bands for contacts were 20 meters, 17 meters and 10 meters. Overall we did not make a lot of contacts, but we did have fun using the snow banks from the snow plow to support our antenna poles, plus making use of the picnic tables to spread out our operation.

Roxann - KZ0IMO brought her shelter again and it was like a sauna in there as she managed to get the temperature up to 81 degrees making it quite a comfortable place to warm up also. Phil – KF0DQA and Loren – KF0QAL set up a shelter also but it had a screen for side walls on three side but one side was a solid wall to help block the wind. Again, the sun helped to warm up their operating location somewhat.

Scott – K2SCT and Steve – W0SER were set up on picnic tables and staying warm due to the trees blocking some of the wind plus the sunlight helping until later on in the afternoon. By that time the temperature was in the lower 40's.

Don – KF0MZG and Ed – KD7QOR were very actively chasing DX on the 10 meter band and operating off of the tailgate of Don's truck. They were sure having a good time and working hard to make contacts to Italy and Scotland, plus the Battleship Iowa. Later on a contact from Loren's – KF0QAL site resulted in Fairbanks Alaska being added to the log.

At noon Martha – W0ERI brought over some great Chili and Cornbread to help warm us up. It was just the thing people needed at that point and was quickly consumed.

Jeff – KA0ARW came by and took some picture for the local paper and to write up our adventure for the Leavenworth Times newspaper. Many people see his input to the paper and have commented about our activities at the breakfast gatherings on Thursday mornings. This article resulted in a full page spread in the Leavenworth Times.

At around 2:30 we gathered to get a group picture and start to shut things down so we could be out of the park by dusk per the park rules. Overall we had 16 club members there plus 6 visitors from Platte City, Smithville and Kansas City. The visitors all commented on how great they thought our operation was going and how we were set up to operate.

We were finally finished and packed up by 3:30 p.m. and ready to circle the wagons and do a quick assessment of our operation. When we were leaving the park the temperature had managed to work its way up to 45 degrees making it a comfortable sunny afternoon.

Gary Auchard - W0MNA

What is QRP operation?

What ham radio operators say: “If you want to talk to someone, use a big high-powered radio. If you want to talk to everyone, use a small low-powered one.” This saying refers to the use of QRP, or low-power, operation. Ham radio QRP involves the use of radios with typically a maximum output power of five watts or less, which often are kit buildable.

Despite the lower power output, QRP radios can communicate over long distances, thanks to their simple yet efficient design, utilizing weak signal modes like CW, FT8, JS8Call and others. This makes QRP operation an attractive low budget, very portable option for amateur radio operators who enjoy the challenge of communicating with low-power radios



Secretary's Page



Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes February 6th, 2025

Call to Order

The meeting of the PKARC was held on February 6th, Pilgrim Community Church. It began at 7:00 pm and was presided over by President Steve Rice (W0SER), Vice President Keith Collier (KF0KBC), Treasurer Martha Auchard (W0ERI), with Steve and Keith covering for Roxann (KZ0IMO) Secretary.

Roll Call

Those in attendance: Steve (W0SER), Gary (W0MNA), Keith (KF0KBC), Don (KF0MZG), Scott (K2SCT), Phil (KF0DQA), Loren (KB0YME), Loren (KF0QAL), Martha (W0ERI), Randy (K0AWW), Guy (KF0KOS), Doug (KF0HHW), John (KF0LNZ), Ron (NOCALL), Vince (AB0PU), Allen (KB0MVT -New Member), and Mike Bean (KC0JLQ - Guest),

Steve said the minutes were in the newsletter and asked for approval, Keith moved and Gary 2nd, no objections. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report

Martha gave Treasurer report. There was some discussion on donations given for specific purposes (Website, Groups.io) that weren't reflected in the Disbursements, she is checking on how to show those on the balance sheets.

Presentation/Discussion

Gary had the Ham Clock display up on the big screen, Phil talked about his build using Raspberry Pi 4b. and then Gary and Phil pointed out features and functions of Ham Clock. Steve will put Phil's build instructions up on PKARC Groups.io in File Folder for Feb Meeting for member access because there were several links for hardware and software. This could be considered for a build night project if there is interest. **Perhaps make mention of buying online or from microcenter?**

Loren (KF0QAL) told about a partnership he found on ARRL with Grouper that pays those on Medicare Advantage for social activities, like Ham Radio, every Quarter they are active. This is money that can be used to help offset dues for ARRL and Clubs. Steve said he checked into it and found that his Medicare Supplement Insurance did not have that benefit.

Steve gave a presentation on the POTA PERformer Antenna. Plans for the build are by KJ6ER and videos of KB9VBR on how to build and set up antenna with additional tips by KO9MSP. There were handouts given and the handout was also uploaded to PKARC Groups.io in File Folder for Feb Meeting. This could be considered for a build night project if there is interest.

A reminder was given for Weather Spotter Training, (open to the public and ARES annual requirement) in person on Feb 25th at Lansing Middle School and the website was displayed indicating alternate classes both in person and virtual in the coming weeks. He also mentioned that Chuck would have Part 2 of the training for Leavenworth County (currently active spotters), on March 19th.

Scott has been contacted by the Lewis and Clark OTA group wondering if PKARC would participate in 2025, there was much interest from the group, Dates May 31-June 13th for the event. Scott will be the liaison for our club.

Gary gave an overview on how and where Freeze Your Keys event on Feb 22 will be conducted. Suggested pairing up to help log and learn, will limit the total radios on the air and band at any one time. Steve is bringing audio splitter cables to enable partners to hear using headphones.

Guy has reserved a room at the Leavenworth Library from 12:00 to 13:00 on Saturday the Feb 8th for our first organized CW training class. All of those interested are invited to join in.

Build night on Feb 20th, there was interest in learning to install coax connectors, not sure if this will be this month or a future project.

Adjournment

Keith motioned for adjournment. Randy seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted with thanks to Steve and Keith,

Roxann Kosmicki, KZ0IMO

Secretary

PKARC Officers

President:
Steve W0SER

Vice President:
Keith KF0KBC

Secretary:
Roxann KZ0IMO

Treasurer:
Martha W0ERI

**PKARC is a
501c(3)
non-profit club
Your generous
donations
enable
scientific,
technology,
and
educational
programs for**



Saint John
Hospital
Amateur
Radio
Club

Since 2023

Saint John Hospital Amateur Radio Club (SHARC)

SHARC provides an identity and rallying point for Radio Amateurs participating in activities at Saint John Hospital and supporting Providence Medical Center. The Amateur Radio portion of the Saint John Hospital Command Center is called the **SHARC Tank**. Club Call: **KFØLOG** Trustee: **Roxann – KZØIMO**

March 3, 2025 SHARC NET

supporting the **KCHEART Monthly Test**

Team 3 (KZØIMO, KFØKBC, and WØLYQ) reports to SJH

Team 4 (KAØDJR, KFØKOS, KFØRWS) reports to PMC

All others report your availability to respond via 147.000 (+) 151.4 Hz FM to KFØLOG between 7:15 pm and 7:30 pm.

The Kansas City Hospital Emergency Amateur Radio Team (KCHEART)

is the regional coordinating body for all hospital-based Amateur Radio stations used in auxiliary communications support to their host hospital. KCHEART forms a valuable voice and slow-speed data network between medical facilities.

Thanks to everyone who attended the KCHEART Annual Meeting on January 18th. The show of force backs up our claim of an active group.

SHARC Net
Monday Mar 3
1915-1930 Hours
147.000 (+) 151.4 Hz

Jarbalo Amateur Radio Association



Activate **WIRES-X**

Check us out at JARA.signaleer.us
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

Feb-2025	Name	02	09	16	23
KAØDJR	Dick	X			X
WØERI	Martha	π^*		π^*	π^*
ABØGD	Gregg			X	
KZØIMO	Roxann	X		X	X
KFØKBC	Keith	ANCS		ANCS	X
KFØKOS	Guy	X			
KØMDP	Max				π^*
WØMNA	Gary	π^*		π^*	π^*
NJØP	Rick	NCS		NCS	NCS
ABØPU	Vince	X			X
KFØPXE	Thad	X			X
KD7QOR	Ed	X		X	
KFØRWS	Tom	X		X	LOG
K2SCT	Scott				X
WØSER	Steve	LOG		LOG	ANCS
WAØSRS	Steve			X	X
KEØSYO	Vic			X	

SUPER BOWL WEEKEND - No Nets

The fastest 1/2 Hour on Ham Radio!

SYSTEMS UPDATE

VHF FM RPT (145.33 (-) 151.4 Hz FM)
No change in VHF Repeater status. The repeater is operating without the power amplifier for the time being. Performance updates will be made within the next 2 months.

UHF C4FM RPT (444.800 (+) TØØRØØ)
Working very well. No issues.

Echolink to VHF: Operational

Wires-X to UHF: Operational

Pi-Star to UHF: Operational

NET HELP WANTED

Looking for a volunteer to be a Net Manager for our nets. A Net Manager is responsible for assignment of NCS, ANCS, and LOG in advance of nets. Net Manager also coordinates the topic or training list.

TØØRØØ

For Yaesu System Fusion C4FM users, you'll see the cryptic TØØRØØ on your radio and in our logs/listings. The T is transmit and R is Receive. The number represent the digital equivalent to a CTCSS tone. If the numbers are set to anything except ØØ, the radio will squelch the audio unless both radios are set to the same number.



ARES Field Reports



Logout Rick Reichert, NJ0P, KS EC

ARES Home Submit Form 2

Form 2 - ARES Monthly DEC/EC Report

Print this page

Success! The following information was submitted by Rick Reichert, NJ0P, KS EC for **Kansas, February, 2025.**

Jurisdiction: **KS-LV-ARES Leavenworth Co., KS**

Total number of ARES members:	17
Number of ARES net sessions held:	7
Number of ARES net sessions held with NTS liaison:	0
Number of participants in nets:	72

	Number	Person-Hrs
Exercises this month:	2	83.00
Training events this month:	7	38.00
Public service events this month:	0	0.00
Community service events this month:	0	0.00
Emergency events this month:	0	0.00
SKYWARN events this month:	1	24.00
Meetings this month:	3	17.00
Unclassified events this month:	6	45.00

Reportable Hours

- Exercises
- Training
- Public Service
- Community Service
- Emergencies
- Weather
- Meetings
- Unclassified Events

Activity Details:

Scheduled nets as usual, attendees to HamCation, MECC, Annual Weather Spotter Training, CERT, and other liaison activities. Main exercise was Freeze Your Keys annual winter outdoor operating event. See QRZ Special Event stations for details. Furthered work on KCDC Project and public awareness through QRZ Newsletter production.

Administrative and Other Comments:

Preparing for transition of EC from NJ0P to KZ0IMO effective April 1. ARES Annual Meeting for KS-LV-ARES on April 5 (tentative). Updated KS-LV-ARES.signaleer.us web site and KS-LV-ARES.groups.io sites. Curtailing Thursday evening ARES nets effective April 1.

Leavenworth County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®)

Emergency Coordinator: Rick Reichert, NJØP, AUXC, COML(T)

Website: <https://KS-LV-ARES.signaleer.us>

Groups.io: <https://groups.io/g/KS-LV-ARES>

ARES Credentialing

If you're new to ARES and need to start your credentials quest, here is a streamlined way to attain what you need.

1. **Download** the updated Amateur Radio Operator Credentialing Requirements and Resource Typing document revised on 01/17/25 from KS-LV-ARES.signaleer.us. Link is in the New Credentialing Requirements article (main page).

2. **Complete** the requirements for Radio Operator - Level IV. Courses are free and online at FEMA's Independent Study Program at <https://training.fema.gov/is/>.

3. **Submit** form and supporting documents according to instructions downloaded in Step 1. On the form, where it says, "MECC Agency including contact person name and email" use the following according to group you are affiliating with:

Leavenworth County ARES®
Rick Reichert
EC@KS-LV-ARES.signaleer.us

Leavenworth Co. Emergency Mgmt
Zach Phillips, Master Deputy
zphillips@lvsheriff.org

KCHEART
Matt May, Director
mmay@wycokck.org

SHARC/St John Hosp
Roxann Kosmicki
sobelizard@rocketmail.com

4. **Record** your achievements on your KS-LV-ARES Task Book. Task book is available upon request from Rick – NJØP. The Task Book will show the requirements you still need to complete for credentialing at the next level up.

NOTE: This section is reprinted from the February 2025 Newsletter. This information is also available on KS-LV-ARES.signaleer.us.

Congratulations to **Tom Ward KFØRWS** who is now Accredited at Level IV Basic Operator effective January 18, 2025.

Congratulations to **Keith Collier KFØKBC** who is now accredited at Level II Supervisor effective Febraury 10, 2025.

Both operators join the growing number of accredited and credentialed Amateur Radio Operators that are recognized in the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Thanks to all those who attended **2025 Weather Spotter Training** so far this year: Roxann-KZØIMO, Max-KØMDP, Keith-KFØKBC, Thad-KFØPXE, Tom-KFØRWS, Dick-KAØDJR, Ed-KD7QOR, Vic-KDØPZV, Jon-WØRIP, Stephen-W9WTY, Bret-KEØODH, Steve-WØSER, Loren-KBØYME and Rick-NJØP. If you attended an NWS-provided session and were not listed above, please contact Rick-NJØP.

Leavenworth County ARES® Thursday Night Check-ins for February 2025
 Weekly Voice Training Reinforcement Net 147.000 MHz (+) FM 151.4 Hz KDØZKP/R

February 6 No net – PKARC Mtg	February 20 (11, FYK Discussion)	February 27 (9)	
February 13 (8) KA0DJR ---- Dick* W0SER ---- Steve (Logger) WA0SRS ---- Steve KA0ARW ---- Jeff KF0KBC ---- Keith KA3NLF ---- Carl KF0RWS ---- Tom W9WDY ---- Stephen	KA0DJR ---- Dick* W0SER ---- Steve (Logger) W0MNA ---- Gary KD7QOR ---- Ed KF0KBC ---- Keith KZ0IMO ---- Roxanne KA0ARW ---- Jeff KB0YME ---- Loren KE0SYO ---- Vic KF0DQA ---- Phil KF0RWS ---- Tom	KA0DJR ---- Dick* W0SER ---- Steve (Logger) WA0SRS ---- Steve KD7QOR ---- Ed KA0ARW ---- Jeff NJ0P ---- Rick KF0RWS ---- Tom KZ0IMO ---- Roxanne KF0KOS ---- Guy	NCS = Net Control Sta LOG = Net Logger Source: Dick KAØDJR Net Logs can be found As https://Net-Control.us

PKARC Wednesday Night Net Check-in's for February 2025 147.000 Repeater (+) 151.4 Hz Tone

<u>5 February (19)</u>	<u>12 February (20)</u>	<u>19 February (16)</u>	<u>26 February (18)</u>
WAØSRS ---- Steve* KFØRWS ---- Tom AAØMV ---- Steve KØMK5 ---- Mike WØSER ---- Steve WBØQFU ---- Bruce KFØRIP ---- John KBØYME ---- Loren KFØDFC ---- John KBØYUV ---- Cliff KFØPIB ---- Chris KAØARW ---- Jeff KGØHG ---- Joe NØQQD ---- Quinten KDØHOY ---- Ron KA3NLF ---- Carl KFØDQA ---- Phil KFØQAL ---- Loren NRØR ---- Mark	WAØSRS ---- Steve* K2SCT ---- Scott WØSER ---- Steve KFØKBC ---- Keith KFØRWS ---- Tom KBØYUV ---- Cliff KFØSEE ---- Courtney KØMDP ---- Max KFØPIB ---- Chris KAØARW ---- Jeff NJØP ---- Rick KEØSYO ---- Vic NØRCI ---- JR AAØMV ---- Steve KDØHOY ---- Ron KCØFSH ---- Mark KFØQAL ---- Loren KA3NLF ---- Carl NRØR ---- Mark W6BDD ---- George	WAØSRS ---- Steve* K2SCT ---- Scott WØSER ---- Steve KBØYUV ---- Cliff KAØDJR ---- Dick KGØHG ---- Joe KBØYME ---- Loren KAØARW ---- Jeff KEØSYO ---- Vic AAØMV ---- Steve KFØRWS ---- Tom KDØHOY ---- Ron KFØDQA ---- Phil KFØQAL ---- Loren NBØR ---- Brian NRØR ---- Mark	WAØSRS ---- Steve* KBØYME ---- Loren WØSER ---- Steve AAØMV ---- Steve KEØSYO ---- Vic KD7QOR ---- Ed KBØHG ---- Joe KEØODH ---- Brett KAØDJR ---- Dick KCØCQD ---- Dave KAØARW ---- Jeff KFØKBC ---- Keith KFØRWS ---- Tom NØMTV ---- Kelly KFØPIB ---- Chris KFØDQA ---- Phil NJØP ---- Rick NRØR ---- Mark *NCS

HamCation 2025 Trip Report Submitted by Rick Reichert, NJØP

Orlando, Florida, February 7-9, 2025. While you, my fellow club members, were suffering through a Kansas mid-winter, I took advantage of an Amateur Radio convention in warmer climes. Orlando does not normally have weather. It has climate, mostly between 60°s at night at 80°s during the day in February. Perfect for a hamfest.



HamCation is a very well-oiled machine, just like the Dayton Hamvention. Tickets, talk-in, parking, and a great atmosphere are nearly the same. There was a 50% chance of covered parking since car parking was in an area that must have been an outdoor market on other days.

There were, however, several huge differences from Hamvention. Short and t-shirts in the middle of winter was a welcome change. HamCation is a much smaller hamfest; I'd say 1/4 the size of Dayton. All the vendors were in a single, long building. Forums took place in three tents erected under a large, open-air pavilion away from the rest of the event. There were usually more attendees than available seats, depending on the topic.

The "bone yard", a.k.a. flea market, was a challenge. Imagine a camper fest without clearly marked camp sites. It seemed campers were parked randomly and may or may not have had tables out with wares to look at. Instead of neatly arranged booths, the tables were as randomly displayed as the campers. I wandered the whole ground multiple times but I'm still not sure if I saw all the tables.



As with any hamfest, you never know what folks will bring to sell. In addition to well used ham gear, there were plenty of vendors of kits and new ideas. I picked up a semi-programmable repeater controller kit for \$30. This may come in handy for a variety of applications. Certainly, it is a good concept to build on. I also found Turds for sale. I was pretty sure I could produce these back home for free, so I didn't buy any.

All the major vendors were there. I spent time with Yaesu, iCom, and Kenwood to discuss what I was seeking for the KCDC project. Looks like iCom came out the winner and I was able to buy a discounted iCom transceiver for the KCDC project at a show discount from Ham Radio Outlet. HRO was the only vendor there with radio stock. The rest, including Gigaparts, only took orders and had almost nothing stocked at the fest.





I had planned to spend the entire three days at HamCation but I was able to complete all my intended research, purchases, forums, and browsing in a single day. Besides, I already had enough to fill the available space in my suitcase. I spent the rest of my time doing the 'Cation portion of HamCation.

All-in-all, I enjoyed this first-time visit. Patrons were super friendly. Food was plentiful and provided by truck vendors. Recommendation: If you have other business in Orlando (like Mickey Mouse business), then the trip is well worth the time. Don't come expecting a Dayton-level event, but it beats Mine Creek Hamfest by the length of 100 alligators.



The 21st Annual PKARC Freeze Your Keys Survivors

Upcoming Events You Won't Want to Miss

- Special Guest Speaker Eli KFØQFD at our March 6th Club Meeting as he shares with us his Ham Radio history and how he uses DTMF to control Echolink on the 145.33 repeater

And of course, all the scheduled Club Nets, Club meetings and breakfasts, watch the club calendar @PKARC.org for additional information and activities