

GENESIS



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May 2008

Founded 1992

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John Williams
KB1EVY

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Owen KB1CGP 6/17

Ken KB1KVL 6/24

Alternates

Eric N1WCO
Paul KA1MDQ

The Genesis Net is every
Tuesday at 8 pm on 146.685
MHz. with a PL of 82.5

The next meeting is June 30
at 7:30 pm in the Plymouth
Airport Community Room.

Web Page:
<http://genesisars.org/>

From The President's Desk

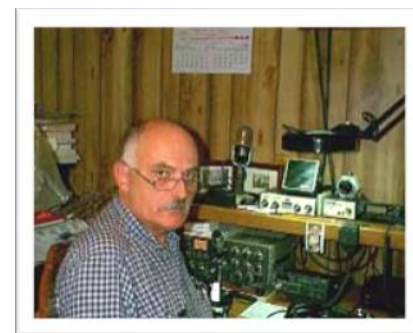
The end of May is here, Memorial Day has come early and June is one week away. Yes June is here and in twenty seven days amateurs from near and far will take on the time honored past time of field day. Yep! Field day is a coming. Plans are being put into place. What plans do you say? For those who are working behind the scenes and make it all worthwhile, I tip my hat to all of you. The planning that goes into this event, and every detail takes many hours. Where will this be put, and that to insure a successful Field Day. It goes on and on, then Saturday morning arrives, some will kick off the weekend with a early morning breakfast, a gathering of all who will be setting up for the field day event. Everyone knows their tasks and the rest of the morning will be spent erecting antennas, radio equipment, and log entry books and other logging devices. Then testing will begin, with radio checks, batteries, power sources and associated equipment.

This is an opportunity to "strut our stuff", so to speak. At this event the public can get to see what amateur radio is and what it can do. A chance to let the public witness radio communications in an emergency situation. A chance to answer questions, let a non amateur operate a station and witness old and new techniques.

So ladies and gentlemen start your engines, sign up to take part in one of the best ways to introduce the general public to our hobby. Lets fill those operating seats, the more that participate the more time to enjoy the day with your fellow hams.

Until the next time

73,
John KB1EVY
The Prez.



John Williams KB1EVY

Minutes

Opening: The meeting was opened at 730 PM:

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was voted to accept it as read and was seconded.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's Report was voted to accept it as read and seconded.

Unfinished Business: The 40 meter CW kit has to be assembled. Field Day- We are preparing for Field Day at this time.

New Business: We will be having a breakfast at Kevin's Restaurant on South Meadow Rd, Plymouth on May 31st at 9:00 a.m. and the last Saturday of the month

hereafter until further notice. We have candidates for the office of Treasurer and Vice President. **Joan Smith KB1NAX** is running for Treasurer and **Ron Smith N1PXX** is running for Vice President.

Closing : The meeting was adjourned on a motion at 8:30 p.m.

Health and Welfare: The Genesis Amateur Radio Society passes their condolences to the **Crooker family** in the loss of a loved one. Also, a speedy recovery is wished for **Barbara Crooker** after her operation and **George Manning's** wife, Elaine, as well on her operation.

Attendance:

22 MEMBERS & 2 Guests

Ken Kavaljian	KB1KVL	Pat Kavaljian	SWL	Eric Pierce	N1WCO	Sam Webber	N1WIG
Kevin Sullivan	KA1UNP	John Williams	KB1EVY	Owen Malaguti	KB1CGP	Ron Smith	N1PXX
Joan Smith	KB1NAX	Bob Loring	K1REL	Angela Scieska	KB1KSG	Bob Johnson	KA1NMA
Mark Loring	KC1ML	Eric Sears	KB1HKH	George Manning	K1CG	Chris Johnson	N1SZF
Mark Tompkins	KA1MWT	Tom Sullivan	K1TJS	Chris Querze	N1JKO	Bob Woodbury	N1COP
Paul Foley	Guest	Dennis Foley	Guest	Joe Reynolds	KA1GDQ	Martin Himmelfarb	W1JMH

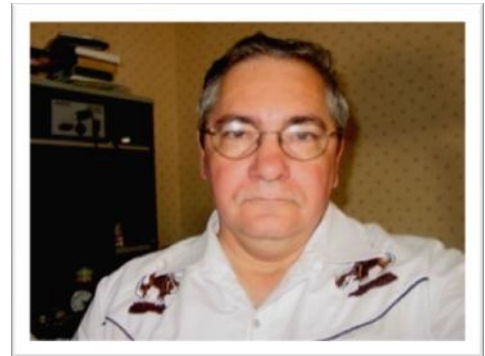
Contest Calendar

RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 2
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 6
Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 6
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0400Z-0429Z, Jun 7 and 0430Z-0459Z, Jun 7 and 0500Z-0529Z, Jun 7 and 0530Z-0600Z, Jun 7
DigiFest	0400Z-1200Z, Jun 7 and 2000Z, Jun 7 to 0400Z, Jun 8 and 1200Z-2000Z, Jun 8
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 7 to 1200Z, Jun 8
UKSMG Summer Contest	1200Z, Jun 7 to 1200Z, Jun 8
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 7 to 1500Z, Jun 8
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 7 to 1459Z, Jun 8
Alabama QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 7 to 0400Z, Jun 8
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 8
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 11
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 11
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 13
Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 13
ANARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Jun 14 to 2400Z, Jun 15
Portugal Day Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 14
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 14
GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 14 to 1500Z, Jun 15
REF DDFM 6m Contest	1600Z, Jun 14 to 1600Z, Jun 15
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 14 to 0200Z, Jun 15
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Jun 14 to 0300Z, Jun 16
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 16
SARL Youth for Amateur Radio	0700Z-1100Z, Jun 16
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 19

NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 20
Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 20
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 21 to 2400Z, Jun 22
SMIRK Contest	0000Z, Jun 21 to 2400Z, Jun 22
Feld Hell Sprint	1500Z-1700Z, Jun 21
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z-1900Z, Jun 21 (144) and 1900Z-2100Z, Jun 21 (432)
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 25
BCC QSO Party	1700Z-1900Z, Jun 25
Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 27
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	1200Z, Jun 28 to 1200Z, Jun 29
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 28 to 1200Z, Jun 29
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jun 28 to 1400Z, Jun 29
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 28 to 2100Z, Jun 29
ARCI Milliwatt Field Day	1800Z, Jun 28 to 2100Z, Jun 29

From The Editor's Desk

The hot subject is Field Day. We are coming along good with the stuff that we need for a successful Field Day. The only thing we can still use more of is operators. CW operators and Phone operators are very much welcome at the Field Day event. As I have told everyone before, **there will be a cookout at the event.** The way we are working it, we are running it like a Pot Luck dinner. Everyone brings something for the cookout. At this time, we have a couple of the guys bringing hot dogs and burgers as well as soft drinks and water. We need any food you think we should have for a cookout. Everything is appreciated. I hope to see everyone in the area at the Field Day. At this time, we have four people that will be operating overnight. There will be rest room facilities available. We can use more people for overnight. The more people we have there, the better it will go off. If you want to help out as an operator, contact **Joe KA1GDQ** by email, by phone, or over the air. **Bring a friend with you to Field Day.** We'll take all the participation that we can get. **Tell them we will have a cookout there** (donations will go to the Genesis club after expenses).



Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL

73
Ken KB1KVL
Editor

New England Flea Markets

15 June Cambridge MA	FLEA at MIT	Nick 617 253 3776
21 June Newington CT	NARL @HS	Mary K1MMH 860-563-2840

Special Events

Jun 1-Jul 30, 0100Z-2359Z, Ottawa, ON. Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, VC3C. The Champlain Trail, 400th anniversary of the founding of Canada. 14.240 14.040 7.240 7.040. QSL. M.A. Vigneault, VE3VIG, PH2-400 Montfort St, Ottawa, ON K1L 8G6, CANADA. vig@mondenet.com, www.qrz.com/vc3c or www.ovmrc.on.ca

Jun 6-Jun 8, 1600Z-2200Z, Linthicum, MD. Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club, W2W. D-Day Commemoration. 14.244 14.044 7.244 7.044. Certificate. W2W-HEMARC, Box 1693 MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. w3hem@arri.net

Jun 7, 1400Z-2000Z, Asheboro, NC. Randolph Amateur Radio Club, NC4ZO. NC Aviation Museum Fly-In and War Bird Display. 21.350 14.260 7.250. Certificate. Butch Simpson, WS4H, 6747 King Mountain Rd, Asheboro, NC 27205.

Jun 7, 1400Z-2359Z, Sevierville, TN. Ten-Tec, Inc, KK4TT. Ten-Tec 40th Anniversary Activity Contest. 21.410 14..310 7.210 3.710. QSL. Ten-Tec, Inc, 1185 Dolly Parton Parkway, Sevierville, TN 37862. www.tentec.com

Jun 7, 1400Z-2000Z, Tylertown, MS. Southwest Mississippi Amateur Radio Club, W5WQ. Celebration of Dairy Industry in Walthall County. 14.270 7.270. QSL. Homer Richardson, 1545 Friendship Ln NW, Brookhaven, MS 39601. w5wq.net

Jun 7-Jun 8, 0000Z-2359Z, Winchester, VA. Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club, W4RKC. Shenandoah Valley ARC 60th Anniversary. SSB 21.240 14.240 3.840 CW 21.040 14.040 3.540. QSL. Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 139, Winchester, VA 22604. www.svarc.us

Jun 7-Jun 8, 0100Z-2359Z, Various Locations, International. The Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station, NJ2BB. International Museum Ship Radio Event - 2008 Certificate. 7.260 7.039 3.860 3.539. Certificate. Margaret Burgess, KB2BRR, 150 Schooner Ave, Barnegat, NJ 08005. *List, frequencies and more information at web page. Work at least 15 different ships for special certificate. Ships wishing to participate should send a note to museum@nj2bb.org with the name of ship, callsign, location, QSL info and contact info for person responsible.* www.nj2bb.org

Jun 7-Jun 8, 1200Z-2359Z, Newington, CT. United States Power Squadron Amateur Radio Club, W1AW. The National Safe Boating Councils Safe Boating Campaign. 21.390 14.290 7.290 3.990. QSL. W1AW American Radio Relay League, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. www.usps.org

Jun 7-Jun 8, 1300Z-2100Z, Fond du Lac, WI. Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club, W9EBV. Walleye Weekend, Nation Fishing Tournament. 14.270. Certificate. W9EBV, PO Box 53, Fond du Lac, WI 54936-0053. w9ebv@fdlhams.org or www.fdlhams.org

Jun 7-Jun 8, 1400Z-2100Z, Manitowoc, WI. USS Cobia Radio Club/ManCoRad Radio Club, NB9QV. WWII submarine USS Cobia AGSS-245 on the air. 14.260 7.250 3.900. QSL. Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, 4932 S 10th St, Manitowoc, WI 54220-9121. www.w9dk.com

Jun 7-Jun 8, 1600Z-2300Z, San Diego, CA. USS Midway CV-41 Museum Radio Room, NI6IW. Commemorating International Museum Ship Radio Weekend. 14.325 7.250 14.060 7.040. QSL. USS Midway CV-41 Museum Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101. af6ha@yahoo.com.

Jun 8, 1400Z-2000Z, Cheektowaga, NY. Western New York SKYWARN, WX2BUF. NWS Buffalo NY Open House. 14.255 7.235 147.315. QSL. WX2BUF - SKYWARN, National Weather Service, 587 Aero Dr, Cheektowaga, NY 14225-1405. www.weather.gov/buf

Jun 13-Jun 14, 2300Z-2300Z, Bloomfield, MO. Bootheel & SEMo Amateur Radio Clubs, W0S. Commemorating 147 years of the Stars & Stripes Newspaper. 14.260 7.260 3.950. Certificate. Stars & Stripes, PO Box 98, Jackson, MO 63755.

Jun 14, 1400Z-2300Z, Effingham, IL. National Trail Amateur Radio Club, K9UXZ. Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the club. 14.250 7.250. Certificate. National Trail ARC, PO Box 903, Effingham, IL 62401.

Jun 14, 1500Z-2100Z, Wooster, OH. Wayne Amateur Radio Club, W8WOO. Wooster Ohio's Bicentennial. 21.245 14.245 7.245. QSL. Wayne Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 881, Wooster, OH 44691. w8woo.com

Jun 14-Jun 15, 0000Z-2359Z, Hellas, Greece. The SX2MT Team/Museum of Vergina – Royal Tombs, SX2MT. International Museums Weekend 2008 - Museums On-the-Air. all modes all bands EchoLink 121496. QSL. Archelaos Iakovidis, PO Box 26, PC 59100 Veria - Makedonia, Hellas, GREECE. *Will also be operating June 21-22. QSL direct only; do not use QSL Bureau. Internaitonal Museums Weekend info: www.ukradioamateur.co.uk/imw or www.qrz.com/sx2mt*

Jun 14-Jun 15, 1400Z-1800Z, Watkins, IA. Benton County Amateur Radio Club, K0KBX. 95 years on the transcontinental Lincoln Highway. 14.275 7.250 3.875 7.045 146.52. Certificate. David P Lucas, 4263 Highway 13, Central City, IA 52214. *Operating from the Youngville Cafe (www.youngvillecafe.com).* k0kbx@fmtcs.com

Jun 14-Jun 15, 1500Z-0000Z, Jacksonville, TX. Cherokee County Amateur Radio Club, K5JVL. 24th Annual Tomato Fest. 14.250 7.250. Certificate. Ed Sagen, 365 W Twin Creek Tr, Troup, TX 75789. www.k5jvl.net

Jun 17-Jun 22, 0000Z-2100Z, Fort Worth/Dallas, TX. K5T. National Railway Historical Society 2008 Convention. 28.450 18.150 14.250 7.280. QSL. Harry Fasick, 2960 Whitley Rd, Wylie, TX 75098. www.lonestarrails2008.com

Jun 20-Jul 1, 0500Z-0459Z, Mt Union, PA. Camden Bullock and Ben Myers, N3C. 30th Creation Festival. 50.125 14.250 7.225 3.825. QSL. Camden Bullock, 134 Spring Wood Dr, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. *Festival dates June 25-28, 2008* www.creationfest.com/ne

Jun 21, 1000Z-1800Z, Newington, CT. Newington Amateur Radio League, W1N. Hamfest at Newington High School. 28.350 21.350 18.150 14.250. QSL. Richard Lawrence, KB1DMX, 335 Lloyd St, Newington, CT 06111.

kb1dmx@arri.net or www.narl.net

Jun 21, 1200Z-2100Z, Gaylord, MI. Top of Michigan Amateur Radio Club, W1R. Otsego County Air Show. 28.400 14.290 7.270 3.940. Certificate. Air Show, 1349 S Otsego Ave, Gaylord, MI 49735. www.nm8rc.org

Jun 21, 1200Z-2000Z, Newington, CT. Newington Amateur Radio League, W1H. NARLFEST - Celebrating more than 60 years as an ARRL affiliated club. 28.340 18.140 14.240 50.140. QSL. Rich Lawrence, KB1DMX, 335 Lloyd St, Newington, CT 06111. www.narl.net

Jun 21-Jun 22, 0000Z-2359Z, Hellas, GREECE. The SX2MT Team/Museum of Vergina – Royal Tombs, SX2MT. International Museums Weekend 2008 - Museums On-the-Air. all bands all modes EchoLink 121496. QSL. Archelaos Iakovidis, PO Box 26, PC 59100 Veria - Makedonia, Hellas, GREECE. *Will also be operating June 14-15. QSL direct only; do not use QSL Bureau. International Museums Weekend info: www.ukradioamateur.co.uk/imw or www.qrz.com/sx2mt*

Jun 23-Jul 4, 1500Z-2359Z, Mansfield, OH. Inter-City Amateur Radio Club, W8O. IARC's 75th Anniversary and Mansfield's Bi-Centennial. 14.260 7.260. QSL. Robert Ruth, 2656 1/2 Lexington Ave, Lexington, OH 44904.

kd8azq@yahoo.com or www.iarc.ws

Jun 26-Jun 27, 1300Z-0100Z, Kearney, NE. Midway Amateur Radio Club, W0KY. Annual Re-Ride of the Pony Express. 28.440 21.325 14.265 7.260. QSL. Midway Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1231, Kearney, NE 68848-1231.

w0ky. Kearney.net

Jun 27-Jun 29, 1800Z-1800Z, Wichita, KS. Boeing Employees Amateur Radio Society, N0W. 1st Greater Wichita Field Day. 14.250. QSL. Randy Wing, 13038 SW 186th St, Rose Hill, KS 67133-8559. *Several local clubs will be participating!* www.boeingradioclub.org

Jun 28-Jun 29, 1600Z-2300Z, San Diego, CA. USS Midway CV-41 Museum Radio Room, NI6IW. Commemorating ARRL Field Day. 14.325 7.250 14.060 7.040. QSL. USS Midway CV-41 Museum Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101. af6ha@yahoo.com.

Jun 28-Jun 29, 1800Z-2100Z, Mount Sunflower, KS. Operator WØSO, KØS. Field Day from the highest point in Kansas. 50.125 14.200 7.200. QSL. Gary Liebling ,WØSO, 11409 W 73rd Street, Shawnee, KS 66203. *All bands 160 thru 2 will be attempted. Wallace county, DM89.* w0so@arri.net

Jun 28-Jul 27, 0100Z-2359Z, Charlottetown, PE. Charlottetown and Summerside Amateur Radio Clubs, VF2ANNE. 100th Anniversary of publishing Anne of Green Gables. 21.250 14.240 7.160 3.780. QSL. George Meggison, 22 Bendella Dr, Charlottetown, PE C1E 1P4, CANADA. *special prefix C12 for all operators, June 1 - July 30, 2008. Also, a mini DXpedition from PEI in early June.* www.anne2008.com, www.summersidearc.com or carc.isn.net

Kevin's Clubhouse Restaurant Breakfast

On April 26, 2008, the Genesis Amateur Radio Society held a breakfast at **Kevin's Clubhouse Restaurant**, 265 South Meadow Road, Plymouth, Ma at 9 am, across from the airport. The turnout was fantastic!!!! We had 19 people at the breakfast. The food was great, the service was excellent and price was super. The conversation was great, too. I don't think you could find a better breakfast for five dollars, and they accommodated us with separate checks. This will be our regular restaurant that we go to on the last Saturday of the month, as long as we have good participation. The next breakfast will be on May 31 at 9 am. Bring a friend with you. They don't have to be a ham. Everyone is welcome. Notify **Owen KB1CGP** that you're coming and how many are going to be in the party. **Owen** can be reached via email, phone, or on the radio. A good way to reach him would be on the **Genesis Rag-chew Net Tuesday nights at 8 pm on the 146.685 repeater with a PL of 82.5**. The net controls usually pick a topic such as the ham radio gear that you own or sometimes ham radio trivia, or maybe the longest DX contact that you've made. In any case, it's always interesting. Come aboard and join the fun. We'd love to have you. Tell your friends to join us as well. They are most welcome. Don't forget to join us at the breakfasts, too.



NEARFEST 2008



Ken KB1KVL and George K1CG



Bruce NI1X and George K1CG



Mark KC1ML and Wes N1WH

Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL and George Manning spent hours browsing through all the tables at NearFest. Bruce NI1X, is the editor of the Whitman newsletter, SPECTRUM. He was also President of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club for many years. George Manning K1CG, a longtime Genesis Amateur Radio Society member, ran into Bruce, a friend, and spent some time chatting with him. Later in the day, Mark Loring KC1ML and Wes Holmes N1WH were seen getting ready to go home after spending two days playing vendor at the big flea market. Sam Webber N1WH, a Genesis member, was seen browsing through the fairgrounds by Bruce NI1X. Some photos were donated by Bruce Hayden NI1X. We try to include photos of all the Genesis Amateur Radio Society members that partake in any activities.



Sam Webber N1WH

Ham Shack of the Month



Ham Shack of the Month, for May, is at the home of **Joe Reynolds KA1GDQ**. Joe has been a member of the Genesis Amateur Radio Society since February 2008 and has already taken the bull by the horns and started helping the club tremendously. Joe has volunteered his help for Field Day 2008, even though he is involved as a radio operator for a bike tour on the same day. Joe is the coordinator for our Field Day. He is getting committees organized and doing everything he can in getting the maximum amount of extra points as we can get. Thanks, Joe, for all your hard work. You're doing a great job.



In **Joe's** shack we find the following ham equipment: Two power supplies (top RadioShack 25 amp, below is the SEC 1223), Next to that, the Yaesu FT-60 & the Desktop Rapid Charger. Then the Regency D-100 10 channel (1981 Vintage Vhf-low Vhf-high and UHF) Scanner/, Radio **Joe Reynolds KA1GDQ**
Shack FRS radios and desktop Charger,
Radio Shack Pro - 95 1000 channel Trunking scanner.
Three battery style coin banks to try and raise the total of the Radio Fund (doesn't always work, Have to dip into the coins for one thing or another...HI HI....)

Middle Shelf: Kenwood TM-V71A Dual Band, Yaesu 2800M, coming soon to the slot to the far right... a VERTEX 4200 UHF for GMRS...maybe even a VHF version..further down the line). Main Desk: Kenwood TS-430S, a RayJeff Marine Radio which is coming into the room as well soon for Marine VHF Monitoring only

Antenna's outside:

FOR VHF/UHF...on the back porch being held by the picnic table-RadioShack Discone
HF- 75/80 meter dipole, cut 121 ft 4 inches (2 legs 60 ft 8in a piece about 10-20 ft in the air depending where you are in the yard. GMRS (not connected) on the 20' pole in the front yard (soon to be reconnected).

Speech Processing & VOX

Contents: [Basics](#); [VOX](#); [Speech Compression](#); [Noise Cancelling Mics](#); [Other No-Nos](#); [Odd & Ends](#);

Basics

The use of VOX and speech processing (compression) are not prudent operating practices while mobile-in-motion. The main reason is, the average passenger vehicle traveling at 60 m.p.h. has a noise level ranging from 45 dBa to well over 65 dBa. Add a little wind noise from a couple of antennas, and perhaps an open window, and the background level will be enough to trip any VOX regardless of its settings. Besides, everyone listening will know exactly what you think of the guy who just pulled out in front of you.

VOX

The term *VOX* stands for *Voice Operated Transmit*. It came into vogue with the advent of SSB (Single Sideband). A well executed VOX system will have VOX gain, VOX delay, and anti-VOX.

The VOX gain is separate from the mic gain, and is commonly set just a little higher. The VOX delay is the length of time the transmitter stays keyed after the input level drops below the VOX gain setting. The anti-VOX is set just above the level where the incoming audio trips the VOX. Obviously, there is some interaction, and successful adjustment isn't always easy.

If you set the VOX gain too high, every little nuance of background noise will trip it, even if you use a noise cancelling mic. Set the VOX delay too long, and you might miss the first word or two from the other station. If the anti-VOX is set too low, the incoming audio might trip the VOX on peaks. Set too high, and you won't be able to trip the VOX with your voice. And, if you set the gain higher to compensate you end up with a bunch of false trips.

Since mobile mics aren't always noise cancelling, this fact adds a level of complication to VOX (and to speech compression) operation. If you just have to use VOX, at least use a [headset](#) with a noise cancelling microphone. However, be aware as explained below.

Speech Compression

The use of speech processing has become the major bane of amateur radio operation, mobile or otherwise. Most amateurs who use it do not know how to properly set the microphone gain and compression controls, or use it when it

is not necessary (24/7)! They add insult by not using (or improperly adjusting) ALC, and have a propensity to tell you what you can do about your splatter complaint.

It's far too common to hear amplifier fan noise, the wife vacuuming, or the fact that the operator in question has a very bad cold, or at least sounds like it. Using speech processing while mobile is even worse! Every little nuance of engine noise, the AC fan, the kids in the back seat, and that squeak in the left quarter panel will be plainly heard. If you run an mobile amplifier, it increases the current load enough, that in most cases the average alternator can't keep up with it. My advice is obvious; don't use speech compression while operating mobile-in-motion. Alas, for some people, this admonition just isn't enough.

Noise Cancelling Mics

Noise cancelling mics come in a variety of configurations. How they work varies with the make, but the short answer is this; there are two ports for the mic element. One is short and direct, and other long. Properly designed (that's a poor assumption at best), a wave front closer to the main port will arrive sooner than the same wave at the second port, so the waves do not cancel each other (maybe).

A distant wave (several inches to several feet away) arrives at both ports about the same time, thus cancelling each other out. Good in theory, but poor in practice in most cases. But, let's be honest. Some noise cancelling mics are so good, you have to close-talk the mic (less than an inch away from your lips), or you won't be heard. Believe it or not, this is the best scenario, especially if you *just-have-to* use VOX. To be honest, anything less can't really be considered a noise cancelling device.

Alas, there is a drawback. Noise cancelling mics wreak havoc with speech compression. This is yet another reason to avoid using compression.

Other No-Nos

There are several devices commonly used on the CB frequencies which have no place in amateur radio, unless you want to be known as a LID (very poor operator).

One of these is the *Roger Beep*. I suppose there are instances when it's important to know when the other operator is finished speaking. However, using a *Roger Beep* mic is not the way to do it. As trite as it may sound, using the words *over*, or *back to you*, should be used as a courtesy if nothing else.

Another is the *echo chamber*. If you use one of these, don't expect me to answer your CQ!

Yet another is the power mic. Contrary to popular belief, 99% of the amateur transceivers have enough mic gain to make up for even the weakest and/or timidest of voices. About all a power mic will do, is create excessive IMD (Inter-Modulation Distortion). Read that as splatter and/or wide signals.

Odds & Ends

The fact that SSB doesn't have an inserted carrier like AM (it's actually removed on purpose), a lot of neophyte amateurs don't understand about power output meter readings. They think (incorrectly) that their wattmeter should read the full output power their transceiver is rated for. When they don't see it, they turn up the mic gain, sometimes, full-tilt! The truth is, depending on the dynamics of the wattmeter, and a few dozen other variables, the actual power reading maybe as low as 20 watts. Yet, the peak is a full 100 watts.

Even if you have a peak-reading wattmeter, the actual displayed value may be plus or minus 20%. The only real way to tell is look at the transmitted envelope on an oscilloscope. Even that might not tell you the story if it isn't calibrated correctly. So, whatever you do, don't use the mic gain, and/or compression gain, to make up for what you don't see!

Genesis Speakers

The Genesis Amateur Radio Society had the opportunity to have as speakers, **Paul and Dennis Foley**. Those men are experts in the field of vacuum tubes. They had over 3,000 vacuum tubes and could, with expertise give the proper name of each of the tubes. They passed around vacuum tubes to the members to get a close look at them as well as answering questions by the members. There were also papers (hand-outs) passed around to all the members. The big turnout on attendance reflects the appreciation of the two speakers. Besides, the great demonstration, **Paul and Dennis Foley** tested vacuum tubes that were brought in by some of the members. Enough emphasis cannot be expressed in the appreciation of those two men. Credit is given to **Ron Smith N1PXX** for arranging for **Paul and Dennis Foley** in coming to the meeting to give the demonstration. Appreciation also goes to **Bob Loring K1REL** for transporting the gentlemen to the club meeting.



Paul and Dennis Foley