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License Upgades!

In The Spotlight Insight

Signing Off

By Connie Koch (WAØQCJ)

# S.P.A.R.K.

#### Sedalia Pettis Amateur Radio Klub

June 2022 ISSUE # 5



The latest news, views, and announcements in Sedalia's HAM Radio Community



#### **EDITOR'S MOMENT**

Fellow Hams! Here we are at the beginning of one of our most 'Radio Active' months of the year! As we put a wrap on our June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will be heading out to set up our Mobile ECOM Trailer to participate in our first Annual Scott Joplin Ragtime Festival! As a sanctioned ARRL event, we'll be broadcasting on 20 meters with our special call sign of WØR. Looking forward to Field Day on June 25 – 26, we'll be throwing up our antennas again at Our Savior Lutheran Church to reach out there and grab our share of contacts amongst' the rest of the world-wide Ham Community! Field Day is also a great tool to recruit new members to the club! As it would happen, I stumbled into Field Day last June, caught the 'Ham Bug' again, paid my dues, became a newbie member after decades off the air, was given a HT on the spot to use until I could put together a shack, gratefully accepted assistance from the wrecking crew to install my station and antennas, and was accepted into your fold in spite of my 'snake' habit. So, just

SEE what you got yourselves into! Are you sure you want to risk another Field Day like that one? Just know that I love you ALL for what you've done for me and I've never felt more welcome! 73's de QCJ

#### WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

By Bret Kuhns (WØVK)

#### Hello SPARK HAM's

June is one of the biggest months in HAM Radio and Boy, do we have a big month planned! Our Scott Joplin Special Event will be June 4<sup>th</sup> and our trailer will be deployed for the ground zero of our event. This location is still pending from the Sedalia Chamber. I have the call sign "WØR" reserved for the entire festival, so that will be our operating call sign. More to come for Scott Joplin stay tuned on your email this week.

Our Biggest event of June will be FIELD DAY. Again, this year we will be hosting our field day at Our Savior Lutheran Church and we will have a big day planned for all. While thinking of how to best describe our field day and our expectation to the membership, I find myself doing the six W's, so below I have listed my best summation of field day:

The Six W's of Field Day: As our Field Day approaches here are six questions that we can each ask ourselves, and I suspect that you will each come up with some common results, and many varied answers. Those questions are: What, Why, Where, When, Who and How is Field Day to each of you as an individual, and to us as a club? Many of our answers may overlap.

What is Field Day? It's different to different people. Is it a contest to see who can get the most points, or talk to the most states or countries? Is it radio operators sharing our skills with others? Is it a chance to learn about different antennas, radios and the operations of our deployment trailer? What is Field Day to you?

Why participate in Field Day? A chance to bond with our fellow club members? Try out different radios and different modes? Practice good radio procedures in a friendly and helpful environment? Will you be able to listen to and understand the other stations wanting to make contact? Maybe get a chance to share our hobby with community members that just might stop by to see what we are doing while promoting our hobby. Or do you just come to eat and have good conversation? Why will you participate?

Where does Field Day happen? Our Club will gather with the trailer, radios and equipment at Our Savior Lutheran Church on West Broadway, here in Sedalia, like we have the last two years. But it also happens at hundreds of locations across the nation, and around the world. You could even participate from your home or mobile. Where will you be?

When is this thing called Field Day? Well, talking on the radio happens from 18:00 UTC (Noon our time here in Sedalia) on Saturday, June 25th thru 18:00 UTC on the 26th. We will most likely end sometime in the evening on the 25<sup>th</sup> based on our arrangement to be off the location by Sunday service on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Our time will depend a lot on the interest from who is there and signed up to operate at assigned times. When will you be involved?

Who is involved with Field Day? All of us HAMs!! Is it the licensed operator communicating with other operators around the globe? Is it a scout or interested person off the street with the first chance to key a mic and talk to someone in a far-off place? Is it a newbie with a fresh Technician allocation using frequencies restricted to higher ranking licensees, and aspiring to upgrade? Will it be a group of HAM's having fun with radios? Who will you hear on Field Day?

How is Field Day carried out? It's lots of people doing lots of things, all related and connected to radio communication. Equipment will be gathered, antennas are set up, cables run, radios tested, computers connected, FOOD <sup>(2)</sup> prepared, radio contacts to far away stations, all afternoon and in to the evening communications with operators sharing shifts, and then the tear down, clean up, and of course, the long-needed rest afterwards. How will you participate this year? But most of all to me, it's fun! Hope to hear you at Field Day this year.

-Bret Kuhns WØV

#### **NETS AND FREQUENCIES**



2 Meter Net – Sunday at 8:00 PM – 147.03 repeater – offset 179.9pl

75 Meter Round Table – Sunday at 9:30 AM – 3950 (3813 other times) operator Paul (KØETL)

2 Meter Net – Tuesday at 7:00 PM – Rag Chew net operator Dennis (KYØP) 2 Meter repeater 147.03 – offset 179.9pl

6 Meter Net – Tuesday at 8:00 PM – 53.11 repeater – 1.7 offset 127pl

Simplex Net – Wednesday at 8 PM – 147.575 operator Paul (KØETL)

220 Sedalia Rag Chew Net – Wednesday at 8:30 – 224.440 – 107.3pl

Live Streams 147.03 and 224.44 repeaters on broadcastify.com

HAMFEST CALENDAR 2022 – de Brooks (KAØJWA)

07/16/2022 - WAARCI Hamfest 2022 – Warrensburg, Mo. 08/14/2022 - SCARC Hamfest - O'Fallon, Mo. 10/15/2022 – SPARKFEST – Sedalia, Mo. 10/29/2022 – 30<sup>th</sup> Halloween Hamfest – Kirkwood, Mo.



Lucas Robinson – (KDØFMG) 30th



# RENDA JACKSON (KBØUVW) !!!!



#### **IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

This month the spotlight shines on Renda Jackson (KBØUVW) who has obviously lived a full and most interesting life! She has been married to husband Mark (NØOWZ) for 44 years. They recently had the distinction of having upgraded to their General licenses together in May!

Renda has three wonderful children: Tim, April, and Jeremy as well as four super grandchildren: Tayler, Madison, Pryor and Ellie. Her daughter-in-law and son-in-law also rate a great big '10' in her life.



Renda has enjoyed working in the medical field for sixteen years. The first ten years she worked in various nursing homes. After moving to Sedalia, she became a stay- at- home- Mom until her children graduated from high school. She became very involved with her children's sporting events and their education. Renda was an active member of PTA and held various positions including those at a state level! She states, "My home was where all the kids wanted

to hang out. Some may have thought I was too involved in my children's lives, but those years were the most rewarding times of my life and I wouldn't trade them for anything!" When they all graduated from high school, she returned to work. Afterwards she held a position at Payless Cashways until their closure. Soon after, she returned to school and earned an Associate's Degree in Medical Office Administration. Renda had a special reason why college was so enjoyable for her! She was attending at the same time with all three of her children! She put her Medical Office Administration degree to work, spending six years employed in Dr. Allison Fisher's practice. "It was very exciting and I learned a lot! I really enjoyed working with the variety of patients who came through the clinic." (Editor's note: *I* was one of those patients and remember Renda as always being *most* professional, cheerful and helpful.)

Other positions she held included working in retail and for the Pettis County Sheriffs' Office. Her volunteerism has included that with the Pettis County EMA for many years where she had the pleasure of volunteering with the Sedalia Police Department as well.

Renda loves being outdoors gardening or building things. Her most enjoyable time is spent with her grandchildren.

"My many years as a HAM have been a pleasure as they have allowed Mark and I to create a hobby together which we are devoted to."

Renda would like to share with you these words of wisdom which she lives by.

"Enjoy family, friends and LIVE...because you never know how long you have. Always tell them how much you love them."



#### WHO'ZIT?

In our May Newsletter you were tasked to identify the mystery Ham who had an opportunity to do some race car driving but was held up by one minor issue...not knowing how to drive a stick shift! So,

did this person ultimately race the car? Ask Amber Nerad! (KEØQYL) ... she could tell you! Since no one successfully guessed our mystery gurl', Amber will receive her most excellent reward at her earliest convenience.

# WHO'ZIT?

#### June Victim!

"Back in the 90's I was a volunteer for the Salvation Army in Kansas City. As a Senior Soldier, I did various activities including serving as the Assistant Youth Leader. I also helped with the homeless and did bell ringing. I was an entegral part of the Emergency Disaster Services. Do I still do this? Who Am I?"

Know who this is? E-mail me with your best guess: <u>Connie.Koch@att.net</u>!



TECH TALK CONGRATULATIONS! NEW LICENSE UPGRADES AMONG US!!!

Steve Goodwin (KC8AEK) – Upgrade to General Mark Jackson (NØOWZ) - Upgrade to General Renda Jackson (KBØUVW) – Upgrade to General Ann Green (KFØVCR) – Upgrade to Amateur Extra

# **LET'S FLASH THOSE COLORS!**

SPARKFEST will be sporting this new 8'X 3' outdoor banner as we celebrate our upcoming SPARKFESTin October! Thank you to ABC Advertising for this mock up which has been blessed by WØVK and KØ QYA with the comment, "That's really gonna' POP' out there!!!

OUR HAMS IN THE NEWS!



DarenNerad, (KDØP), was recently honored by the Pettis County EMA being selected Volunteer of the Year! Not so surprising considering what he also does in the name of Ham Radio for SPARK! As our 'go to' educator and testing guru for licensing and upgrading new and current Hams, he spends many volunteer hours for



Sedalia Police Chief Matt Wirt, State Farm Agent Margaret Ward, Officer Nick Camirand and Sgt. Mike Elwood are pictured as Ward's office donates \$5,000 to the Sedalia Police Department's Drone Unit on Tuesday. PHOTO BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT

the good of our game! He is planning a round of Technician classes for mid-summer and more opportunities to test at our SPARKFEST in October. BIG CONGRATULATINS to Daren and a heartfelt THANK YOU for all you do for us!

Nick Camirand, (KEØNIL) is shown accepting a donation from Margaret Ward of State Farm Insurance. A check for \$5000.00 earmarked for the SPD Drone Unit, will help provide funding for a new drone which will assist in finding fleeing subjects, building searches and checks as well as locating vehicles in fields. The new unit's thermal capability is outstanding and will enable the department to fly a drone indoors. The safety factor of drone usage protects human lives and keeps SPD on the cutting edge of technology.



# Jamboree-on-the-Air

Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is the largest Scouting event in the world. It is held annually the third full weekend in October. JOTA uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. This jamboree requires no travel, other than to a nearby amateur radio operator's

ham shack. Many times you can find the hams will come to you by setting up a station at your Scout camporee, at the park down the block, or perhaps at a ham shack already set up at your council's camp.

#### **Tell Me More**

Scouts of any age can participate, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers, including girls. Once at the ham radio station, the communication typically involves talking on a microphone and listening on the station speakers. However, many forms of specialized communication may also be taking place, such as video communication, digital communication (much like sending a message on your smartphone but transmitted by radio), or communication through a satellite relay or an earth-based relay (called a repeater). The exchanges include such information as name, location (called QTH in ham speak), Scout rank, age, and hobbies. The stations you'll be communicating with can be across town, across the country, or even around the world! The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2017 JOTA-JOTI had over 1.5 million Scout participants from more than 160 countries.

#### When Is It?

Jamboree-on-the-Air is held the third weekend in October. There are no official hours, so you have the whole weekend to make JOTA contacts. The event officially starts Friday evening during the JOTA Jump Start and runs through Sunday evening. How Can I Participate as a Scout?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area. You can also



contact a local ham radio operator or a local amateur radio club. You can find a searchable database of clubs at <u>www.arrl.org/find-a-club</u>. This website is operated by the American Radio Relay League, the national association for amateur radio, which is cooperating closely with the BSA on JOTA and many other activities.

Your local club may be able to direct you to its planned JOTA activities. These can include ham stations set up at camporees or other events. Or, if there are no planned activities, you can either work with them to get something set up or arrange to visit a local radio operator's ham shack at a scheduled time to participate in JOTA.

#### How Can I Participate as an Amateur Radio Operator?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area and how you can help. You can find your council using <u>the Council locator</u>.

If nothing is currently planned, or if current plans aren't reaching your area, you can work with the council or a local unit (pack, troop, or crew) to set up a JOTA station or arrange for visits to your ham shack. You can also participate just by making QSOs with the many JOTA stations that will be on the air.

(Editor's Note) SPARK has tossed around the idea of cooperating with the Scout community to create interest in Ham Radio amongst' the younger set. Technology IS their world as they engage in Robotics, Engineering, and Communications in their everyday lives. Why then, should we not be a catalyst for that interest? After all...we were here first! How about making this our year to step it up and pay it forward with the collective intellectual minds of our membership? We definitely have much we can share with these young'uns!

# **OUR WORLD TRAVELERS RETURN!**

Doc Buck (W3MEB) and Steve Goodwin (KC8AEK) recently returned from the Dayton, Ohio HAMVENTION Reunion! This event has been hosted since 1952 making this its



**70<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary. Steve shares the following highlights of their trip.** "On May 19, Doc and I left for the Dayton Hamvention. It took about 8 or 9 hours to get there. We got to the Hamfest Friday morning. It was at the county fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio. We were a bit disappointed about the starting time of 9am. By this time, the line to get in was extremely long. There were probably over a 1000 people waiting in line. There

were 6 buildings where commercial vendors displayed their wares. This year, there were over 1100 total flea market booths. I found out I was not in shape to do all that walking. Next year I must make sure I am prepared for that! Saturday, Doc and I went to a lecture, "Black Sky Events" The subject was, 'What Happens When Everything Goes Dark'. It was enlightening! Doc reunited with quite a number of old friends he had not seen in many years. We could have continued Sunday, but we decided to leave that morning instead. This year the official attendance was over 31,000 people." **de (KC8AEK)** 

### **IN THE SPOTLIGHT INSIGHT**

I shall continue to post the Newsletter Personality Questions which will put YOU in the SPOTLIGHT for a future issue of SPARK newsletter! Choose any 5 questions you'd like to answer and e-mail to: <u>Connie.Koch@att.net</u>. You've seen responses from Don (KFØARQ), Doc (W3MEB), Steve (WAØWUY) and Renda (KBØUVW)! What interesting life experiences they have had! We want to hear about YOURS too!

# **Personality Questionnaire**

How did you get involved in HAM Radio? How long have you been a Ham? What's your favorite way to spend a day off? What's next on your bucket list? What's your favorite TV show(s)? What are your favorite pastimes or hobbies in addition to HAM Radio? What's a funny joke you'd like to share? What's your most prized possession and why? What's the first thing you'd do if you won the lottery? What's something few people know about you? What cause(s) are you passionate about? What possession or item would you NOT want to live without? What's the best gift you ever received? What's the worst gift you ever received? Is there one job you'd never want to do? What's a favorite job you'd like to do? Who inspires you? What's your favorite thing about your job OR retirement? What makes you most happy? Who has made a great impact on your life and why? How do you like spending time with family or friends? What's your favorite food besides Connie's brownies? :>) What's a favorite family memory? What's your nickname (other than your HAM call)? What's been your favorite vacation ever? What equipment would be in your 'Dream' HAM Shack? Do you volunteer? If so, where and why do you enjoy it? Who do you admire most in the world? Do you live by any words of wisdom? Please share them. What is your definition of success? What famous person, would you like to spend a day with and why? If a genie gave you three wishes what would they be? Do you have any special or unusual skills? What's your favorite story about yourself?

# **FIELD DAY HISTORY**



Since the first ARRL Field Day in 1933, radio amateurs throughout North America have practiced the rapid deployment of radio communications equipment in environments ranging from operations under tents in remote areas to operations inside Emergency Operations Centers (EOC's). Operations using emergency and alternative power sources are highly encouraged, since electricity and other public infrastructures are often among the first to fail during a natural disaster or severe weather. It is typically the largest single emergency preparedness

exercise in the country, with over 20,000 operators participating each year. Field Day is always the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday. de – (KAØJWA)







**ROCKS OUR WORLD!** 

QRT FOR NOW! de WAØQCJ es KAØJWA