



October 2025

Volume 21 • Issue 10

Official Newsletter of  
**Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club**  
Leavenworth, Kansas • Grid: EM29 • Club Call: KSØLV

Max KØMDP at the top of his Field



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**CLUB MEETING  
INFORMATION**

**Meetings**  
Monthly on First  
Thursdays

Next Meeting Date/Time  
7:00 pm  
Thurs, October 2, 2025

**Build & Learn  
Sessions**

Most Months 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

September was a busy month for our club; we had our annual Fred Harvey House on the Air special event. We were blessed with perfect weather and have already received two QSL cards from 28 of our contacts made during the event.

Gary shared information on building and using Pi-Star to access not only our digital repeater but various other rooms we can communicate with around the world at our latest meeting. This might become a project for some at a future build meeting.

We had a great turnout and support for our tower climb a big thank you to each of you that spent Saturday morning with us, another perfect weather day. I only wish Max had a climbing partner, that was a workout for him. The adjustments we made to the Mesh Antenna directed at Roswell Tower made a vast improvement. Bill Gery is working to have the VoIP Mesh phones at SJH and PMC connect to what will become the KC Mesh system. This will enable others like St. Joseph Hospital and Wyandotte EOC that are also now on the Mesh Network to communicate without Legacy Systems. This completes Phase One of Rick's (NJØP) initiative to have a wireless Metro Mesh Network that started successfully first here in Leavenworth.

Our October Club meeting is this Thursday, 10/04, we will learn of the nominations for 2026 Club officers, the voting, if necessary, will be held at our November meeting along with a proposal to have a two-year term for the officers.

October SET is this coming this Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> looks like continued nice fall weather will only add to the great Team experience.

There are several other Ham related events coming up soon you might want to attend:

- S.P.A.R.K.-CON in Sedalia, MO at the State Fair Grounds 10/10-10/11
- Ensor Auction, Springhill KS at the Ensor Museum 10/18
- Nixa Hamfest, Nixa MO 11/8

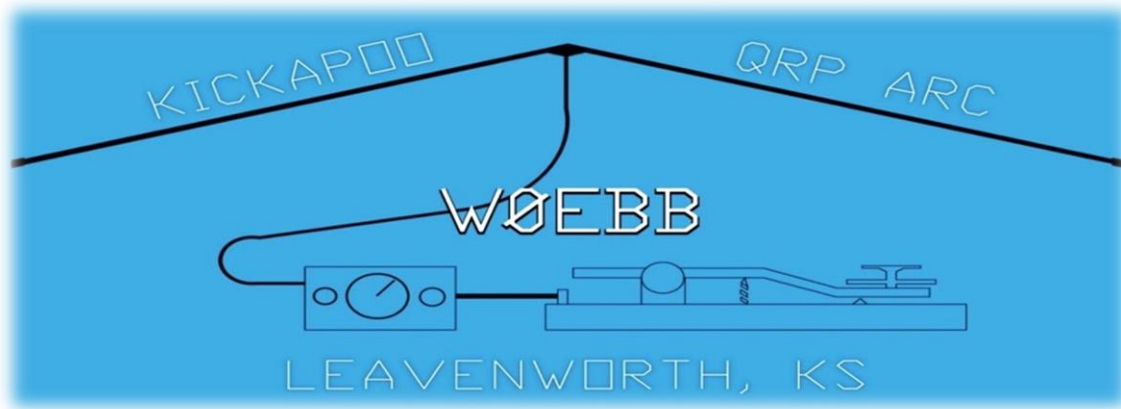
Our club breakfast gathering on Thursday Mornings continues to grow, leading to several great conversations with an exchange of ideas and sharing of knowledge beyond just Amateur Radio topics.

Please send me your nomination for HAM of the YEAR via email, please include your reasons for the recommendation.

I always look forward to seeing each of you at our club meetings and breakfast gatherings as we grow and learn together.

73

Steve WØSER



## From the Kickapoo QRP ARC operating desk

The month of September found us operating in the great states of Oklahoma and Arkansas. Our primary purpose of the trip was to attend the Mina Arkansas Hamfest held every year at the Queen Wilhelmina State Park. This park is a beautiful area to have a hamfest in, plus gives you the opportunity to activate many nearby SOTA summits, which was another reason for us going there.

On the way there we drove up to Cavanal Mountain Oklahoma which is billed as the highest hill in the country. This site is loaded with radio towers which give off a lot of RF noise making HF contacts rough at best. We set up and made enough SOTA contacts to qualify it as an activation, but on the advice of someone we met later at the hamfest, there is a side road that may give some distance from the RF problem and is still in the activation zone. We'll try that location next year.

Later we drove on down to the lodge at Queen Wilhelmina State Park and checked in. After that we drove over to our second summit called Rich Mountain Arkansas. This is a drive-up summit and a very nice location to set up and operate from. We made plenty of contacts and called it a day then went back to the lodge for dinner.

The next day we drove west to a summit called 2290 in Oklahoma. This is a drive-up summit that you simply pull off to the side of the road out of traffic and set up. We made a lot of contacts on this summit as the bands were in really good shape.

After leaving 2290 we drove on another 5 miles to a second summit called Sycamore Lookout Oklahoma. This is also a drive-up summit that has a lot of radio towers on it, but the RF noise is low. We set up and the difference in band conditions in just 45 minutes was amazing. We had to work to get enough contacts to qualify the summit as activated. The bands were almost dead, but we did make enough contacts to fill our needs.

The next summit we activated was also a drive-up but required a 4-mile drive on back roads to get to. Once safely at the site we set up and made plenty of contacts as the bands had recovered. Quite a experience seeing how band conditions can change in such a short time. After this activation we called it a day and went back to the lodge and relaxed plus had a nice meal in the restaurant there.

The next two days were spent mostly at the hamfest which is held outside under two large tents. A friend from South Dakota was there for the first time and was wanting to do some SOTA activations. I took him to 2290, Sycamore Lookout plus Rich Mountain so he was able to get some good activations in that day. The next day at the hamfest turned out to be quite foggy and wet at the hamfest. The fog finally cleared up by noon and the crowd picked up. This highway leading to the hamfest is not a great place to have to drive in the fog and there are warning signs not to in some cases. Good hamfest and I did bring home some small items I needed.

The next day Martha and I opted to try a summit we had never done before. It's called Winding Stair Oklahoma. This is a one mile hike up with a 500 foot altitude gain in the first half mile. A bit of a strenuous hike, plus there was a large tree that had fallen across the trail that we had to climb over to continue the hike. The trail was what was left of a rough road leading up to the top for the rangers that manned the fire tower that is no longer there. After the first half mile up the path levels out making it a nice trail to the shelter that is still there. We set up to operate and made five contacts quickly. Then unfortunately our battery died and we had to call it a day. I forgot to charge the battery from our previous activations and that was not the place to have a battery go dead. I was not about to hike back down, pick up a spare battery and hike back up. Next time we'll carry a spare battery just in case. Lesson learned for sure on this summit.

The final day for this trip we took a side trip on the way home and activated a summit called Poteau Mountain Arkansas. We have activated this summit multiple times. It's a drive-up and the road is decent but driving is very slow as it's a typical mountain road 5 miles back into the woods. There are a number of radio towers on this site but they don't cause us any problems. We made the most contacts of all our the summits we did on this trip on this summit. After that we continued on home and thought about our next planned trips in November back down into the Fort Smith Arkansas area to do the final summits for the year. A very good trip overall and looking forward to our trip back to this area next year.

See you all at the PKARC meetings and weekly breakfast gatherings.

Gary Auchard - WOMNA



# Secretary's Page



## Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes for September 4, 2025

### Call to Order

The meeting of the PKARC was held on August 7th at Pilgrim Community Church. It began at 7:00 pm and was presided over by Steve (W0SER) President, Keith (KF0KBC) and Roxann (KZ0IMO) as Secretary.

### Roll Call

Those in attendance: Thadd (KF0PXE), Keith (KF0KBC), Stephen (W9WTY), Vic (KE0SYO), Gyluss (KD0YZC), Roxann (KZ0IMO), John (KF0LNZ), Ron (N0CALL), Loren (KB0YME), Max (K0MDP), Mark (KF0TXA), Steve (W0SER), Phil (KF0DQA), Tom (KF0RWS), Nate (KF0OII) and Bruce (WB0QFO),.

Around of introductions were made.

Vic made a motion to approve August 2025 Minutes. Thadd seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### Treasurers Report

Roxann read the Treasurers report. Vic H moved to approve. Tom seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Steve discussed the upcoming Harvey House at 620 Olive Street. Then there was a brief conversation about locations for the Christmas Party on December 5<sup>th</sup> and some possible locations. Keith was going to check his church and Stephen is going to check about a building on Fort Leavenworth.

Next a workday at St John Hospital was mentioned. The plan is either September 27<sup>th</sup> or October 11<sup>th</sup>. Max has time to tower climb on those two days. We will check the Christmas Star power cord, the star itself and align the MESH antenna to Roswell tower.

A nomination committee was formed: Keith, Roxann, John and Tom. Both President and Vice President positions are open. Roxann and Martha are hoping to have replacements but are also willing to stay on. Martha said one more year.

Roxann reminded the group that Ham of the Year and the Buffalo Chip award process is coming up also.

Discussion took place regarding the Kenwood 991A resulting in motion. Tom motioned "The raffle be for club members only. That the price per raffle ticket be \$25.00 or 3/50 with a max# of tickets to be 100." Thadd seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### New Business

The floor was given to Roxann to talk about ARES. The first item up for discussion was the upcoming October Simulated Emergency Test. She asked if there was anyone else wanting to participate in the SET and for them to let her know. Then she referenced the Player handout and had members pick one up before they departed for the evening. She also mentioned the November Veterans Day Parade and answered questions.

Steve then gave a presentation about Net Control Manager. Roxann mentioned she was updating the scripts and was going to email them out to the ARES groups.io. It was suggested that everyone open up Net Control Manager on Sunday nights and follow along and if you want to practice inside NCM then use "TE0ST" as the "Select Group or Call".

Lastly, some build session ideas were discussed. Then an update on the WiresX was given. Phil, Ed M and Steve are going to meet this coming Thursday.

### Adjournment

Keith motioned for Adjournment and Thadd seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxann Kosmicki, KZ0IMO

Secretary





## 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**

**October 6th, 2025 SHARC NET** supporting the **KCHEART Monthly Test**

Team 2 (KØMDP, KD7QOR, KBØYME) reports to SJH

Team 3 (KZØIMO, KFØKBC, KFØRWS, KDØPZV) reports to PMC

\*Bring Laptop 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.

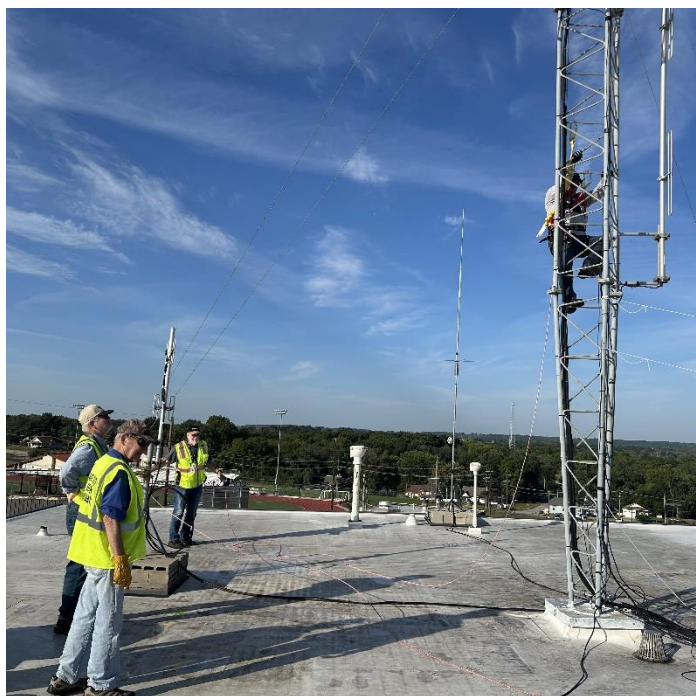
Here is a gentle reminder that if you still need to finish some KCHeart training videos please use this link: [2023 Training Program - ARES® - Leavenworth Co - Kansas](#)

I would really like to give out a few more fins. Let me know if you have questions. Also, a big THANK YOU to all those who helped JARA on the tower maintenance at St John Hospital on Saturday September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Roxann Kosmicki -KZØIMO

### SHARC Net

Monday October 6th  
1915-1930 Hours  
147.000 (+) 151.4 Hz



Tower Climbing Crew for Mesh Antenna Adjustment  
KØMDP, WØMNA, KFØKOS and KD7QOR



Ground Crew Communicating Alignment Progress  
KFØRWS, KBØYME and Bill KN2FNK



### Reportable Hours

Exercises  
Training  
Public Service  
Community Service  
Emergencies  
Weather  
Meetings  
Unclassified Events

<https://forms.gle/UowzGAE3RVFLm3tD7>

## Leavenworth County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®)

Emergency Coordinator: Roxann Kosmicki -KZ0IMO, AUXC

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](https://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®  
Roxann Kosmicki  
[sobelizard@rocketmail.com](mailto:sobelizard@rocketmail.com)

Leavenworth Co. Emergency Mgmt  
Zach Phillips, Master Deputy  
[zphillips@lvsheriff.org](mailto:zphillips@lvsheriff.org)

KCHEART  
Matt May, Director  
[mmay@wycokck.org](mailto:mmay@wycokck.org)

SHARC/St John Hosp  
Roxann Kosmicki  
[sobelizard@rocketmail.com](mailto:sobelizard@rocketmail.com)

4. **Record** your achievements on your KS-LV-ARES Task Book. Task book is available upon request from Roxann-KZ0IMO. 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



**Kansas Section  
District 4  
Zone C**



Roxann Kosmicki  
KS-LV-ARES Emergency  
Coordinator

# NET CHECK-INS

ARES Sunday Night Net 145.330 (+) T151.4 @ 1930					JARA Sunday Night Net 444.800 (+) T00R00 @ 1900					SHARC- 1st Monday of each month 147.000 +151.4 @1915 Relay to KCHEART 443.500 +151.4Hz/ 146.880 -107.2 @1930				
	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep		3-Aug	10-Aug	17-Aug	24-Aug		6/3/25	7/7/25	8/4/25	9/8/25
Call	15840	15907	15972	16036	Call	15837	15899	15968	16035	SJH PMC	14901 14900	15208 15209	none	15847 15949
K0MDP				X	K0MDP	X			X	K0AWW				
KA0DJR	X	X		X	KA0DJR		X			K0MDP	LOG SJH			LOG PMC
KB0YME		X	X	X	KB0YME		X	X	X	KA0DJR	X	X		X
KD0PZV		X	X	X	KE0SYO	X	NC			KB0YME	ANC SJH			PMC X
KD0YZC		X		X	KF0KBC	X	X	X	X	KD0PZV	NC PMC	SJH		X
KD7QOR	X			X	KF0KOS	LOG	X	X	X	KD7QOR	NC SJH	X		NC OMC
KE0SYO	LOG	LOG			KF0PXE	X	X	X	X	KE0SYO				NC SJH
KF0KBC	NC	X	X	X	KF0RWS		X	LOG	LOG	KF0KBC		LOG SJH		
KF0KOS		X	X	X	KZ0IMO	NC	LOG	LOG	NC	KF0KOS		LOG PMC		
KF0PXE	X			X	NJ0P	PiStar	PiStar	PiStar	PiStar	KF0ROB	X	NC PMC		
KF0RWS	X	X	NC	X	W0ERI		PiStar	PiStar		KF0RWS	X	SJH		X
KZ0IMO	ANC	NC	LOG	NC	W0MNA	PiStar	PiStar	PiStar	PiStar	KZ0IMO	LOG PMC	NC SJH		X
NJ0P	Echo	Echo	Echo	Echo	W0SER	ANC	X	NC	X	NJ0P				
W0SER	X	X	X	X	W9WTY	X	ANC	X	X	W0SER	X			LOG SJH
W9WTY	X	ANC	X	X						W9WTY				X
										WA0SRS	X	X		X

## Wednesday Night PKARC Net Log on 147.000 with 151.4 Tone

### Sept 3 (17)

W0SER-----Steve \*  
 KF0RWS-----Tom  
 KB0YME-----Loren  
 KF0KBC-----Keith  
 KA0ARW-----Jeff  
 KE0SYO-----Vic  
 WA0SRS-----Steve  
 K0MDP-----Max  
 KC0TJY-----Dennis  
 KF0TXA-----Mark  
 KE0NZQ-----Michael  
 KF0KOS-----Guy  
 KF0LNZ-----John  
 W9WTY-----Stephen  
 KD0HOY-----Ron  
 KF0PXE-----Thadd  
 KD0YZC-----Gyluss

### Sept 10 (12)

W0SER-----Steve \*  
 KB0YME-----Loren  
 KE0WLM-----TY  
 KF0KBC-----Keith  
 KF0RWS-----Tom  
 KA0ARW-----Jeff  
 W9WTY-----Stephen  
 KF0DQA-----Phillip  
 KE0SYO-----Vic  
 KD0TAU-----Dave  
 KF0QAL-----Loren  
 KF0KOS-----Guy

\*NCS

### Sept 17 (14)

W0SER-----Steve \*  
 KF0RWS-----Tom  
 K2SCT-----Scott  
 KB0YME-----Loren  
 KF0DQA-----Phil  
 WA0SRS-----Steve  
 KA0ARW-----Jeff  
 KE0WLM-----TY  
 W0SMF-----Clay  
 KD7QOR-----Ed  
 KF0KBC-----Keith  
 KF0KOS-----Guy  
 KF0QAL-----Loren  
 KF0LNZ-----John

### Sept 24 (18)

W0SER-----Steve \*  
 KF0PXE-----Thadd  
 KD7QOR-----Ed  
 KF0KOS-----Guy  
 WB0QFU-----Bruce  
 KA0ARW-----Jeff  
 AA0MV-----Steve  
 KD0YZC-----Gyluss  
 KF0RWS-----Tom  
 K0MDP-----Max  
 KE0WLM-----TY  
 KD0WTH-----Lucas  
 KG0HG-----Joe  
 KF0KBC-----Keith  
 KD0HOY-----Ron  
 NR0R-----Mark  
 KF0LNZ-----John



## It's OK by Foreign Correspondent Rick Reichert, NJØP

Tahlequah, Oklahoma, September 28, 2025. My Ham shack progress has slowed down quite a bit. It was only the last week of September that stucco was being applied, a bottleneck step that is keeping a long list of other tasks from commencing.

Meanwhile, we had a fabulous visit from Vic KEØSYO and his XLY Linda. They were on their way to Dauphin Island in the Gulf of America. We were not exactly on their way but we were glad they got off the beaten path to check out our new digs. Unfortunately, the Ham Shack was not ready for the first guest operator.



Stucco being applied to our accessory building



Part of the 360° drone rotation to capture the view at NJØP's proposed antenna location.

Vic brought along a drone, his new toy, that was apparently inspired by Max KØMDP. Beside impressing me with his barnstorming skills, he graciously recorded a 360° video of the view at 50' above ground over the tower stub which will soon be the location of my HF antenna. The recorded view is spectacular and everything I hoped for. The terrain slopes away in all directions for several miles to a ridgeline that is no higher than here. My signals will be able to go out at near 0° and hit nothing but ionosphere.



Vic's airborne drone

Once the stucco is done, a flurry of activity is expected. Utilities, paint, flooring, cabinets, workbenches, garage door, trim and bathroom work are all to commence at the beginning of October. The antenna and long-overdue Rohn tower shelves are due early October, too. By next month's update, I'm hoping to have the station in test mode. My only



Vic KEØSYO in pilot mode

pondering remains: Who will be the first guest operator once the station is up and running? Let me know on a Sunday evening net if that will be you.

Congratulations to JARA, SHARC, and PKARC for the great work aligning the second MESH dish toward Roswell Tower. That's a long 15 mile link and a great achievement.

73 de Rick, NJØP



Vic KEØSYO receiving preflight briefing from the master, Max KØMDP prior to trip to NJØP's place in OK.



Don's KFØMZG operating station at Harvey House Special Event

### ***Up Coming Events You Should Have on Your Calendar***

October 4<sup>th</sup> Simulated Emergency Test

October 31<sup>st</sup> Leavenworth Goblin Patrol

November 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Day Parade

December 5<sup>th</sup> PKARC Christmas Party



Stephen W9WTY and Elizabeth were making the contacts at Harvey House utilizing his BuddiPole Dipole