

**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

The magic of radio - so far as the public is concerned - spread over civilization practically over night. The birth of no other industry has ever attracted more world-wide attention. As the sun appears suddenly from behind a dark cloud, so did radio make its appearance, casting its rays throughout the universe.

Great industries, however, are not born over night - men visualize. Radio did not come into existence over-night. Like in all other great achievements, men labored for years to perfect this industry.

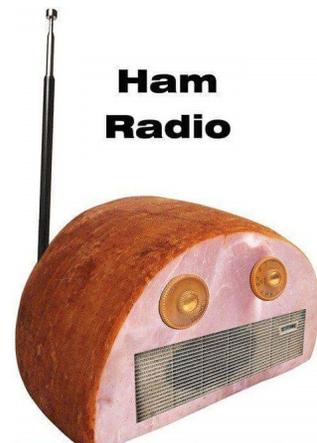
The progress that has been made by world-wide wireless communication since its introduction has amazed even those great minds which were behind the movement. Those who are steering the ship of state are laboring day and night in an effort to keep abreast of events. The progress made thus far and the hearty co-operation and good will of the people of the world has reached a point far beyond their fondest expectations.

Such great strides have been made that this expensive luxury of yesterday has become one of the necessities of today. The standards of yesterday have given way to the more efficient apparatus of today. There is no phase of electrical performance which requires greater ability than the science of radio.

With strong convictions as to the future possibilities of radio, the men who guide the destiny of radio are the same small band of men, who, as far back as radio's beginnings, saw the future glories and possibilities of this industry. What the future world-wide wireless will be, no man today can foretell. The future can only be judged by the immediate past.

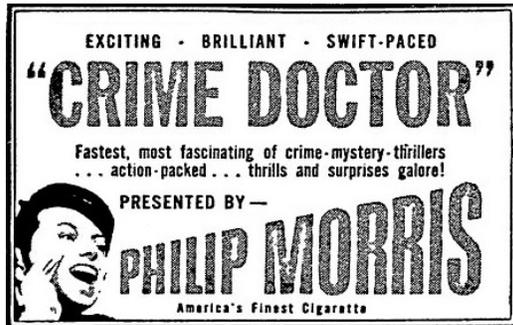
Here locally, smoke and ash has been present and is coming from a 8,500 acre wildfire that is burning on Fort Hood. Citizens are encouraged to have situational awareness of the event and to follow the Fort Hood Press Center at: <http://www.forthoodpresscenter.com/> for updates and information. Fort Hood officials report the fire poses no immediate risk of leaving the installation boundary or threatening life or property.

Hope to see you all at our next meeting which will be on August 7th, at 7:00 PM at the Bell County Communications Center. 73, Terry - KF5OHR





"Philip Morris presents another episode of Max Marcin's Crime Doctor."



Crime Doctor was a radio crime drama broadcast over CBS from August 4th, 1940, to October 19th, 1947.

The program featured the central figure, Dr. Benjamin Ordway, originally a criminal himself, who got zapped on the head and lost his memory. With the help of a kind doctor, he began to build a new life and identity, studying medicine and eventually going into psychiatry, specializing in criminal psychiatry. Dr. Ordway became such a favorite with the Police Department of his city that he is constantly being called upon for his shrewd and eager opinions in baffling murder cases. Invariably, his keen medical mind fastens upon the one clue in a case which might otherwise be lost.

After the crime was dramatized throughout the first half of the show, Dr. Ordway would be called in to solve the crime with his specialized knowledge. Although the audience knew who did it and how, the trick was to figure out what fatal mistake each criminal made in order to get caught and the piece of evidence overlooked by the suspect.

Only a handful of episodes from this old-time radio series have survived the ages. They can be listened to again at: <https://www.oldtimeradiodownloads.com/crime/crime-doctor>

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 2nd: Net Control: KE5ISN Back-Up: AD5SK
August 9th: AD5SK KD5FJF
August 16th: Net Control: KD5FJF Back-Up: K6WXA
August 23rd: K6WXA KF5OHR
August 30th: Net Control: KF5OHR Back-Up: KE5ISN



The 65th Annual Convention & Trade Show of the TAB will be held August 1st & 2nd at the JW Marriott, 110 East 2nd Street, in Austin. More info is at: https://www.tab.org/convention-and-trade-show



Once again the capitol city is the place to be August 3rd & 4th, 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 info visit: http://www.austinsummerfest.org/

"Radio stands out from other media because of the personal connection that hosts have with their listeners." Julie Talbott - President, Premiere Networks



222 MHz and Up Distance Contest

Contest period runs from 1800 UTC August 4th to 1800 UTC August 5th, with the objective of working as many stations as possible on the 222 MHz through 241 GHz bands using any allowable mode. Further information with complete rules can be found at: <http://www.arri.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest>



Civilian Conservation Corps On-the-Air Weekend

The Civilian Conservation Corps On-the-Air weekend starts Saturday, August 11th at 9:00 AM CDT and will run until Sunday, August 12th, at 4:00 PM CDT. The event is to honor the contribution that "The Boys" of the corps made to our country by putting the sites of the CCC camps back on the air.

You are encouraged to activate the actual location of one of the camps or, if it is no longer accessible or you cannot get permission to set up on the site, you may operate from one of the project sites the camp worked on.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.qsl.net/ccc/> which also has a link listing the CCC project sites which were conducted in the State of Texas.



Coryell County Joint Comm Group Meeting

The next meeting of the Coryell County Joint Comm Group will be on Tuesday, August 14th, at 11:30 AM, at the Lil Tex Restaurant, located at 502 South Main Street, in Copperas Cove.



International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend

Not a contest, but this operating event runs from 0001 UTC, August 18th to 2359 UTC August 19th. For more info on this event, please visit: <http://illw.net>



North American QSO Party

Contest period is from 1800 UTC, August 18th to 0600 UTC August 19th, 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 "rag chewing" but rather, in making contacts and moving on. For more info, visit: <http://ncjweb.com/naqp/>



National Radio Day

Monday, August 20th, is National Radio Day. Each year, National Radio Day recognizes the great invention of the radio.

Fireworks aside, get on the air, make some contacts, or simply take the time and tune in your favorite station or spin the dials and see what's out there. Maybe use the occasion to post up comments about your favorite on-air radio personality on social media. Those in radio will appreciate it.

Treat this event like its the only one you'll do all year.

"As with any good communication system, people are the most important part." - Jim Judd, KA5QKL



U.S. Islands Event

This event will be on Saturday, August 25th from 1200 UTC through 0300 UTC Saturday, August 26th, and promotes portable ham radio operation from islands in all bodies of water — lakes, rivers, streams, ponds, and coastal islands.

More information on the U.S. Islands Program and their events, is available at: <http://usislands.org/>

The First Airborne Radio Traffic Report

As America's love affair with the automobile packed the highways faster than the country could build them, motorists needed to know how to navigate the congestion. The first station to report on traffic conditions was WINS in New York City.



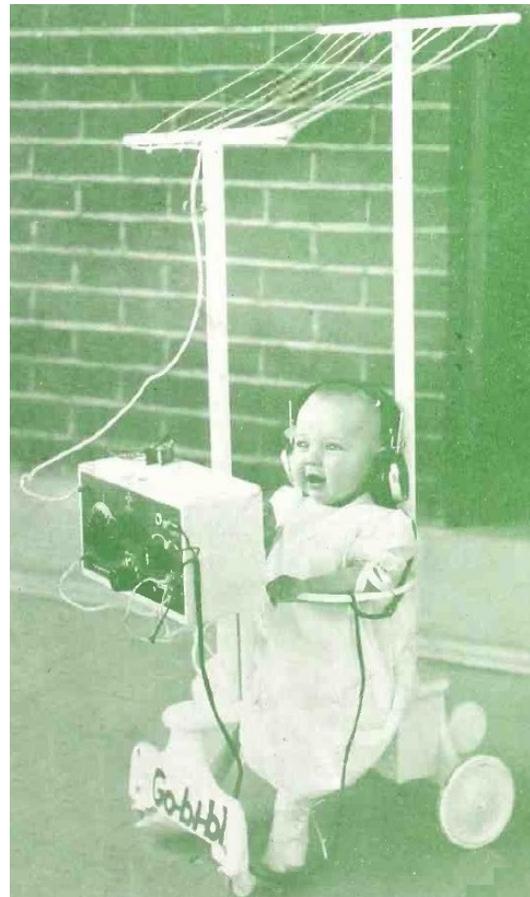
On August 10th, 1935, Police Deputy Commander Harold Fowler flew over the city's main traffic arteries in a Goodyear blimp, informing motorists about the least congested routes.

"Radio is best when it engages, provokes, entertains and informs us."
- Paul McLane

Radio Set for Baby's Go-Bi-Bi

Radio Topics - August, 1923

An "Ace V" receiving set made by the Precision Equipment Company, was installed on Edward Snyder's "Go-Bi-Bi" and the child now hears radio music as he learns to walk. The mother sets the dials for the program she wants the child to hear and it is said the baby listens to it with great interest.



Many children in Cincinnati now have their go-bi-bi's equipped with radio and the parents do not have to give them much attention. Out of town stations are also heard, although the little aerial makes it a little harder to tune-in the distant stations.

How's DX?

W5MJ will be active from American Samoa, signing **stroke KH8**, 15 - 25 August. QSL via MØURX.

SP7IDX will be active from Albania, signing **stroke ZA**, 5 - 12 August. QSL via his home call or LotW.

EA4NF will be active as **V26NF** from Antigua Island, 12 - 19 August. QSL via his home call.

OK2ZI is active from Mauritius Island, signing **stroke 3B8** until August 4th. QSL via his home call, or LotW.

CT1BWW is active from the Lofoten Islands, signing **stroke LA**, until August 10th. QSL via his home call.

A group will be active as **OJØC** from Market Reef, 18 - 25 August. QSL via OH3JR.

A group will be active as **TX5T** from Raivavae Island, 15 - 21 August. QSL via MØURX.

MØUPL is active as **D44EK**, from Sal Island, until 7 August. QSL via his home call.

SP7VC will be active from Guernsey Island signing **stroke GU**, 5 - 11 August. He will then be active from Jersey Island signing **stroke GJ**, 11 - 14 August. QSL via LotW or his home call.

K7TRB is active as **4W6VA** from Timor Leste, until September 15. QSL via his home call.

EA4NF will be active as **V26NF** from Antigua Island, 12 - 19 August. QSL via his home call.

A group will be active from Robben Island, as **ZS9V**, August 17 - 20. QSL via MØOXO.

F4FET will be active from Moutons Island, August 18 - 19. QSL via his home call.

SP9DLM will be active as **4S7DMG** from Sri Lanka, 6 - 14 August. QSL via his home call.

ZL1BQD will be active as **A35RR** from Tonga, 15 - 29 August. QSL via his home call.

GØFWX will be active as **V47FWX** from St. Kitts Island, 18 - 25 August. QSL via MØURX.

DL7JLL will be active as **A35JLL** from Tonga, 8 - 30 August. QSL via his home call.

G4BUO is active as **E51BUO** from Rarotonga Island, until 6 August. QSL via his home call.

IIØPN will be active the entire month of August in the North Polar region aboard the sailing ship *Meloria*. QSL via IU5KUH.

Novolazarevskaya Station, Antarctica, is now active as **RIIANW** until March 2019. QSL via RN1ON.

IZ5YHD will be active from Kosovo signing **stroke Z6**, 20 - 26 August. QSL via his home call or LotW.

P29VIM is active from Papua New Guinea until 13 August. QSL via LotW or YO5BIM.

HC1HC/8 will be active from the Galapagos Islands, 7 - 10 August. QSL via NE8Z.

Special Event Station **W8T** will be active from *The World's Largest Teapot*, 6 - 12 August. QSL via W8LPN.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chester_teapot



Broadcasters Now Guaranteed Access to Disaster Areas

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Tucked within the spending bill recently signed by President Trump, is a requirement that broadcasters be allowed access to disaster areas in order to maintain facilities during times of emergency.

Several paragraphs from the 2,232-page federal appropriations document spell out amendments to the “Robert T. Stafford Relief and Emergency Assistance Act” that updates the definition of “essential service providers.”

Mobile telephone service, internet access service, radio or television broadcasting, cable service, or direct broadcast satellite service are now considered essential service providers, according to the document, thus allowing them to gain access to vital infrastructure, including transmitter sites, when disaster hits.

Recent natural disasters, including last year’s hurricanes Harvey and Irma, seemingly prompted the changes. The “essential service providers” designation only affects broadcast facilities within federal disaster areas.

In the past, some states had previously adopted "First Informer" measures that allowed designated broadcasters to enter areas during an emergency to maintain essential broadcast equipment. This was a significant improvement, particularly in disaster-prone states, but it still resulted in a patchwork approach, with some states issuing disaster credentials to broadcast personnel, other states taking a variety of approaches as to how broadcasters identify themselves to emergency personnel with swiftness and certainty, and still other states simply having no reliable disaster area access for broadcasters at all.

However, creating a Federal First Informer status for broadcasters is likely to expedite the adoption of similar laws in states that do not yet have them, and will likely serve to help standardize those laws, as the federal government implements nationwide standards for how broadcast personnel can quickly identify themselves to government officials in order to gain access to a disaster area.

Broadcasters have told *Radio World* that gaining the first-informer designation is crucial in order for them to quickly restore transmitter sites and refuel generators following disasters. The National Association of Broadcasters estimates that just over a dozen states now have First Informer laws or at least similar agreements with local and state governmental agencies that allow designated broadcasters to enter secure areas during emergencies.



Tornado damaged tower of station WXFN

The National Radio Silence Day of 1924

If intelligent aliens exist and they were trying to communicate remotely with the inhabitants of Earth, would we have the technical capabilities to detect their signals? This question, of course, has preoccupied both "ufologists" and researchers associated with the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence.

But even before the first reports of "flying saucers" in 1947, there were a number of prominent figures who believed it possible to recognize and possibly decipher messages from intelligent aliens. The key, it was believed, was radio waves.

By the early part of the twentieth century, it was widely believed that planets in our solar system – most particularly, Mars and Venus – were in all likelihood inhabited by extraterrestrial civilizations. In 1901, inventor Nikola Tesla announced that he had encountered odd electrical disturbances in his lab, that he believed could only be considered signals from Mars. Years later, radio inventor Guglielmo Marconi claimed to have had a similar experience, convinced that in 1919 he too had intercepted messages from Mars, reporting that his wireless instruments were occasionally getting very queer sounds and indications, which might come from somewhere outside the Earth.

Mars was widely seen as the likeliest candidate and while the notion of Martian radio signals was greeted by some engineers and scientists at the time to be little more than wild speculation, others believed the possibility was worth serious study. The interest in the possibility of using radio technology to hear communications from Martians eventually culminated in a remarkable event in 1924. American astronomer David Peck Todd, had earlier argued that if there were indeed inhabitants on Mars, they might well try to communicate with Earth when the planets were relatively close to one another.



On August 21st, 1924, this occurred during the closest approach of Mars to the Earth [35,000,000 miles from Earth] their closest approach since 1804. Through the course of thousands of years, the Earth and Mars had passed this close thousands of times. On earlier close passes, perhaps over these thousands of years, Mars might have fruitlessly attempted to hail its backward neighbor. Earthlings now had the technology required to receive signals across vast expanses of space. Perhaps for the first time, the Martians would find us listening.

Apparently no attempt was made to transmit signals to Mars. Transmitter powers were too limited, and it was known that the newly discovered ionosphere would absorb and scatter any signals sent from Earth on the frequencies then in use. Although no doubt some announcers couldn't resist the temptation to say hello "to our Martian listeners". It was hoped that more powerful Martian transmissions would be able to bridge the gap. Thus, the task on Earth would be to intercept these transmissions. And every home with a radio was a potential detector.

The U.S. Government ordered all radio transmitters in the country to maintain radio silence for 5 minutes on the hour, every hour for 2 days in which to listen for signals from August 21st to August 23rd. All American military transmitters were ordered shut down during this time.

Todd and Admiral Edward W. Eberlen, Chief of Naval Operations along with Major General Charles Saltzman of the Army, led the program. World renowned code expert William F. Friedman, then Chief of the Code Section in the office of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, was standing by to translate any messages that may have come from Mars.

At the U.S. Naval Observatory, a radio receiver was lifted 3,000 meters above the ground in a dirigible to record Martian signals during the silent periods.

In the end, however, no signals were detected.



In the 1920s, record after record was set, smashed, and set again. Trophy after trophy was offered, sought after, and won. But in the latter part of the decade, stagnation set in. Not only did hams feel they had crossed every frontier, temporary band allocations were revoked, and new band allocations at 5 and $\frac{3}{4}$ meters did not offer rip-roaring DX.

In 1929, Fred Elser-W6FB, recalled meeting League founder Hiram Percy Maxim-W1AW, in the 1920s. He learned that Maxim had an interest in Mars and even owned a globe of “The Red Planet.” Elser was inspired by a visit to the Philippines with Stanley Mathes-K1CY, to offer “a unique trophy” to commemorate the first two-way Amateur Radio contact between Earth and Mars.

Based on their shared belief that Amateur Radio technology would improve at a

prodigious rate, Elser and Mathes devised an award for the most ambitious Amateur Radio contact they could imagine.

The actual trophy selected by Elser and Mathes is an example of Igorot native woodcarving. The base symbolizes Earth and the seated figures are its inhabitants. The bowl is Mars, and the standing men are the amateurs who bridge the gap of space. The plate fastened to the cup includes space for the names, call signs, and dates of those who will fulfill the cup’s eventual destiny.

It’s easy to understand why the Elser-Mathes Cup is such an intriguing ham radio artifact. Humans have been fascinated by the sky since time immemorial, and hams in particular have always relished the challenge of making their signals travel as far as possible — so why not into space as well?

But until we can put a ham on Mars, the Elser-Mathes Cup will go unclaimed. If there are any Amateur Radio operators among any of the NASA, SpaceX, or Mars One landing crews, the Elser-Mathes Cup could find a home maybe within this century!



Valerie Hotzfeld - NV9L
2018 Radio Amateur of the Year

At this year's *Hamvention* the Awards Committee, co-chaired by Michael Kalter-W8CI, and Frank Beafore-WS8B, announced that Valerie Hotzfeld - NV9L, of Crescent City, Illinois, is the 2018 "Amateur of the Year."

First licensed in 2006 as KC9KIQ, Hotzfeld has been very active in local Amateur Radio clubs and in ARES. Once she "discovered" HF, she became obsessed with DXing and contesting. In the past few years, she has enjoyed inviting new hams to her station to DX or contest. She has been the pilot or lead pilot station for four major DXpeditions, including Swains Island-NH8S in 2012, Wake Island-K9W in 2013, Saba Island-PJ6A in 2014, the chief pilot for Amsterdam Island-FT5ZM also in 2014 and the scheduled but abandoned, Bouvet Island-3YØZ Dxpedition which was to be this year.

Hotzfeld is a co-host of the netcast "Ham Nation" which can be viewed at: <https://twit.tv/shows/ham-nation> and has created several how-to videos on YouTube for the ham radio community. You can see her video segments on everything from Contesting Basics to getting LotW set up and installed by going to: https://www.youtube.com/user/vhotzfeld/videos?disable_polymer=1 She also enjoys giving presentations on various topics via Skype to Amateur Radio clubs across the US.

In 2017, she became very active in public service, traveling to Texas in the wake of Hurricane Harvey to help rescue small animals. She was subsequently deployed to Puerto Rico with the American Red Cross as part of "The Force of 50" for 3 weeks as part of a group of volunteer Amateur Radio operators, facilitating critical communications after Hurricane Maria.



She is currently a member of The Northern CA DX Foundation, The Metro DX Club-W9TY, The Greater Milwaukee DX Association, Treasurer for The Society of Midwest Contesters-W9SMC, the Northern Illinois DX Association, the International DX Association and is a Maxim member of the ARRL. She is also an ARRL VE and the prize chairman for W9DXCC.

Hotzfeld has said that Amateur Radio has enriched her life because of the challenges and great friends the hobby brings. That, and she met her husband, WB9Z, on the air during the CQ World-Wide SSB Contest. She adds, "Who needs Match.com when there's contesting."

Besides her obsession with amateur radio, she enjoys camping, traveling, hiking, fishing, bowling, gardening, and baking. She's also taken some sailing and flying lessons.

(*Check out her biography on QRZ.com for her impressive antenna farm! -Ed.)*

Local Station in Denton Makes Waves

Radio without an algorithm... “You’re listening to the best in town, the best around: *The Local Mix*. We bring you interesting cuts from modern composers, beat makers and indie darlings. It’s a show full of pop hooks and hard left turns.”

It is *community* radio, KUZU, 92.9 FM, which turned a year old last month. You probably haven’t heard them on the air as the station pumps out its music at all of 67 watts. You have lightbulbs in your home with more wattage than that.

KUZU is something of a Denton specialty, known only to a wise and select few. Housed in a tiny, funky building in a parking lot near the Square, in a building painted with a 360-degree mural. It’s been a candle shop, a second-hand pet supply store and a knife-sharpening store. With its glass-brick windows and cinder-block walls and all the hard echoes those produce, it doesn’t exactly provide an optimum audio environment. You can hear the cars going by while they’re on the mic, and when they leave the windows open, you can even hear birds sometimes. It makes it sound like community radio.

On KUZU, you’re likely to hear German electronic masters Tangerine Dream right alongside groundbreaking “gypsy jazz.” Then, the station will switch into country-folk, or heavy metal and hip-hop, or vintage 78 RPM recordings. And even — animal sounds! Whales or sounds from space, rushing wind, waterfalls or cats — all of those things that make you feel happy. They shoot things out into the air, never knowing whether or not anyone’s ever going to listen.



As a “Low Power FM” — capped at 100 watts, they have about a three to five mile radius, which is pretty great for a small community. That is the mandated purpose of a low-power station; to serve small areas, churches, campuses, and backwoods towns. In part, stations like KUZU are the latest pushback against commercial radio conglomerates, which began consolidating control over the airwaves once the Telecommunications Act of 1996 deregulated the industry and lifted the cap on ownership. The radio companies began distributing the same music, sports, news and political talk formats all across the country. Move to a new town? You get the same sounds.



Low-power radio is *Radio America* with all its individual tastes, quirky genius and outright oddities. Harkening back to the more unconventional, grassroots days of free-form FM in the '60s, or college radio in the '80s, or even just that strange, crackly, lonesome station you came across driving late one night. And that element of discovery is one of the things radio listeners appreciate.

Their website, with a link to 'listen-live' can be found at: <https://www.kuzu.fm/>