



WEEKLY 2-METER NETS

All nets listed are 8:00 PM local time

Monday: W5YM University WeatherNet (147.135+, 110.9)

Wednesday: ARCUA Traffic Net (147.135+, 110.9)

Thursday: ARKAN Talk and Traffic Net (146.955-, 110.9)

Check in and participate in local nets -- keep amateur radio active on the repeaters

ARKAN

Serving
the
Amateur
Service

Newsletter of the Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest January 2006

ARKAN MEETING

January 23, 2005

AGENDA

Club members sign in for drawing
Call meeting to order
Acknowledge and welcome visitors

Program

BPL Presentation and Discussion -
KD5KZJ

Business Meeting

Reading of November meeting minutes

Old Business

Update on equipment sale - KD5NFX

New Business

Drawing for Door Prize
Meeting Adjournment

Announcements (if any)

VE Testing & Code Practice

To follow meeting

NEXT MEETING

February 27, 2006 7:00pm

Join the club for our next meeting.
ARKAN meets at the Arkansas Air Museum at
Fayetteville Municipal Field each fourth
Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

January Program Notes

Scott Anderson, KD5KZJ will give a presentation and have discussion on BPL (Broadband over Power Lines) at our January meeting. BPL is a threat to amateur radio in the form of interference on many of the HF bands.

President's Note

I would like to thank the members who attended our 1st Second Saturday workshop of 2006. I would especially like to thank John, KD5NFX for all of his hard work. For those who were unable to attend, we powered up the club station and played Radio for a while. One of my goals this year is to have the club station used regularly. I've been swamped at work with a major project, so this note will be short.

Hope to see everyone at the next club meeting

-73

Scott KD5KZJ

Membership Dues are now due for 2006!

ARKAN on the web at: www.arkan.us

Upcoming ARKAN Meeting Programs

**February
TBD**

**March
TBD**

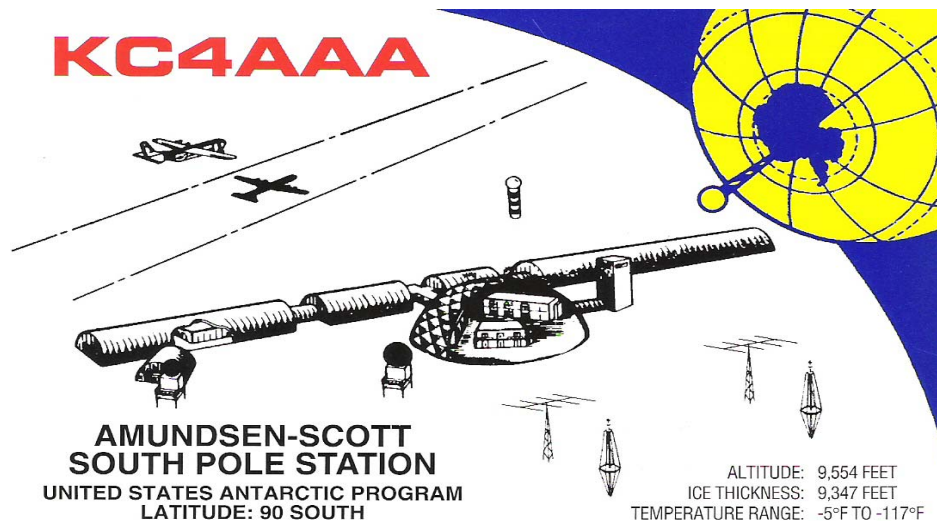
**April
TBD**

Public Service Events Calendar

None

Scott, KD5KZJ most memorable contact

My most memorable contact (so far) is KC4AAA. For those who don't know KC4AAA, it is the station call for the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station. I worked that call on 12 Feb 2002. Skip was the station operator at the time, and a real pro. AAA has a great antenna system, and a desirable QSO, so pileups where massive. I was running a stealth antenna and no amplification, so I was getting stomped on frequently. It took a solid week of joining the pileup before I got Skip's attention. Our QSO was very short, as I had been listening to Skip patiently answer many questions about life at the south pole and couldn't come up with a new question. Below is the front of AAA's QSO card.



ARKAN address

The club has a post office box to serve as the official address of the organization:

ARKAN
P.O. Box 9701
Fayetteville, AR 72703

Member Classifieds:

For Sale - Radio Shack HTX-242
2m mobile with a copy of the
service manual \$80 John
KD5NFX (479)839-8112 or
johnr@cavalry.com

Classifieds may be submitted free
of charge by ARKAN members.
To submit a listing please e-mail
John Robinson, KD5NFX at
johnr@cavalry.com.

Join ARRL or renew and receive a repeater guide

The Arkansas section has sent a box of ARRL Repeater Guide books to Bill Smith, K1ARK, the Northwest assistant section manager. Every person who renews their membership this month or joins ARRL through Bill gets the free gift. He will have forms at the next ARKAN meeting, January 23.

Code practice with ARKAN

Paul, KK5II will start code practice sessions at this month's ARKAN meeting for anyone that would like to learn the code or polish their skills. Paul plans to run 15 or 20 minute sessions immediately following each month's ARKAN meeting. If enough people are interested, Paul would like to run a code practice session right before and right after our club meetings. Below is a list of characters and the order they will be practiced.

Lesson 1: E T M A N I S O S K .

Lesson 2: K U D C 5 0(zero) AR ?

Lesson 3: K P B G W F H B T ,

Lesson 4: Q L Y J X V Z DN 1 2 3 4 6 7 8 9

Contacting Your Club Board Members

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer
Scott Anderson KD5KZJ 5130 Twin Pines Springdale, AR 72762 Hm (479) 466-3368 webmaster@aped.com	Paul Dixon KK5II 50 W Greenwood St. Fayetteville, AR 72701 Hm (479) 571-8600 pdixon1006@aol.com	Mose Howard KB5BV 1775 N. Hunters Ridge Fayetteville, AR 72701 Hm (479) 571-8470 kb5bv@yahoo.com	Bruce Carter K2BWC 1350 Clear Creek Dr. Springdale, AR 72764 Hm (479) 872-2879 bcarter192@aol.com

Charles Winn, KE5AEA - Elected Board Member ke5aea@arrl.net
John Robinson, KD5NFX - At Large Board Member johnr@cavalry.com

ARKAN ARRL Special Services Club (SSC) Appointments

Technical Liaison	Charles Tillotson, W5NX	w5nx@cox.net
Public Information Officer	Joe Dunn, KD5TLH	bjoedunn@hotmail.com
Public Service Liaison	Bill Smith, K1ARK	k1ark@arrl.net

Upcoming Area Hamfests

March 4 Russelville, AR

March 17-18 Green Country
Claremore, OK

April 1 Ft. Smith, AR

If you have articles or ham radio
related submissions for the
monthly ARKAN newsletter
please submit them to John
Robinson, KD5NFX.
johnr@cavalry.com

To change your e-mail
or mailing address
Send To:
johnr@cavalry.com

ARKAN Meeting Minutes - November 28, 2005

Meeting was called to order at 7:20PM by ARKAN President, John Robinson.
Minutes of the October meeting are not available.

A motion was made to accept the Treasure's Report by Bruce Carter and seconded by Charles Tillotson.

OLD BUSINESS

Nominees for the officers for 2006 are:

President - Scott Anderson, KD5KZJ

Vice-President - Paul Dixon, KK5II

Treasure - Bruce Carter, K2BWC

Secretary - Mose Howard, KB5BV

Elected Board Member - Charley Winn, KE5AEA

No other nominations were made. A motion was made by Bill Smith to accept the nominations by acclamation and was seconded by Charles Aldrich. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by John Robinson for the club to sell some of the equipment in storage and use the proceeds to purchase a modern transceiver and other equipment.

The old equipment will be priced at fair market prices. A list will be emailed to club member of the equipment and they will have until Jan 10, 2006 to purchase. Afterwards the equipment will be offered for sale to the public. A second was made by Bruce Carter. After discussion the motion passed.

The drawing was won by Everett Balk. It was a B&K Transistor Checker.

Motion to adjourn by Paul Dixon.

Board Meeting - December 2005

A board meeting was not held this month due to the holidays.

Treasurer's Report - January 2005

	<u>DEBT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Balance Forward			\$701.16
Check 728 for VEC Payment 12/5/05	42.00		
Deposit from Dues 12/7/05		40.00	
Deposit from VEC testing and cash on hand 12/12/05		66.25	
Bank balance as of 12/31/05			\$765.41

New Tickets and Upgrades

The people below tested with ARKAN at the last meeting. If you see them, or hear them on the air please congratulate each of them.

VE Testing was not held in December due to the holidays.

The Weather Report

Bill Smith, KIARK

If you missed spotter training . . .

. . . well you missed a lot as Ed Calianese gave an outstanding program on Tuesday, Jan. 17, at the UA Engineering Hall. Unlike years past, Tulsa NWS has made a concerted effort to change and tailor the storm spotter programs. This year was no different as Calianese delved into the current drought conditions, how that may impact both fire weather and severe weather, and provided all-new storm video for training purposes.

The days of the same old PowerPoint from the late 1990s are gone. I have asked that every spotter working with the net achieve certification and then be recertified at least every three years. With the flow of new information, I won't go so far as to require it, but anyone interested in severe weather would greatly benefit from attending each year.

If you missed the Washington County training, don't despair. You can attend at one of the neighboring county sessions. Franklin County is next on Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. in Ozark at the Arkansas Tech Student Center. Benton County is Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. at the Siloam Springs Community Building. Just over the line in Oklahoma, the Delaware County session is in Jay at the community center on March 21.

One of the highlights

There was new video from a 2005 storm chase in Kansas. I won't give away the best parts, but I've yet to see a better presentation of the hazards of open-terrain storm spotting. Calianese does a great job of breaking down the particulars of the event and relating it to the video. This part is a must-see for mobile spotters.

Get your guard up

Last year was a particularly weak severe season in the Tulsa NWS warning area, of which we are a part, but a very active one for the state of Arkansas. Oklahoma averages just over 50 tornadoes confirmed each year while Arkansas averages around 25. Those numbers were exactly reversed for the 2005 season. While all the 52 tornados for Arkansas were in the Little Rock NWS area, here is your ominous warning from NWS.

With the dry winter and spring, and the potential onset of a La Nina effect in the Eastern Pacific, some of the forecast models are predicting that the dry line may establish itself much further east this year.

Why is that important in Northwest Arkansas? In a traditional year, the dry line establishes in west to central Oklahoma. Many of the storms have spun out of their first cycles, or simply converged into squall lines by the time they reach the Arkansas state line. This is why so much of our spotting work takes place after sunset.

A more easterly dry line equals Arkansas being on the front line; Oklahoma City style.

Final word on vigilance

One thing I learned through the OK-FIRST training was how to access the historical records of the National Weather Service. It gave me some concrete numbers to poke a gaping hole in my absolute favorite urban legend of Washington County.

The Weather Report (continued)

You know it well: we don't get tornadoes in Fayetteville, the hills break up the storms and all the really severe weather always goes to Benton County.

Here's the reality. Since 1950, there have been 31 confirmed tornado touchdowns in Benton County. There have been 20 in Washington County. Indeed, 31 is more than 20, and that helps feed the legend. However, it's not that many more than Washington County and the 20 confirmed is certainly more than those who would scoff at more active efforts to improve warning ability and monitoring in the county.

By the way, I do not think the pros in the county have that view; but there is a tone within some politicians (most of them past) and electorate (my opinion, still today) that warning systems are a lower priority than other civic needs. That's their prerogative, but it's nurtured by this false sense of tornado safety thanks to some geographic anomaly of Washington County.

However, here are the payoff pitches. The last confirmed tornado for Benton County was 1995. Washington has had three since then in its 20. For the entire state of Arkansas, no F5 has been confirmed and less than 10 F4s. Even F3s are rare for this state, but one of the most recent F3 tornadoes – a tornado with one of the longest ground tracks in the data base – occurred right here in Washington County.

According to the NWS data, the May 4, 1999, Odell tornado ran the southern part of the county and lifted seven miles southwest of Fayetteville. That tornado was F3.

And, even if one subscribes to the no-tornado legends, a quick check of the data reveals 208 incidents of severe thunderstorm events over the same time period for Washington County. Many of these are "straight-line wind" events that some recall as tornadic (the 1989 Dickson Street "tornado" that ripped up trees and roofs comes to mind). On these highly dangerous and property damaging events, Washington County holds its own with any of its neighbors.

Combine the history with the potential for the more easterly dry line, and our vigilance will be required in the upcoming year.

Talk up the net, participation

Ask your neighbors to be a part – both your ham and non-ham friends. We need to widen our network to get more spotters reporting from the remote parts of the county.

Starting next month, geographic check in will resume on the weekly training net. Can you beat KE5AEA's string of 18 weeks? Can your town combine to beat Westville's run?

Hope to hear more of you on the air in the coming weeks.

Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest Membership Application

Personal Information: _____ New Application _____ Yearly Membership Renewal Application

Applicants Name: _____ Callsign: _____ Class: _____

Age: _____ ARRL Member: YES NO ARES Member: YES NO

Spouse's Name: _____ Callsign: _____ Class: _____

Other household members holding licenses:

Name: _____ Callsign: _____ Class: _____

Name: _____ Callsign: _____ Class: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ Personal Web Site: _____

Membership in other organiza-

tions: _____

Interests: VHF/UHF Y/N APRS Y/N Packet Y/N Satellite Y/N ATV Y/N Spe. Events Y/N ARES Y/N SKYWARN Y/N HF Y/N Phone Y/N CW Y/N Digital Modes: RTTY Y/N PSK31 Y/N Contesting Y/N

Other Non-Amateur Interests: _____

Please attach a copy of amateur radio license(s) for all those applying for membership.

Dues are \$20.00 for first club member and \$5.00 for each additional family member.

I acknowledge that I will follow all FCC rules and regulations as well as the by-laws of the Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest. Any infraction will result in immediate termination of membership in the club.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Sponsored by (Print) _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Board of Directors Approval

License attached: Y/N

Dues Payment Attached: Y/N

Amount of Payment: \$ _____

RECEIPT FOR ARKAN DUES

Date: _____

ARKAN

Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas North-
west

Post Office Box 9701

Fayetteville, Ark. 72703