



S.P.A.R.K.

Sedalia Pettis Amateur Radio Klub

May 2022
ISSUE # 3



NEWSLETTER

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

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de Connie Koch (WA0QCJ)

EDITOR'S MOMENT

This month's issue content leans heavily toward interests of our newest Hams in the Klub. Standard Operating Procedures we OT'ers may take for granted may be lost on our newer members. ARRL provides some very good advice and instruction on the basics which is shared in "Dedicated to Our Newest Hams!" It's been a busy month since we last visited in our April newsletter. Ron Hellesvig has received his new call: (KF0ITC) and we **CONGRATULATE** him THIS BIG and look forward to many QSOs up and down the bands! We have enjoyed yet another HAMBASH 2022 and returned home with our wallets a bit lighter! Hey!...Let's all look forward to a GREAT! Scott Joplin Festival in June! BIG 73's ! (WA0QCJ)

WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

de Bret Kuhns (WØVK)

It is finally beginning to get nice outside on a consistent basis and that means it's time to get our gear and head out to a park or an outside location and have fun working some HF stations! With that being said, I am pleased to announce our Special Event for Scott Joplin Festival is official! Our event has been posted to ARRL's website www.arrl.org/special-event-stations. Please check it out! I have also secured the 1X1 call 'WØR' Whiskey Zero Ragtime as our special event call sign so this should be a lot of fun June 1st – 4th. 

We will discuss more at our next meeting May 7th. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting so please make sure and attend if you can!

73's

Bret WØVK

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)

06/04/2022 – SMARC Pre-Field Day Hamfest – Springfield, Mo.

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 – 30th Halloween Hamfest – Kirkwood, Mo.

A PERSONAL NOTE FROM SMARC...

SMARC is back again with its annual Hamfest! The last one went so well, we decided to expand it! This June 4th we'll be setting up again the Salvation Army Springfield Headquarters for a fun filled day of radio. We decided to set it around this time to give people one more good Hamfest before field day hits. We've also gotten a few more vendors on the block this year, including Associated Radio and Mike's Embroidery. From 8am to 1pm we'll have loads of tables, vendors, testing sessions, presentations, prizes and food! There will also be plenty of parking and restroom facilities. So come out and see us!
Location: 1707 W Chestnut Expy, Springfield, MO 65802.

Are you a member of the ARRL?

Are you new to Ham Radio?

Have you been licensed for a while but not active?

Are you active but never explored the

ARRL?

Bret (WØVK) decided it was time to let make sure the membership knows about the ARRL!

Of course, you may think, "It's just another group that wants my money." But there is more to it than that; they truly want to grow the hobby. So here are two links you can explore to see what the ARRL offers Hams. Take a look:

[Become a Member of the American Radio Relay League \(arrrl.org\)](http://arrrl.org)

The Value of ARRL Membership [Value.pdf \(arrrl.org\)](#)



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

This month we spotlight Mark 'Doc' Buckley (W3MEB) of 'Wa'shar', Missouri. I had the pleasure of interviewing Doc during my ride along to HAMBASH 2022 in April. This man is one of the



most humble and selfless individuals I believe I have ever met! He was obviously more interested in speaking of other Klub members' accomplishments than his own. Getting him to talk about himself was like pulling hen's teeth!...but what I got was pure gold! I think you'll see what I mean. Doc was born to serve. As early as his high school years he was seeking out as much training in first aid and medical technology as a 17 year old kid could muster. As soon as he graduated high school, during the height of the Vietnam War, he joined the Navy. He spent time deployed to Vietnam.

After his tour at the Naval Hospital in Annapolis, he went to Portsmouth VA and received advanced training as an

Independent Duty Corpsman. As an Independent Duty Corpsman, Doc had many deployments all over the world. One of these was to the West Indies, Grand Turk Island, where he got his first Ham call, (VP2FC) in 1974. At that time, he was Primary Health Care provider for 150 individuals on the island for twelve months. During that tour, he was recommended for 'Sailor of the Year'. He didn't receive the honor but was 'rewarded' (huh?) with a two-year tour to Antigua as Senior Medical Department Rep for 300 people. He was then sent to Dayton, Ohio as a medical Inspector/Instructor at the Marine Corps Reserve Center. Doc also served in the SEABEES for three years as Senior Medical Representative. Anytime Doc was stationed stateside he worked as a Paramedic and was one of the first 50 in Maryland to hold that position. He received a most deserved decoration from the Marine Corps. He was awarded the 'Navy-Marine Corps Medal' for saving a life during a water rescue. This is the highest peace time award bestowed in peace time military. It is equated to the military Bronze Star. Doc completed his military career as the Leading Chief in Training and the Emergency Services Department at the Naval Hospital in Pensacola, Florida. If you recognize a common thread in Doc's life story, it has been one of service to others. His journey has led him to careers as a reserve cop in Ohio where he also worked as a LT Firefighter Paramedic at Huber Heights PD part time. He has also served as a full time cop in Pensacola and basically held every volunteer medical/rescue/safety position in the business!...AND he has been an educator and trainer for those positions as well. Doc is currently with FEMA and will be transferring from the Communications section to Security in the near future. In addition to his volunteerism in the medical and safety arenas, he is also a member of the Shriners and Masonic organizations. Doc is truly the poster child for 'People Dedicated to Helping People'. He sees Ham Radio as a very important asset to the community and believes in paying the favor forward. The words he lives by are simple. As the educator he is...they ring true.

"Knowledge is the most valuable thing in the world, but it loses its value if not shared"

Doc, my friend, I believe you have done your share...but all who know you are confident you aren't finished yet! de - (WAØQCJ)



RENDA JACKSON – (KBØUVW) MAY 17TH

WHO'ZIT?

Last month you were tasked to identify the Ham who was super active in the Jaycees organization for many years. If you guessed Richard Camirand, (KEØQYA) you would be correct! The winner is Dennis Henderson (KYØP) and he may collect his excellent reward at his discretion.



WHO'ZIT

May Victim!

“Back in the day my Dad and his buddy were heavy into working on cars! They had a sweet little number with the company logo on it and they wanted me to race it! I was **SUPER** excited and *stoked* to race until I found out that it was a stick shift! My two questions to you are...Did I *ultimately* race the car???? ...and Who Am I?”

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

LOCAL CRIME SCENE LEAVES LOCAL CITIZENS AGHAST!



Police investigators have poured over video footage, interviewed witnesses, combed through social media chatter and shared surveillance images of the suspects with other police agencies in an *all-points bulletin*. It is alleged that a person of interest, Marcia Withers (KFØHYQ), has processed, cooked, and eaten Mr. Easter Bunny! Her only defense statement was: “ He was a ‘Wascally Wabbit’!” Others connected to this heinous crime include fellow perpetrator within the family pod, Paul Withers (KDØETL). If you have

information regarding this case contact Officer Nick (KEØNIL) at BR549!

IS IT A CLOTHESLINE??? ...NO-O-O... A BIRD ROOST??? OR...COULD IT BE KFØARQ’S NEW BEAM ANTENNA!!!

Don, (KFØARQ) is happy to announce that his newest acquisition, a NA4RR HEX BEAM ANTENNA, is UP and ON the air! The beam covers 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters. It is 30 feet tall from the base. Some of Don’s first contacts were into Australia. He is enjoying the upgrade to his antenna farm and we wish him many fulfilling QSO’s out there amongst ‘em! Congratulations! Don!





TECH TALK

DEDICATED TO OUR NEWEST HAMS de ARRL

We've all been there where you are now! First contacts on the air..."Am I doing this right?" "I'm a little bit anxious...throwing my call out there for the first time!" Yep! We've all been there! Following is some information from ARRL that can make those first contacts a BREEZE! Also, some *review* which ALL of us can relate to!

The Radio Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE...and never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...and offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IRAU Radio Society in our country, through which Amateur Radio in the USA is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...and keeps one's station up to date. It is well-built and efficient and operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY...and operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...noting that Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...and keeps station and skills always ready for service to country and community.

(Adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928)

Why Amateur Radio Operators Are Also Called "Hams"?

The first wireless operators were landline telegraphers who left their offices to go to sea or to man the coastal stations. They brought with them their language and much of the tradition of their older profession. In those early days, every station occupied the whole spectrum with its broad spark signal. Government stations, ships, coastal stations and the increasingly numerous amateur operators all competed for time and signal supremacy in each other's receivers. Many of the amateur stations were very powerful. Two amateurs, working each other across town, could effectively jam all the other operations in the area. Frustrated commercial operators would refer to the ham radio interference by calling them "hams." Amateurs, possibly unfamiliar with the real meaning of the term, picked it up and applied it to themselves. As the years advanced, the original meaning has completely disappeared.

Making Your First Contact – Operating Tips

The **phonetic alphabet** is helpful when the other station can't hear you well or when the operator is not a fluent speaker of English. Don't make up your own phonetics.

A - Alpha	N - November
B - Bravo	O - Oscar
C - Charlie	P - Papa
D - Delta	Q - Quebec
E - Echo	R - Romeo
F - Foxtrot	S - Sierra
G - Golf	T - Tango
H - Hotel	U - Uniform
I - India	V - Victor
J - Juliet	W - Whiskey
K - Kilo	X - Xray
L - Lima	Y - Yankee
M - Mike	Z - Zulu

Calling and Answering "CQ"-

To start a contact, call "CQ" or answer someone calling CQ. A CQ is a general call to get a random contact.

Before calling CQ, listen to find a frequency that unoccupied by any other station. This may not be easy, particularly in crowded band conditions. If the frequency seems clear, ask if the frequency is in use, followed by your call. "Is the frequency in use? This is NY2EC." If nobody replies, you're clear to call. Keep your CQ very short. If no one answers, call again. If you call CQ three or four times and don't get a response, try another frequency.

A typical SSB CQ goes like this:

"CQ CQ Calling CQ. This is AD5UAP, Alfa-Delta-Five-Uniform-Alfa-Papa."

When answering a CQ, keep the answer short. Say the call sign of the station once or twice, followed by your call:

"N2EEC N2EEC, this is AB2GD, Alfa-Bravo-Two-Golf-Delta."

Joining a Conversation in Progress-

Remember that private conversations don't exist in Amateur Radio. If you don't want to call CQ to start a conversation, you can join a conversation that is already in progress. Listen carefully to the operators.

Are they having an animated, involved discussion? If so, it may be a bit rude to interrupt unless you have something important to offer. If the chat seems casual, the operators may not mind someone else joining.

So how do you politely interrupt? The best approach is to wait for one station to stop transmitting and then quickly announce your call sign:

“Yes, Charlie, I hope to get the dipole soldered together this weekend if the weather holds up.” “N1RL.” “Ah...we have a breaking station. N1RL, go ahead!” Do not use the word “break.” You may hear other hams doing this, but you should only say “break” when you need to interrupt because of an emergency.

When to Keep it Short-

Hams LOVE to talk, but there are times when you should keep the conversation short. For example, a **DX** operator may be trying to contact as many people as possible, as rapidly as possible. Listen before you call. If the DX operator seems to be making short contacts (signal report and “good-bye”), it is best to do the same. If you are heard by the DX station, only give the information he is looking for – a signal report and your location. Do not attempt to engage him in conversation.

You may occasionally hear hams operating **special event stations**. These are temporary stations set up at events throughout the country: at county fairs, boat races, etc. Unless the special event operator sounds like they want talk more, keep the conversation short. This gives everyone else a chance to make their contacts.

If you hear a call like this: “CQ Contest! CQ Contest! This is W1AW. Contest!” you’ve stumbled across an on-the-air **contest**. The idea: Contact as many stations as possible during the contest period. You don’t have to be involved in the contest to participate; your contact will count regardless. Just listen to the contest station and determine what he is looking for. Contest contacts require the exchange of specific information such as your state, county, etc. Find out what he needs before you call and make the contact short. Time is essential when it comes to a contest!

Rag Chew - A Long Enjoyable Conversation-

“Rag chewing” is ham lingo for a long, enjoyable conversation. Start with the basics: your name, location, the signal report, and a brief summary of your station (how much power you’re running and the kind of antenna you’re using). Then get the other person to talk about himself. Hams can talk about anything, but there are some topics we try to avoid. Discussions of politics and religion tend to attract controversy and start arguments on the air. If it looks like your rag chew is heading in those directions, use good judgment. Does the other operator agree with your views? If not, will you be offended? Will he (or others) be offended? If you have doubts, it is best to change the subject. Conduct yourself as though anyone in the world might be listening at any time. Whenever you transmit, you’re representing all of Amateur Radio.

So-o-o...did you pick up on any hints and tricks to improve your radio’ing experience? For LOTS MORE great information **specifically for new Hams**, check out ARRL “ON THE AIR” magazine and podcast at: www.arrl.org/ota.

All the more reason we should join and support ARRL who’s always looking out for US!



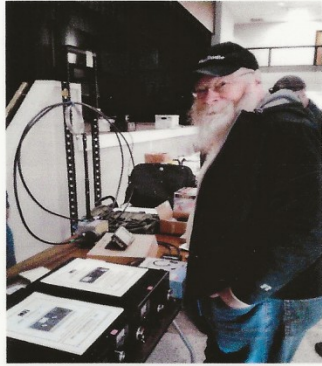
CAMIRAND CLAN ANNOUNCES ARRIVAL OF NEW YL!

Parents, Peyton (KEØQYN) and Danyle, Grandpa Richard (KEØQYA) & Uncle Nick (KEØNIL) are happy to announce the arrival of Realynn Nacole (SØCUTE) to their ham shacks!



Realynn, (SØCUTE) , was born April 5th and anticipates upgrading her license at the earliest opportunity when Daren conducts his next Tech class. God's Blessings to the Camirand family on their newest acquisition and GREAT BIG 88's from S.P.A.R.K.!

HAMBASH 2022



I WAS ROBBED! THIS ENTRY TICKET PRODUCED *NO DOOR* PRIZES!

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 5 questions you'd like to answer and e-mail to: Connie.Koch@att.net. You've seen responses from Don (KFØARQ), Doc (W3MEB) and Steve (WAØWUY)! What interesting life experiences they have had! We want to hear about YOURS too!

Personality Questionnaire

How did you get involved in HAM Radio?
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?
How long have you been a HAM?

ONE LAST 'CONNIE MOMENT' BEFORE I QRT...

At the risk of subjecting you to Editor Overload, I am including this offering for anyone who has been an educator or been 'educated' by one! Summer break is upon us and the kids are already going 'Cray-Cray'! Hope you enjoy this insider look at 'Summer Break'.

'School Daze'

**T'was two weeks before summer
Term break was at hand.
Welcome promise of freedom,
permeated the land.**

**They filed in with their lunches,
some bagged, some on trays.
Dragging their feet to find a seat,
brain-dead and eyes a'glaze.**

**They sat there in a stupor,
contemplating their 'mystery' food.
No conversation taking place
as they sighed and quietly chewed.**

**"I *need* me some summer!"
One grumbled as he groaned...
While others agreed all chiming in
with moanings of their own.**

**"I'm super sick of homework
And getting up at six!"
"I don't like report cards,
or my hair I have to fix!"**

**"I can't stand all this testing!"
"MAP tests, they are so lame!"
"Common Core is such a bore...
sad part of the learning game."**

**“I don’t like all the hassle
of time-wasting detentions!
...or mean-girl anger issues
and weak in-school suspensions.”**

**“I’m tired of classroom snitches,
drama queens and school dress code!
If I don’t get relief real soon,
I surely will explode!”**

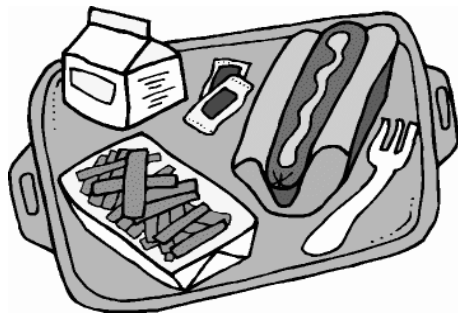
**“I don’t fit in, got nothin’ to wear
I’m just a ball of stress!”
What I got, nothing can cure...
not even a long recess!”**

**“I need ME some summer NOW
to go out to the pool!”
Time to hang out with my friends
and do my stuff that’s cool!”**

then...

**Jolted back to life by the clang of a bell
they arose, every lad and lass.
The *teachers* left their lunchroom,
and drifted back to class.**

**The moral of this story
for you students in the bleachers,
is that summer break is not for YOU!
It is for *your* TEACHERS!**



de - WAØQCJ

SIGNING OFF WITH BROOKS – (KAØJWA)



AMATEUR RADIO GOES TO WAR!

Under normal circumstances, amateur radio privileges are suspended during times of conflict, but according to news reports from Deutch Welle, Ukrainian Hams have joined the fight. They are being used to intercept Russian military transmissions or jam the enemy communications. They have gone as far as transmitting insults and taunts to the Russians. I expect it would be an interesting conversation to hear. Apparently the

Russians are lacking in military style encrypted radios, so their soldiers have been forced to use commercial grade open or non-encrypted radios making monitoring easy. There are several sites listing frequencies being used. Propagation allowing, you can tune in the war zone and listen for yourself. This is a good reason to keep your go box ready. You just never know!



QRT FOR NOW! de WAØQCJ es KAØJWA

