

**The Central Texas Amateur Radio Club
meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the
Bell County Communications Center, 708 West Avenue O, in Belton**

Terry's Telegram...

Terry Evans, KF5OHR

I have noticed that time seems to be going faster and faster, and it seems the older I get the faster it goes. It's about time for another meeting and it seems like we just had one. Speaking of which, at our next club meeting I'll be asking for three volunteers to be our nominations committee, to select a slate of candidates to serve as our club officers for next year. The nominations committee is in a unique position; they can take a slate of candidates suggested by the board, or completely disregard the board's suggestions and come up with a slate of their own candidates. Presently we are in need of someone to fill the Treasurer's position for next year, as well as one board director. The other board members have either agreed to run again for their same position next year, or their terms of office don't yet expire. Anyway, I'm going to be asking for your help in those concerns.

So far this year, I have had three trees give it up because of the heat. One came down between my ham shack and my shed and the other one came down on part of my shed. So it looks like I will be needing to do some roof work as soon as it cools off some, and before the rain moves back in. I was planning on going up north for vacation where it would be a littler cooler riding the motorcycle, but now it looks like it will be a stay home vacation to work on the roof and maybe some antenna work wouldn't hurt.

Lastly, word is some scammer is using the callsign of the Temple Amateur Radio Club (W5LM) on the *QRZ.com* website attempting to sell radio equipment. Don't be fooled by whoever this guy is. TARC is currently addressing the issue with the administrators of *QRZ.com*.

With all of the stuff that is going on in the government, home might be the best place to be. Don't know if the hot weather brings out the worst in people or not, but keep your eyes open and try and stay safe at home or on the road.

Our next club meeting is on Tuesday, August 2nd, at 7:00 PM, at the Bell County Communications Center. As always, I hope you all get a chance to attend. Until then, hope to see you on the air.





"Ladies and gentlemen, there are two kinds of stories: those that you can take to bed with you and they relax you and put your mind at ease; and then - there is the other kind. And our story tonight is the other kind."



Mystery In The Air first aired over NBC, August 7th, 1947 as a summer replacement for *Abbott & Costello*.

Cut from the cloth of tales woven by the imaginations of some of the most famous authors in history, *Mystery In The Air* starring none other than the famous, and infamous Peter Lorre, brings these brilliant horror classics to life spooktacularly, as no other could. Despite his wide variety of roles, he'd been type-cast in the mind of the public as a horror movie icon. *Mystery in the Air* played off this image, taking some of the creepier tales from the classics and placing Lorre in the lead roles. Lorre's work on the show was intense and supercharged with performances of men tortured and driven by dark impulses.

There are only eight episodes that are known to have survived since the show aired, but you can listen to those eight at: <https://archive.org/details/MysteryintheAir>



The Central Texas Amateur Radio Net meets every Thursday at 8:00 PM on the N5ZXJ repeater, on 145.310(-) PL 123.0 Join Us!

August NCS & Back-Up NCS Schedule

August 4th:	August 11th:
Net Control: W5VEX	AD5SK
Back-Up: AD5SK	K6WXA

August 18th:	August 25th:
Net Control: K6WXA	KF5OHR
Back-Up: KF5OHR	KE5ISN



Austin Summerfest

Once again the capitol city is the place to be August 5th & 6th, at the Crowne Plaza Austin, 6121 N. IH-35 in Austin for the summer meeting of the Texas VHF-FM Society and the ARRL Texas State Convention. Talk-in frequency is 146.940(-) PL 107.2 and call for W5KA. For more information please visit: www.austinsummerfest.org



August UHF Contest

The August UHF Contest originally scheduled for August 6th and 7th **has been cancelled**. The Contest Committee received dozens of comments from members with many commenting their dissatisfaction with the timing of the contest.



International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend

Not a contest, but this operating event runs from 0001 UTC, August 20th to 2359 UTC August 21st. For more info on this event, please visit: <http://illw.net>



North American QSO Party

Contest period is from 1800 UTC, August 20th to 0600 UTC August 21st, on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. This is a great opportunity for anyone working towards their Worked All States or for anyone new to the HF bands, as the contestants aren't interested in "ragchewing" but rather, in making contacts and moving on. For more info, visit: <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>



"Best YL"

Short Wave Craft - August, 1935



Miss Charlene J. Armond, age 16, of Santa Clara, Calif., is a regular ham - she built her own radio set and is licensed as W6LMA. Miss Armond is shown ready to put through a short-wave phone call to a fellow ham, her band resting on the mike stand. The phone transmitter is shown at the right of the picture, while the receiver used at her station is shown just behind the young lady.

Editor's Comments... Four years after this, she married W6JDC, whom she met on the air. I looked up her callsign and found that it is inactive. The last listing for her was in 1969. If she were alive today, she'd be 97 years old.



Coryell County Joint Comm Group Meeting

Budd Johnson, WB4J

The next meeting of the Coryell County Joint Communications Group will be on Wednesday, August 10th, at 11:00 am at the Court Annex, 800 East Main Street in Gatesville. The Court Annex is located in the EXTRACO Bank Bldg. Use the entrance door on the right. The building itself is on the SE corner of East Main and South 8th Street.

Bob-KF5YZH, said he can order pizza at his office and we can discuss the plans for the EOC. He would also like to work on plans for a "Concept of Operations, Discussion Based Exercise" during the first week of October.



Amateur Radio License Applications Problems

The FCC information technology staff is continuing to look into why the Universal Licensing System Electronic Batch Filing system had stopped processing at least some — and perhaps all — Amateur Radio exam session files and applications. The stoppage, which began on June 28th, initially affected the handling of all Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner Coordinator and commercial license applications.

The problem was escalated to "Priority One" at the FCC, with more than 1,200 applications and nearly 300 exam sessions in the queue and awaiting FCC processing as of July 6th.

Finally, on July 14 the problem was fixed, and the backlog of applications and exam sessions were cleared, and the flow of automated applications resumed.



4-element 2-meter Yagi, with mounting hardware. Kenwood, TR7730, 2-Meter Transceiver with Communications Specialist TE-3 multi-tone CTSS encoder. Works like new, \$30.00. Contact Allen-KT5A, at: (254) 580-8322.

Icom-756 Pro 3, excellent condition and working with original manual. \$1500.00. Call Charles-W5CRY, at: (817) 233-3211.



AES Goes QRT

Amateur Electronic Supply the nation's second-largest ham radio dealer, second only to *Ham Radio Outlet*, announced that it is ceasing operations as of the end of July, 2016. No reason was given for the decision to close the business.

But with bad news, there is good news. *Ham Radio Outlet* has announced it will be taking over Amateur Electronic Supply's online and phone businesses, as well as its Milwaukee, Wisconsin store, once AES closes its doors. Queries to the www.aesham.com website will be redirected to HRO's www.hamradio.com website, and callers to each of the AES store's phone numbers and toll-free number will be redirected to the closest HRO location so as not to disrupt providing service to the AES customer base.

HRO President Robert Ferrero says the goal is to turn the Milwaukee store into "the largest, most well-stocked amateur radio retail store in North America and perhaps even the world."



U.S. Islands Event

This event will be on Saturday, August 27th from 1200 UTC through 0300 UTC Saturday, August 28th (15 hours). The U.S. Islands program promotes portable ham radio operation from islands in all bodies of water — lakes, rivers, streams, ponds, and coastal islands in U.S. and Canadian territorial waters.

Complete information on the U.S. Islands Program, is available at: http://www.usislands.org/2016_contest_rules.html



Electricity originates inside clouds. There, it forms into lightning, which is attracted to the Earth by golfers. After entering the ground, the electricity hardens into coal, which, when dug up by power companies and burned in big ovens called generators, it turns back into electricity where it is transformed by TV sets into commercials for beer, which passes through the consumers, back into the ground, and then evaporates back into the clouds. Thus completing what is known as a circuit.



"Lady, there's nothing wrong with your radio. You just have to stop listening to those soap programs."

Radio Craft - August, 1945



7Y9OU will be active from the Cap Fer Marsa Lighthouse 18 - 22 August. QSL via SM4VPZ.

A group of Russian operators will activate Kambalnyy Island off the coast of the Kamchatka Peninsula, August 14th to the 18th as **UE23RRC**. QSL via R7AL. More information is available at: <http://www.as142.org/>

VE3LYC will be active from Cooper Island, Alaska 1 - 5 August signing **stroke KL7**. QSL via his home call.

Special Event Station **N3B** will be active 13-16 August to commemorate the anniversary of the first transatlantic telegraph message between two heads of state. Event frequencies: 28.450; 14.030; 14.330; 21.030; 21.240; 7.030; 7.240. QSL via K3NQT.

Special Event Station **VI6DH400** will be active from Dirk Hartog Island 14 - 18 August. QSL via VK6NX.

TM160NT will be active until August 21st from France, in observance of Nikola Tesla's 160th birthday. QSL via F8URC.

A group of Russian operators are active on Gusmp Island until 2 August as **R70ASIA**. QSL via R7AA.

PJ6Y will be active from Saba Island, 2 - 9 August. QSL via N6JRL.

Special Event Station **GX3WIM** will be active through August 6th from Wimbledon. QSL via G4WYJ.

DK9PY will be active from Jamaica 6 - 20 August as **6Y6N**. QSL via his home call.

W2JHP will be active from Turneffe Atoll until 12 August as **V31TA**. QSL via EA5GL.

HB9FXL and **HB9MUQ** will be active from Cambodia 7 - 16 August as **XU7AKB** and **XU7AKD**. QSL via their home calls.

Special Event station **GB5RC**, will be active from 5 - 8 August aboard the MV Ross Revenge, the site of the original "*Radio Caroline*" broadcasts. QSL via G6NHU.

Special Event station **TM20KAV** will be active in France on 6 & 7, and 13 & 14 August. QSL via F5KAV.

SV1EJD will be active from Syros Island, until August 11th, signing **stroke SV8**. QSL via his home call.

HA0NAR will be active from Thassos Island, until August 2nd as **SV8/HG0R**. QSL via his home call.

W2PE will undertake a one-time activation of Motor Island - also known as Pirate Island, in the Niagara River on August 6th. QSL direct.

WB0TEV will be active from Belize 19 - 23 August as **V31VP**. QSL via his home call.

YJ8RN will be active from Loh Island, Vanuatu, until 20 August. QSL via NZ4DX.

Special Event Station **9A1TESLA** will be active from Croatia 12 - 14 August. QSL via 9A7R.

LW9DTR will be active from Nigeria 6 & 7 August signing **stroke 5N**. QSL via his home call.

VK3VTH will be active from King Island 18-22 August signing **portable 7**. QSL via his home call.

KC0W will be active from Tuvalu, until 18 August as **T2COW**. QSL via his home call.

A group will be active from St. Paul Island 19-28 August as **CY9C**. QSL via WA4DAN.



Those searching for the 238 "shires" of Australia, now have an opportunity to find them. A group of dedicated net controllers will start a VK-Shire Net on Fridays on 14.238 starting at 0630 UTC.

My Amateur Radio License Helped Me Get Everything I Wanted In Life

Al Donkin, W2EMF

It's funny how some of the seemingly unimportant decisions we make in our lives turn out to be influential and unimaginable. When I was 16 years old, I was quite interested in radio controlled model airplanes, amateur radio and electronics. It seemed obvious that there would be little chance for a meaningful career with model airplanes, so I focused on my other loves, amateur radio and electronics, and for that I needed a HAM radio license. With the help of my deeply respected high school chemistry and physics teacher, Mr. Harry Repp, I studied Morse Code and basic electronics.

Confident that I was prepared, I went to the Federal Building in New York City and applied to take the Amateur Radio Exam. The Morse Code test consisted of copying one solid minute of a five minute simulated "emergency message," sent by machine at 13 words per minute. I proudly turned in my sheet, confident that somewhere on that sheet, there would surely be a solid minute of accurate copy. To my disappointment, the examiner stuck his head in the doorway a few minutes later and without uttering a word, shook his head, "No".

I went home, dejected, but committed myself to practicing for 30 days before trying to take the exam again. The second time I arrived at the Federal Building, I easily passed the Morse Code test. I was then allowed to take the written portion, which I also passed. About a month later, in June of 1950, I opened my mailbox to find a letter containing my call letters - W2EMF. I proudly showed my license to Mr. Repp he said, "How in the world did you get that call sign?" The initials "EMF" were the standard abbreviation for ElectroMotive Force in the 40's and 50's. It was a very outstanding call sign, indeed!

The ham radio license was the first domino to fall in my career, and it helped secure my assignment to electronics school when I joined the Air Force at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi. My electronics experience also allowed me to skip the first two months of school and start training in the third month. I graduated with honors and after completing the electronics portion, I was enrolled in the Flight Simulator Specialist portion of the course. Luckily my familiarity with principles of flight from my model airplane experience didn't hurt. Upon completion I was assigned to a flight simulator section where I was to maintain a flight simulator for the F86D fighter aircraft at Selfridge Air Force Base, just north of Detroit, Michigan.

After I was discharged from the Air Force, I applied for a job at Bell Telephone Laboratories in New Jersey. In spite of a change in policy at "The Labs" at that time to employ only college graduates, I was hired, thanks to my amateur radio license and honor graduate status. Now in retirement, after 30 years at "The Labs," I realize that my pension and benefits are much more important than I thought they were while I was working there. None of this would have happened if I hadn't pursued my amateur radio license at the age of 16. I wouldn't have met my wife, nor would I have had an opportunity to work at "The Labs." I'm thankful for the great life that electronics has allowed, and my best advice to all is follow your passion in life and see where it takes you.

Contributed by Terry Evans - KF5OHR

The Place of Wireless in Preparedness

Brigadier General George P. Scriven, U.S. Army Chief Signal Officer
(August, 1916)

Significant of the rapid progress made in wireless communication which has placed that method of transmitting intelligence foremost in time of war, the enormous importance of radiotelegraphy in military affairs is recognized by all army men and great attention is and has been given recently to this method of communication. This means in effect, that those responsible for the safety of the nation realize that in both land and sea strategy, the nation with the best developed system of radio communication will possess an enormous advantage over any enemy otherwise equally equipped. Obviously the time to prepare the system for high efficiency is before the outbreak of hostilities.

It is hopeless to suppose that the signal corps of the regular establishment can ever supply more than a leaven for the mass of men needed, or even the militia possessing signal troops of approved efficiency can provide more than the framework of the organization that will be required; and it follows that the signal troops mobilized for war must be filled in by volunteers, and therefore by men drawn direct from civil life. The number of men needed for the purpose will be far larger than can be supplied by any probable increase of the regular establishment.

In a phrase, the Army largely depends upon civilian experts to maintain communication by radio in time of war. There are less than 1,500 men in the signal service of the army today.



The Navy has its own radio problems and, in time of peace, has discharged them satisfactorily; but with the outbreak of hostilities this branch of the service too, would have direct need for skilled civilians to manipulate the shore station equipment and take over the key on transports.

It is an indisputable fact, therefore, that wireless telegraphy, as an industry, is of distinct value for preparing for the country's defense. Owing to the high standard maintained in the commercial field Americans who could be called to the colors would be found equal, if not exceeding, in efficiency, those of any hostile nation.

Bearing in mind that this efficiency of personnel is due to the progressive spirit of the commercial interests, consideration may be given to the other important factor in building up an adequate communication system - the apparatus itself. Scientific progress must depend upon the number engaged in the art, and the possibility of reward in the factor of attracting the proper talent to the field.

For the safety of the nation these advances should be encouraged. To eliminate or hamper that commercial expansion would appreciably weaken the preparedness plans of the whole country. From the preparedness viewpoint, the wireless industry is too important to be meddled with.



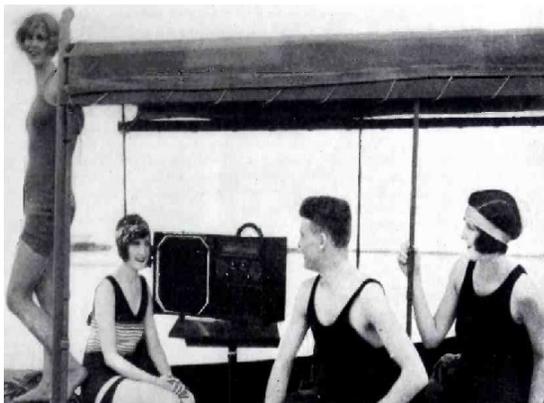
Summertime Radio

EVER since the earliest days of radio communication, there has always existed an intangible something which caused experimenters to become disinterested in the "sport" just as soon as the weather began to get warm. Radio is not a seasonal interest and pleasure. It has been commonly supposed that warm weather seriously interfered with reception and this belief has, in the past, led many to hang up their headphones from May to October. But one thing is absolutely certain, we find more interest in radio during the warm months right now than ever before.

Radio has given real pleasure to vacationists at the shore and in the mountains. The radio public has made the radio set a necessary part of its vacation equipment and the trend is toward making radio an all-the-year-round affair. In any "game" which has become as large as radio, we will always find some people who will hang on throughout the year. This is true mostly of the experimental class of fans, but we are finding, as the industry grows, that radio will come into an entirely new field during the summer.

Let us look into the subject and see in just what ways radio may best be used during those months when most of us have out-door thoughts, when vacation is the big thing and when we wish to get away from it all.

You who have taken camping trips, boat cruises or auto trips have been up against the problem of amusement during the long evening hours and unless you happened to be near an amusement resort or had a portable phonograph with you, you found that time hung rather heavily after the dishes had been cleaned up and everything made ready for the night.



Suppose that you have a small motor boat, one of those little ships where two or three people may sleep comfortably and where you can drop your anchor and stay as long as you wish; a self-contained unit. Your little ship is snugged down for the night and with anchor light swinging from the yardarm you and your friends sit there and idly discuss the situation. To make the picture complete we must have a snug anchorage, with the moon just coming up over the distant hills and possibly the roar of a heavy surf somewhere in the background.



It is at about this witching hour that you should come up from below with the loud speaker and place it on the deck. Soon the strains of some stringed ensemble would fill the air and the evening's enjoyment would really begin. Theoretically and structurally there is no reason why a radio set could not be installed and operated successfully on even the smallest of cruisers. Don't miss the opportunity this summer to install a good radio on your boat.

Since radio made its appearance, it has, like the early days of politics and baseball, seemed to be the special privilege of the men and boys. Women and girls were *persona non grata*, insofar as radio was concerned - and girls were not even expected to listen in.



But like in politics and baseball, women are no longer debarred, and since our growing girls are no longer kept from these typical man and boy activities, radio has become as important to girls as it is to boys; possibly more so. There is no doubt of the fact that the life of the modern girl touches radio at many points, and radio does not stump the modern girl.

Girls nowadays are taking the sort of vacations that are more in keeping with their healthier tastes. During the summer and its incidental girl camp activities, radio plays an increasing role. No real girl's camp will want to be without a radio. What a chance to listen to the Philharmonic orchestra while in the deep pine woods or in a canoe! Visualize a group of girls, in the August moonlight, their slender forms rhythmically dancing on the lawn to the tune of radio; achieving an effect of magic and poetry vastly enhanced by radio.



The organized group, tent camp by the lakeside in the woods, with its central mess hall and dancing pavilion, has been enormously popular with girls in recent years. Hundreds of them have sprung up and are crowded to capacity. In most instances, radio sets are installed, not to bring civilization any nearer, but to bring good music to the girls in the woods and lakeside camps. Girls have always been born appreciators of music, and are, therefore, born lovers of radio.

For young women's camps, radio is indispensable, because of its remarkable provision of good music, for which young women have an insatiable appetite. I believe girls are more interested in radio than boys. I do not mean the mechanism of it, but the enjoyment and use of it. There are millions of girls of this kind throughout the country who, until the coming of radio, had little or no amusement, except an occasional movie; and now, through this marvelous medium, they get all the things that they so badly need and want.

Therefore, radio to girls out in camps and elsewhere, has come to be as necessary as the air - more necessary than the telephone.



Bertha Brainard *Radio Executive*

Bertha Brainard had never planned to be in radio, she grew up in New Jersey, and as a child, dreamed of being a movie star or performing on the stage. After serving as a nurse during World War 1, she pursued her love of theatre. In the fall of 1921 when professional radio came to Newark, she volunteered to do a program of theatre reviews and news of up-coming shows. Like most performers and announcers from radio's early days, Bertha didn't expect to get paid for her work on the air. She did it because it was fun to be a part of a brand new mass medium. Her show, "Broadcasting Broadway" marked the first time a woman had been on the air at station WJZ.

Not long afterward, WJZ moved from New Jersey to New York City, making it even easier for her to interview the actors and actresses. In fact, she had such excellent contacts that she was hired in a paid capacity to find and book the talent for WJZ. This led to more responsibilities, and by 1925, she was working directly with the management in running the station; she even developed new programs and hired announcers.

Bertha Brainard was working for a Program Manager (Charles Popenoe) who said in a magazine interview in September of 1924, that he believed women lacked the skill to be announcers, and if it were not for Bertha's reputation as a credible theatre critic, he would have taken her off the air long ago! We can only imagine how she felt seeing that quote, but then, Bertha Brainard seemed to have an attitude similar to that of Eunice Randall - disapproval did not stop her, and she handled criticism with remarkable poise. Bertha was the equivalent of the Assistant Program Manager; yet her boss persisted in minimizing her role, speaking about her as if she only did clerical work. Several books by and about the men who founded WJZ give a very different picture, however: the announcers themselves stated that it was Bertha Brainard who helped them improve their air-work, and trained the staff in how to do their jobs more effectively. Quotes from these men and women who worked at WJZ indicate she was regarded as a "Big Sister", and her opinions were respected.

One man she had to impress was David Sarnoff, whose company purchased WJZ in 1926. He must have been pleased with her competence because he could have replaced her when NBC took over WJZ. But, not only was Bertha retained - she was promoted. By 1928, she held the title of Program Manager for the NBC Radio Network, and eventually became National Commercial Manager. She was certainly one of the first women network executives, and she worked for NBC for the next twenty years, until she retired in 1946. She died later that year of a heart attack on June 11th, just five days short of what would have been her 55th birthday.

