



The Eules Repeater

Newsletter of the Eules amateur radio club

Newsletter of the
Eules Amateur Radio Club
Eules, Texas
Richard Pongratz, K5SHT,
Editor

Web site:
www.W5EUL.com
Repeater Frequency:
442.900
PL: 110.9 Hz, DUP +

Summer 2011

Tech-Talk: New this fall, the KX3 Transceiver (Preliminary)



*Note: This is advance information. Specifications and option/accessory availability are subject to change without notice.
KX3 Ordering and Shipping dates will be Fall-Winter 2011*

- 160-6 meters, SSB/CW/DATA/AM/FM modes
- 10 W PEP (100 W with KXPA100 amp)
- Only 1.5 pounds (0.7 kg)
- Current drain as low as 150 mA



- Internal wide-range antenna tuner (ATU) and battery options; built-in speaker
- Advanced DSP provides dual watch, noise reduction, noise blanking, autonotch, stereo audio effects
- Software-defined radio (SDR) architecture *plus* roofing filters (KXFL3) for excellent dynamic range
- Operates in data modes (PSK31/RTTY) with or without a PC; includes RX I/Q soundcard outputs

Ultra-Compact Home/Portable/Mobile Station

The revolutionary Elecraft KX3 puts the world in the palm of your hand! Despite its small size, it covers all amateur bands from 160-6 meters, operates in all modes, and has DSP-based features usually found only on larger radios.

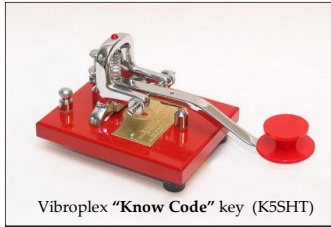
The KX3's unique form-factor allows you to operate from anywhere. Fold out the rear tilt-feet for use on a desktop or picnic table, or add our rugged mobile mount bracket for vehicle use. For extreme portability, you can add the internal wide-range ATU, 8-AA cell battery pack with NiMH charger, and adjustable KXPD3 keyer paddle. With a whip antenna, you can even operate hand-held.

In receive mode, current drain can be as low as 150 mA – about one-half to one-third that of competing all-band portables. Transmit efficiency is also excellent, further improving battery life.

Special Events

- Club Meeting on the Air, Every Tuesday, 8:00 pm on 442.900, PL 110.9+
- Club Social Dinner is on the second Monday of each month in Eules 6:00 pm.
- Main Club meeting is on the second Wednesday at 7:00 pm, location is: Eules EOC

Code Practice Sessions After Meetings



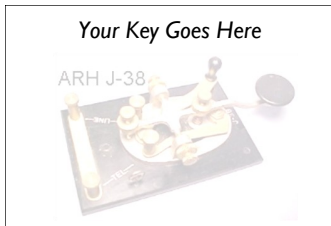
Vibroplex "Know Code" key (K5SHT)

We have had several code practice sessions held after the meetings during the past months, and it went well. Remember, one class has no relation to the others. It is all training at the same level—to get you started – so feel free to jump in at any time. You never miss anything just because you missed a class.



Bencher RJ-2 Straight Key (K5ABZ)

So far we have one student, Archie Blanchard, K5ABZ, who has completed the code proficiency training, and will be given his certificate during the July 14th meeting. His key now has its place to the left of this column as a new CW operator. Lets get some more students completing the certification.



Your Key Goes Here

ARH J-38

More students would be nice. We practice for only 15 or 20 minutes after the meeting, so you don't need to plan on spending a lot of time, or set aside another day. One night will not build on the other. Each night will be self contained.

We will study only 4 to 6 letters each night and you will practice sending and receiving, at slow speed. The goal will be to learn the letters and numbers, and to practice sending and receiving them. You will pick up

speed as you listen on the air.

I will provide the practice key and oscillator, so all you need to do is to come by at the end of the meeting and practice with us. If interested, just show up.

Learning the code is not hard. It just takes 10 minutes of practice a day, either sending or receiving, or both, and the world is your oyster. We all have busy schedules, but one easy way to get your practice in is to do it just before you go to bed.

Attitude is the key. It is important to understand that your sending and receiving might be awful and frustrating right now, but it will not stay that way for long. Improvement comes quickly.

When you learn the code (no matter at what speed) and make contact with the instructor on the air* (which can also be done after the meetings right there at the EOC), a photograph of your key with your name will appear in this column, both as a recognition of your accomplishment, and as an encouragement to others. Lets see your key up there at the head of this column.

73, Dick, K5SHT

Note: Contact can be made at the EOC using the Instructors FT-817 with a BuddyPole antenna, and the Clubs IC-706 and the screwdriver antenna, or contact the instructor at his home

W1AW Code Practice Schedules

Morse Code Transmissions

Frequencies are 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675 and 147.555 MHz.

Slow Code = practice sent at 5, 7-1/2, 10, 13 and 15 words per minute (wpm).

Fast Code = practice sent at 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm.

Code bulletins are sent at 18 wpm.

Pacific	Mtn	Cent	East		Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
6:00 AM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:00 AM			Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code	Slow Code
1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM		Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code
2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM		Code Bulletin				
3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM		Digital Bulletin				
4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM		Slow Code	Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code	Slow Code
5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM		Code Bulletin				
6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM		Digital Bulletin				
6:45 PM	7:45 PM	8:45 PM	9:45 PM		Voice Bulletin				
7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	10:00 PM		Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code
8:00 PM	9:00 PM	10:00 PM	11:00 PM		Code Bulletin				

The Straight Key Sprint



The two-hour Straight Key Sprint (SKS) occurs monthly on the fourth Wednesday starting at 0000 UTC. You need to adjust for standard or daylight savings time and your time zone offset to determine your local time for this event. This is an excellent chance to get in some CW practice with a lot of contacts.

The goal of SKS is to work as many stations as possible during the sprint period using a mechanical key approved by the rules of the Straight Key Century Club. These include straight keys, sideswipers (Cooties) and bugs. Exceptions are granted to those with physical disabilities that prevent the use of such keys. Please be reminded that although it is a contest, the SKS is rather informal, and has as its main objective to bring together operators with different skill levels. Operating speed should be adjusted accordingly.

For more information see the SKCC web site at www.skccgroup.com.

Club Meeting on the Air

By Archie Blanchard, K5ABZ, Net Control Coordinator

Optimism of the new weekly format for the Tuesday night net has paid off. With the introduction of Echo-Link activity, the Tuesday net has been greatly improved.

With a few exceptions, the Weatherford brothers have been regulars on the Tuesday net, as have members of the Irving Club and others.

This weekly net is still a marvelous opportunity for additional members to be trained for net control. The word **opportunity** is appropriate, because it might be difficult to find another training session giving a guarantee to stay on until you, the trainee, says, "I've had enough training; I can do it all alone." Gratification is your gratuity.

Net Control training can be done at the E.O.C. or anybody's QTH, or even a mobile unit. Remember, the training is yours for a lifetime; it's a stepping-stone to net control in a national or international venue, or in a setting like MARS. As a matter-of-fact,

MARS will compel you to be net control. A little experience on the local scene will give you confidence.

KZ5V, Gene, has checked in since we started with Echolink, and our own members, as far away as Korea have checked in during TDY visits.

You regulars should note the check-in from Titusville, Florida. I should have made a little more of his checking in, because I have about other DX check-ins. I'll try to remember next week to show some appreciation for his taking the time to check in.

Archie, 73

Join us every Tuesday evening at 8:00 o'clock at 442.900, PL 110.9 plus, for our Radio Club on the Air.

July 2011

Schedule of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Net			1	2
3	4	5 Net	6	7	8	9
10	11 Club Social	12 Net	13 Club Meeting	14	15	16
17	18	19 Net	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Net	27	28	29	30
31						

- Nets have been changed from a monthly Net to a weekly Net



ARRL Sponsored Contests for 2011

August

6-7 August UHF Contest

21 Rookie Roundup - RTTY

20-21 10 GHz and Up Contest (round 1)

September

10-12 September VHF QSO Party

17-18 10 GHz and Up Contest (round 2)

24-25 International EME Competition (2.3 GHz +)

October

22-23 EME Contest, 50-1296 MHz (round 1)

17-21 School Club Roundup

November

5-7 November Sweepstakes, CW

19-21 November Sweepstakes, Phone

19-20 EME Contest, 50-1296 MHz (round 2)

December

2-4 ARRL 160 Meter Contest

10-11 ARRL 10 Meter Contest

18 Rookie Roundup - CW

Contests & Radiosport

Contesting is one of the great activities of Amateur Radio. It boosts your technical knowledge and improves your radio operating skills—helping make you a better Amateur.

www.arrl.org/contests

RESCUE RADIO: SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September 2011 has been designated as National Preparedness Month. This is an annual event sponsored by the Ready Campaign in partnership with Citizen Corps and known as the NPM Coalition. NPM Coalition membership is open to all individuals as well as all public and private sector organizations for free. Numerous ham radio organizations are already members of this group.

The objective of National Preparedness Month is to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses, and communities. By joining, both individuals and organizations agree to promote emergency preparedness during September.

RADIO ON THE RADIO: HAM NATION AUDIENCE GROWING

The audience for the Bob Heil, K9EID, hosted Internet TV show Ham Nation is growing. Now about 2 months in, "Ham Nation", a netcast on amateur radio, is going strong. In case you haven't heard, Bob Heil, K9EID and Gordon West, WB6NOA host the weekly hour long show on ham radio via the TWiT network. TWiT, which stands for This Week in Tech, is an offshoot of the now defunct ZDTV, later known as TechTV and it's lead host, Leo Laporte.

Laporte, also known as the 'chief twit', approached Heil about ham radio and the possibility of doing a show after discovering his microphones, which are popular not only with professional musicians, broadcasters and amateur radio operators, but also netcasters and podcasters. Leo, who is studying for his Amateur Radio license, is no stranger to the hobby. Wayne Burdick of Elecraft and Laporte were roommates way back in their school days, so this bug has been in the back of his head for some time. In fact, the new state of the art TV studios that Laporte is building will prominently feature a ham radio station.

So far Ham Nation has had some pretty impressive guests.

Joe Walsh, WB6ACU of Eagles fame wrote and performs the Ham Nation theme song. Larry Junstrom, K4EB, the bass player for the southern rock band 38 Special was a recent guest as well as the super Field Day crew of W3AO, who this year broke a 30 year record for Field Day contacts. There's something for everyone, ham and non ham in Ham Nation, and from the people I saw in the chat room during the most recent show, amateur radio is getting exposed to a new and exciting audience. One who perhaps before seeing Ham Nation thought of us only as weird guys squirreled away in our basements with old, antiquated gear. As we all know, such is hardly the case, and now a whole new segment of the public is getting to know just how much fun and cutting edge Amateur Radio really is.

You can see Ham Nation every Tuesday at 9pm Eastern, 6pm Pacific. If you miss the live show audio and video archives are available for online viewing or downloading. Point your browser to twit.tv/hn. You'll like what you see.

SPACE WEATHER PREDICTION TO CONTINUE ON WWV AND WWVH

The Space Weather Prediction Center has changed its mind and will continue offering its service as a part of broadcasts offered by time standard stations WWV and WWVH. The Space Weather Prediction Center says that it is no longer planning to discontinue the broadcast of its synoptic Geo-Alert products on WWV and WWVH and will continue to provide this service for the foreseeable future.

Your business tag line here.



The Eules Amateur Radio Club is located inside the Eules police station EOC, at: 1102 West Eules Blvd, Eules, Texas CALL-IN FREQUENCY: 442.900

Useful Links

10-10 International www.ten-ten.org/



www.fists.org/



www.skccgroup.com/



www.arrl.org/w1aw



www.hfradio.org/



www.txarmymars.org/resources/solarweather.php



www.w5eul.com



www.3905ccn.com/newsite/netsched.htm



http://www.saturn.org/

Upcoming Events



The SKYWARN spotter training schedule (To be announced)



Club Social Meetings—First quarter schedule (Talk-ins at 442.900, PI 110.9+) Announcements will be send directly to members. Watch your email. Social dinners are scheduled for every second Monday of the month.



ARE Club Meeting and Presentations Every second Wednesday at the Eules EOC, 7:00pm

