



S.P.A.R.K.

Sedalia Pettis Amateur Radio Klub

August 2025
Issue No. 43



NEWSLETTER

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

Co-Editors

Connie Koch
(WAØQCJ)
Brooks Baker
(KAØJWA)

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Bret (WØVK)

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EDITOR'S MOMENT



Hey! Really glad to welcome all the kids to our SPARK Birthday Party!

Looks like some of them had more fun than others! Hi Hi

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Celebrating 90 Years of Radio, Friendship and Community

Dear SPARK Members,

As we enter August, we know the Missouri State Fair is upon us! But, first I would like to reflect back and look at July! That was a truly special month for our club as we proudly celebrated our 90th anniversary—a remarkable milestone in amateur radio history! Since our founding in 1935, our club has grown from a small group of passionate hams into a thriving community that spans great folks, technologies, and friendships. We've experienced ninety years of chasing signals, building gear, mentoring newcomers, and serving our community—what an incredible journey.

This past Saturday, we kicked off our anniversary celebration in style with a successful U.S. Islands on the Air activation. Thanks to the hard work and coordination of our team, we operated from the Sedalia Liberty Park, where the Liberty Park Island (MO019L) is located, putting it on the air and into the logs of operators across the country—and even beyond "ITALY", Yes Thanks to Amber!! The weather cooperated, the antennas went up without a hitch, and the pileups... well there were no pileups; this one was a lot of work due to the band conditions and a big thanks to Russ K6HU for his determination. It was a perfect example of the spirit of ham radio: teamwork, fun, and making meaningful connections.

Special thanks go out to everyone who helped plan, set up, operate, log, and tear down. Whether you were on the mic, logging QSOs, or keeping the delicious food ready for our eats, your effort made the event a success. We'll be sharing photos and stories at this month's club meeting—don't miss it!

Looking ahead, we'll continue our anniversary celebration throughout the rest of the year, with SPARK-CON and special activities planned to honor our legacy and to keep inspiring us for the future.

Here's to 90 years of innovation, communication, and camaraderie—and to many more to come.

-Bret W0VK



PANORAMA VIEW OF OUR SPARK 90TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

**NEXT MEETING – August 2nd 8:30 AM
Pettis County EOC 1511 N. Ohio**

NETS AND FREQUENCIES

2 Meter Net – Sunday at 7:30 PM – 147.03 repeater – offset 179.9pl

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

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 2025 de – Brooks (KAØJWA)

**08/10/2025 - Never Enough Radios
Location: O'Fallon, MO**

**08/22-23/2025 - Joplin ARC Hamfest
Location: Joplin, MO**

**09/20-21/25 | Midwest Superfest, ARRL Central Division Convention,
Location: Chillicothe, IL**

**10/10- 10/11 - 2025 | SPARK-CON, ARRL Midwest Division Convention,
Location: Sedalia, MO**

**10/25/2025 - 32nd Halloween Hamfest
Location: Kirkwood, MO**

**11/08/2025 - Nixa ARC Hamfest
Location: Nixa, MO**

THIS IS US! PRINT TO SAVE! SHARE IT!
UPDATED OFFICIAL FLYER SPARK-CON



ARRL MIDWEST DIVISION 2025 CONVENTION

SEDALIA PETTIS AMATEUR RADIO KLUB

S.P.A.R.K.-CON



Event Highlights:

Vendor & Exhibitors - Explore the latest in amateur radio gear and technology.

- Tailgating (Swap Meet) - Buy, sell, and trade equipment.
- Full Seminar Schedule - Learn from expert speakers.
- License Testing - Get your amateur radio license or upgrade.
- DXCC Card Checking - Validate your DX contacts.
- Over \$10,000 in Grand Prizes - Including hourly door prizes!
- Emergency Preparedness - Hands-on demos and discussions.
- Near Space Balloon Launch - A thrilling high-altitude experiment.
- Transmitter Hunt & Antenna Clinic - Test your skills in direction-finding.
- On-Site RV Camping & Hospitality Area - Stay and enjoy the weekend.
- Hamfest Dinner - Friday Night from 6:00 - 8:00 PM.
- Grand Prize Drawing - Saturday at 5:00 PM (not present to win)
- Youth STEM Presentation and Seminars
- For other convention information, see QR Code

Hotel Booking: Hotel Bothwell (660-826-5588), Best Western (660-826-6100), Holiday Inn Express (660-826-4000) have blocks of rooms for this event ask for the Spark-Con block when making reservations

Missouri State Fair Camping: Full hookups (660-530-5600)

Location:

Missouri State Fair Grounds
2503 W. 16th St. Sedalia, MO 65301

Date: 10/10/2025 & 10/11/2025

HAMFEST / Seminars / Convention

All Run Through Times Below:

12:00PM to 5:00PM Friday

8:00AM to 5:00PM Saturday

Admission Fee: \$10

Talk-In: 147.030 -OFFSET, PL 179.9

Contacts:

Bret Kuhns, WØVK

660-281-6506

w0vk@arrl.net

Richard, Camirand,

KE0QYA@yahoo.com

More information:

www.wa0sdo.org



SCAN FOR MORE INFO



August Birthdays

Dennis Brown - 21st (KDØWSI)

Daren Nerad – 25th (KDØOPS)



NEIGHBORHOOD CLUBS NEWS UPDATE

de – Ryan Anderson (KFØHYP)

Marshall – Saline County ARES Club Events:

Every Monday @ 7:30 PM – 2-Meter Repeater Net – 147.165MHz w/ positive offset and tone 127.3

2nd Tuesday @ 6:00 PM - Club Meeting

WHEN SENDING E-MAIL MESSAGES, ARTICLES, OR OTHER CORRESPONDENCE, USE THE FOLLOWING E-ADDRESS FOR CONNIE (WAØQCJ). TEXTING IS STILL AN OPEN OPTION.

connies1.newsletters@gmail.com

WHO-ZIT?



At one point in my life, I was a VERY active skydiver, possessing an “expert” license. I have 150 jumps and an hour and a half of freefall logged.

I grew up in Southern California, (3rd generation native).

Got my Technician license in 1992, (I think), and my General in 2023. Took a long break from Ham Radio.

I spent 30 years or so in the defense industry, working at Lockheed-Martin Skunk Works for 15 of those 30.

I had my own side business doing timing and scoring for the Southern California Porsche Owners Club.

Northrop-Grumman moved us here in 2004 for me to work on the B2 Bomber.

I worked at a couple of other defense companies, as an Engineer. (Can’t say any more than that).

I got out of the “dark world” in 2012 and ended up working in Venezuela for Pro Energy. Left there as an Instrumentation Tech.

After getting tired of traveling to the armpits of the world, Got into Industrial maintenance.

Recently accepted a “remote worker” position for a company based in Pennsylvania. I represent my company for the entire state of Missouri, and am “on call” 24/7.

WHO AM I ?

Contact: (WAØQCJ) with your guess!

connies1.newsletters@gmail.com

FIELD DAY RESULTS!

de – Harry (KØTV)

We didn’t score as well during this 2025 FD exercise. But we did do the message to the Section Manager bonus. That message was also the objective of this month’s Winlink Thursday exercise. So we were able to complete both tasks. Our Field Day Results follow.



SPARK 2025 Field Day points have been submitted.

1,292 points were claimed with 46 contacts logged.

We are down quite a few contacts from last year.

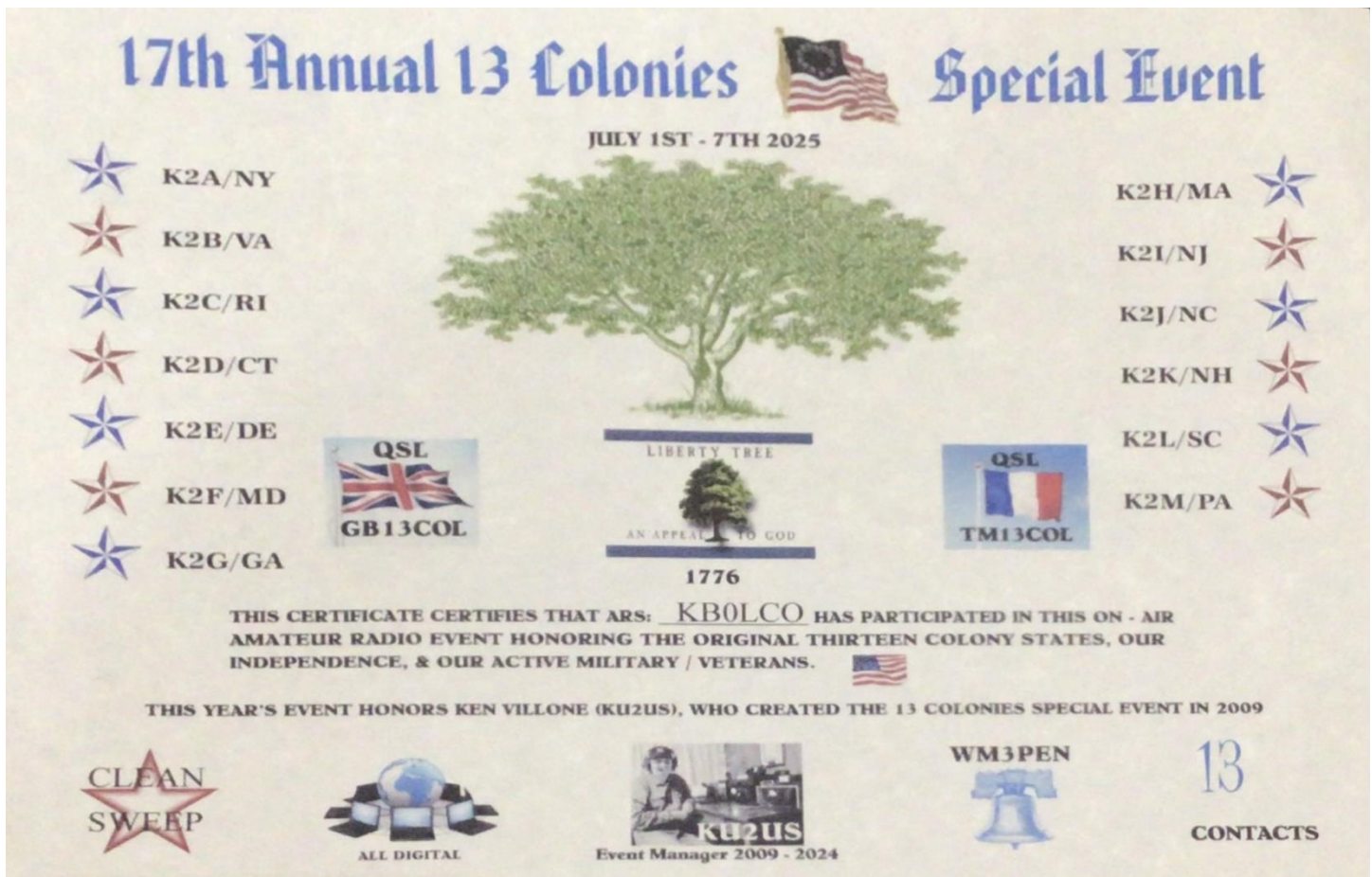
Thanks to Steve, KC8AEK for all the logbook work. His assistance has been invaluable as we tally our results.

73 de Harry, KØTV

LARRY' S BEEN ON IT...TEARIN' UP THE BANDS!



Larry Lake, (KBØLCO) has had an active month with some mighty outstanding accomplishments under his belt! He participated in the 17th Annual 13 Colonies Special Event! This is his 4th straight year completing the challenge. This year all Ft4 and Ft8. You must contact a given station in all 13 colonies plus one in France and England and wild card using the WM3PEN call in Pennsylvania all in 7 days. Years past he's used SSB and mixed. Maybe code some next year! Event takes place the week of the 4th of July annually.

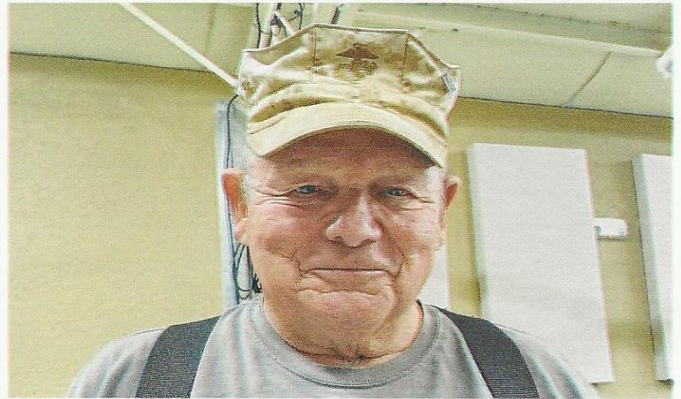


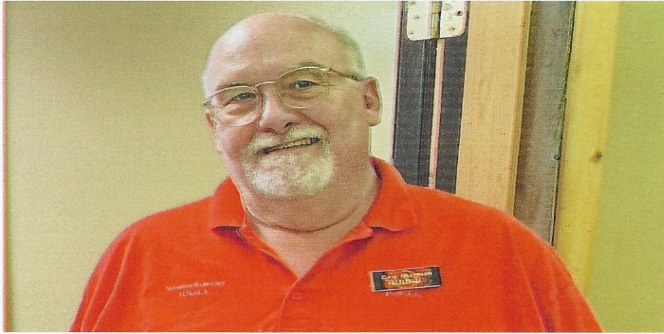
Larry also kept the bands hot working POTA events as well. POTA has four special events each year, one per quarter, lasting 48 hours. The most recent was two weeks ago. Operators can earn a special POTA award and Larry has 130 POTA awards and certificates!

CONGRATULATIONS LARRY!!!

WARRENSBURG HAMFEST – JULY 19, 2025

SPARK supported our neighbors to the west in great numbers! A great time was had by all. Breakfast was delicious with kudos to Melissa (KFØMEE) and David (W1ØTW) who consistently lay out a feast fit for hungry Hams! Thanks to all for a great event!



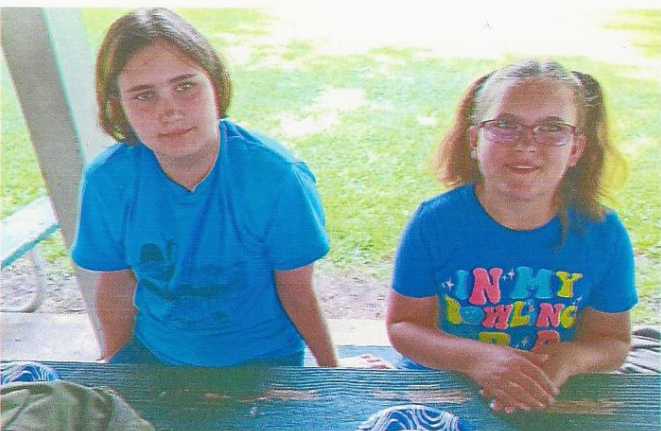


HAPPY BIRTHDAY

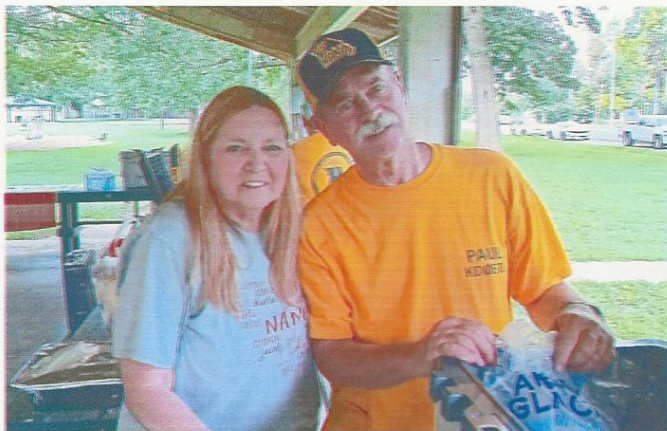
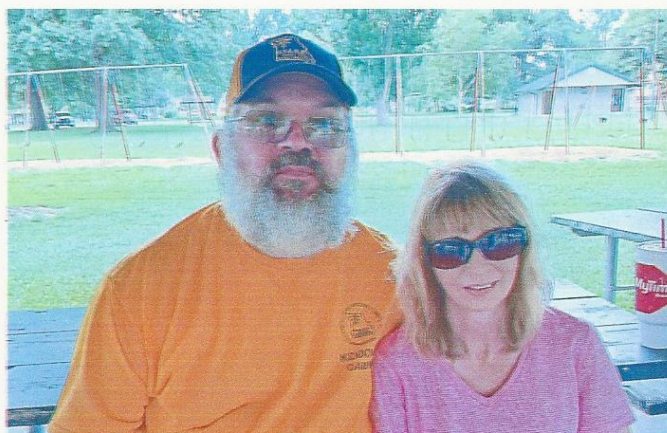
SPARK CELEBRATED OUR 90TH BIG ONE JULY 26, 2025 !



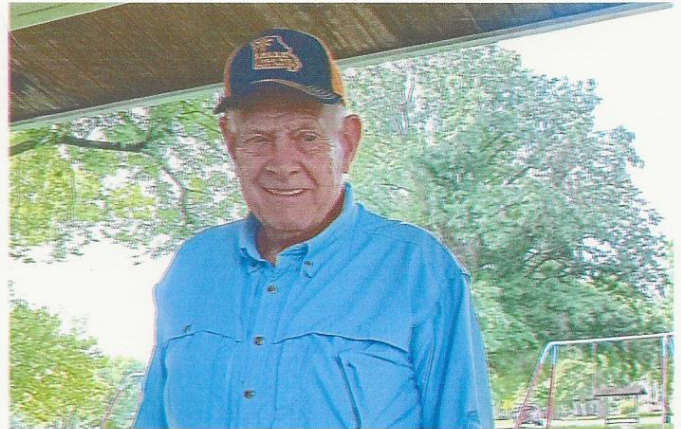
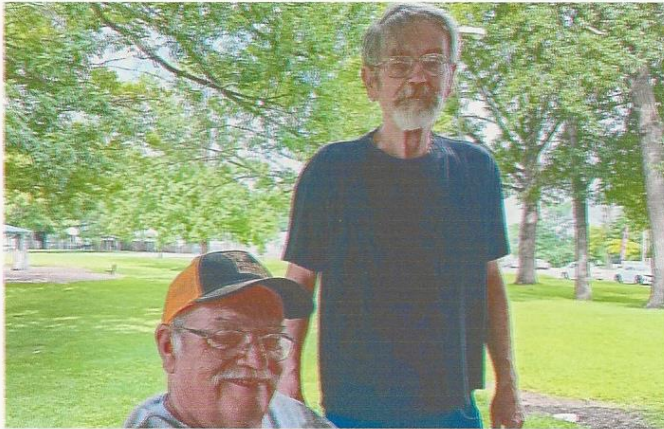
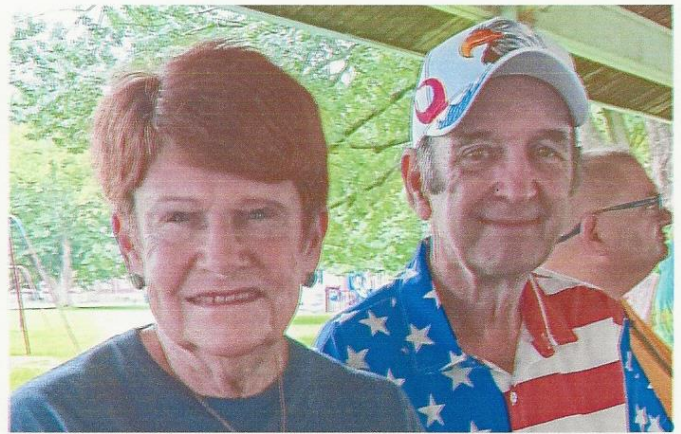
**WE PLAYED WITH OUR RADIOS!
AND ACTIVATED OUR IOTA AND MADE QUOTA!**



WE WELCOMED OUR FAMILIES INTO OUR S.P.A.R.K. WORLD!



WE FEASTED 'TILL WE COULD NO MORE...



...AND THAT'S HOW WE SPENT OUR 90TH SPARK BIRTHDAY!



GUEST EDITORIAL – PHILLIP MARKMAN (KJ5ZW)

Phillip is a former member of our founding club CMARC and we welcome his editorial from present QTH – Hawkins, Texas

Post Field Day 2025

by Phillip Markmann (KJ5ZW)

My plan this year was to “visit” Upshur Area Amateur Radio Club UAARC and also attend Wood County Amateur Radio Association Field Day WCARA Saturday morning and into the afternoon at the Upshur County Field Day. Then I planned to go to Collins Field airport south of Quitman. Wood County would be in the airport terminal building and have the benefit of air conditioning during the heat of the day !!! That’s a very strong draw for yours truly. One radio and two antennas with an A/B switch for the best reception.

Saturday morning, I arrived at the Upshur County Field Day site about 8:30. A few of the club members were already there. They were drinking their morning coffee. Lunch was already planned as was Sunday morning breakfast.

We received the “Go” for installing radios and antennas! One radio station was set up as a CW ONLY station with a vertical antenna. The other radio would be the SSB station with two antennas with an A/B switch. A backup to the backup would have been a fourth antenna, just in case it was needed, but was never deployed. At 1300 hours the radios went active and we were active worldwide!

The main CW Operator, Steve, was operating at 22 wpm and had 16 contacts in the first 29 minutes! I pulled up a chair and planted myself beside Steve. The SSB rig had 6 different club members taking turns sending traffic to six different operators. I believe each Radio Gram was worth 100 points! Could be I am wrong as my hearing aids “almost work” like they should however, from time to time, I will have to ask someone, “What did her/she say?” At any rate, dinner was ready late in the afternoon and everyone stopped and enjoyed their meal... grilled meat with 2 veggies and also a dessert.

I stayed till almost “dark-30” and went home with the knowledge I was going to return between 6 and 8 am. When I arrived Sunday morning, breakfast was grilled sausage patties and pancakes with coffee. The sun shelters under a couple of trees with fans blowing air under the sunshades kept us from getting too hot. Plenty of bottled water was on site as well.

Sometime Sunday before noon I joined UAARC as I already recognized 50 % of those in attendance!! Yup, I was a Charter member with the Gilmer club due to helping establish UAARC during the Covid year 2020. I paid dues and am now currently a dual member to Wood County and Upshur County and active in both as well.

I learned lots of tricks glued to a chair beside Steve, the CW operator. He even took a break and went fishing for an hour or so and Jason and I attempted to make a contact or two. Steve inspired me to increase my CW reception speed. I'm at 15 wpm right now and spending 20 minutes daily on Morse code reception. (I might have increased to 17 wpm?)

Anywho, ... this is my effort at a "Post FD 2025 report."

Until next time,

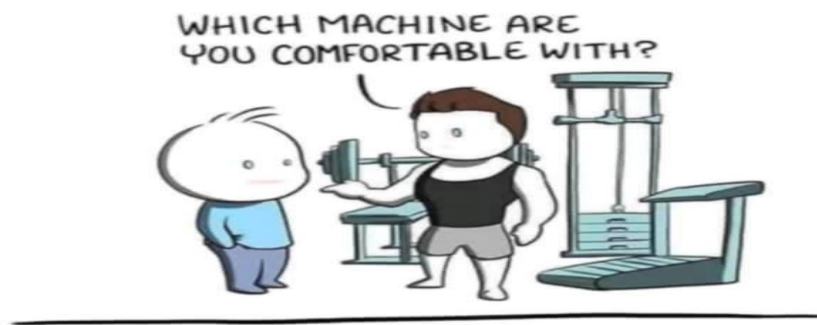
73 de Phillip (KJ5ZW)

SIGNING OFF WITH BROOKS- (KAØJWA



If you missed the Warrensburg Hamfest, too bad so sad. You missed a good one. There was a lot of equipment to check out and a lot of old and new friends to see. Kudos to the W.A.A.R.C.I. for all their time and effort in making the few hours we spent with them enjoyable and trouble free. Hope to see you there next year. Following is a blast from the past...2012 Warrensburg Hamfest to be exact. Familiar faces?





QRT FOR NOW! de WAØQCJ es KAØJWA