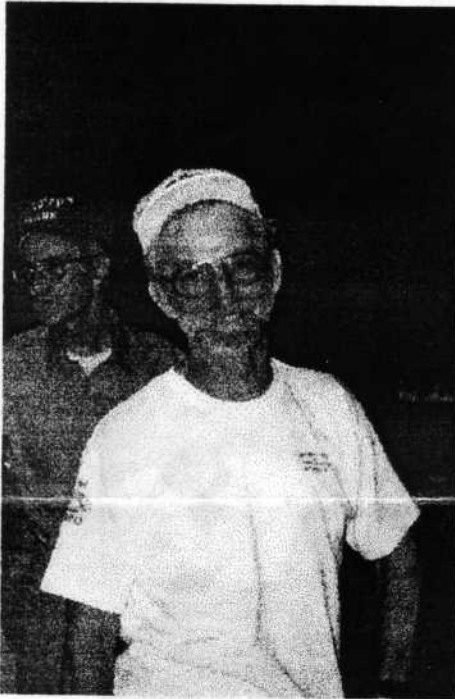


The "Centurion"

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KD5FW, JIM

1997 Eyeball Conclusion

by Jim KD5FW

The 20th annual eyeball has come and gone. The first thing I must do is thank those that helped me make it the success that it was. I know I will not thank everyone, but here goes. Without the hard work and backing of these dedicated members and their YL's I could never have put this thing together. My heartfelt thanks goes to all these fine folks, Jerry K5YAA, and his wife Carol, Nelson Wolfe, N5NW (ex AA5MP), Jim Richardson N5OHL and his xyl Linda and Fred Richardson, KB5MRU who talked Heil out of our major door prize. And the one that I have to thank the most is my family. My wife Carolyn spent many long hours helping to put this event together and never complained (well not very much), she deserves more of the credit than I do. Our daughter and son-in-law spent a lot of their time helping in the cause also.

The 1997, 20th annual was held at Sequoyah State Park on Lake Fort Gibson near Huibert, Ok. The park is located in what we call Oklahoma's Green Country and is located 8 miles east of Wagner Ok. The park is complete with-in itself, with activities for all including a gold course and all the lake activities and nature trails and center.

We had what I thought was a good turnout, as best as we could determine there was 64 members and 44 other guests for a total of 108. I'm sure we missed a few in all the confusion (what confusion, there's no confusion at our eyeballs). We had most of the country represented except for the northeast. We had a good turnout from California and the western states.

In conclusion I want to thank all those that attended, without y'all no eyeball can be a success. That's what the eyeballs are all about. The members and their families that travel long distances to see old friends and to make and meet new ones.

See y'all next year in Oregon

Editors Desk Moves West

Jim KD5FW

I'm sure that most of you have already noticed you have a new publisher and editor of the Centurion. I have over the past year been mulling over the idea of turning over the editors desk to a new editor. At the eyeball I made my desires known. After some persuasion Phyllis, KD6WPK accepted the duties of the editor and publisher of our newsletter. I have been at the helm for six years and believe its time for some new ideas and direction.

I have very much enjoyed my time at the desk, and want to thank all those that made contributions to the newsletter and made my job a lot eazier. I'm sure y'all will do the same for the new editor.

This is a very difficult article to write (my emotions keep getting in the way), so I'm going to cut it short and just say thanks for all the support and backing I have received over the years.

Inside This Issue

Meet the new Editor	P 2
CQ 6 LAND	P 2
Eyeball Stories	
N5OHL	p 3
WM9H	p 3
KO6OP	p 4
Meet KI7RI, Larry	p..5
Guess the Ham Answers	p..5
CW & RTTY	p..6
Century Club Officers	p..8
1998 Eyeball	p 8
August Board Meeting	p.10
September Board Meeting	p.11

Next Month More Eyeball Stories

and Pictures

Meet the New Editor KD6WPK Phyl Along with the better half KO6OP Geo. (a.k.a. "Opie")..

By KD6WPK Phyl

George and I retired to Kernville in 1988 to fish and lead the good life.

Geo. found ham radio in 1991, mostly 2 meter here in the valley. He then switched to satellite. so we got a Yaesu FT 736R, a small tower and two KLM Antennas.

But troubled times fell before erected, Geo suffered a severe "Heart Attack" and triple by-pass surgery.

Upon recovery he was helping to teach radio school for our local club. I attended to keep him in sight and 3 weeks later passed code and first written test. I received my lic. in June 1993 but didn't take to radio until Dec. 1993 when I received a Kenwood TS 450 SAT along with a 5 element Hi Gain Beam antenna, good for 10 meters I found 1010#s 1010 Chapters, Awards, Special Event stations, I was sold!

In July 1994 I obtained my General class lic. and 3 days later I found the 3905CC 40 meter early and late nets. Needless to say I was hooked. I used a 26ft. Butternut vertical multi-band antenna.

In October 1994 I found the Calif. QSO party, and decided I wanted to be a contest. Made all of 103 contacts. Not enough signal power and antenna.

In December 1994 I put up a U.S. Tower with a "Mosley Pro 67" antenna; what an improvement.

In 1995 while attending ARRL convention on the Queen Mary in Long Beach, I bought a Yaesu FT 1000 and then upgraded it to a FT 1000 D. (this is also when we first met KO6CS, Bill and AC6LU, Ray).

I also acquired a Henry 2 KD Classic amplifier So in October when the 1995 Ca. QSO party came, I was all ready. I made 413 contacts in 6 hours, I was in seventh heaven.

Our radio room contains the following equipment:

Kenwood 241 two meter and 440.

Kenwood 631, a 2meter and 220.

Yaesu FT 736R,

Kenwood TS 450 Sat;

Yaesu FT 1000D;

Pakrat 232 Multi Mode TNC;

DSP 2232 Multi-Mode TNC

386 computer,

Pentium 90 computer,

Compaq 133 pentium lap top

Cannon Color Bubble Jet printer;

Epson Printer,

Power supplies,

SWR meters and Rotor controls,

Timewave 59+,

Yaesu SP5 with built in Timewave filter

Canon KC720 Copier

Scanport color SQ9600

Heil boom mike's

Heil head sets

Henry 2-kd Classic table model

Henry 2-kd Classic floor model

The big joke around here is that I give "Opie" my old equipment, as I upgrade to better, HF gear.

The mascots of the radio room are a Springer named "Buford" (the name really fits this dog) and a Rottweiler named "Oprah" (Yes you guessed it, Big, Black, and Beautiful, that's how she got the name).

George's old call sign was KD6FDK "From Downtown Kernville". If you know Kernville you know the joke. No one felt he should change his call when he up-graded, but he wanted a "KO" call sign for Satellite. What a laugh when his new call came KO6"OP" (which is what we call Oprah), so there are times when the radio sounds off and the dog runs in to see who wants her..

How many people upgrade

and get their dogs name

for a new call sign??

I work the 40 meter early and late nets, the 75 meter early and late nets, when conditions allow, the Triple H net, the YL System, O Miss, again when conditions allow, Ares Races, Field Days and DXCC Butterfly net. Oh I look forward to contests, and Special Events.

We both belong to a Bakersfield Club and the Lake Isabella Radio Association. We attend both the Pacific and Southwest ARRL Conventions each year as in the Mtn.s we fall between the two areas.

I have been the 6th Area Director since March 1996, and have enjoyed meeting everyone. I have spent some time as a net controller for 40 meters and enjoyed it very much.

I have a younger sister KE4FEJ, Christina, who is a extra class mainly works DX, but is on the 3905 CC at times.

My older brother KM6BV, Harvey, lives in Anaheim and has been a ham for 45+ years. (but I can't talk him into joining the net).

"Opie" and I have been married for 44 years and have 4 sons: Mike 43, David 39, Bradley 37, (Brad is a Orange Co. Deputy), (Yes Deputy Dew) his call sign is KE6WUM) and Edward 35.. We have 10 grandsons and 2 granddaughters, and a Great granddaughter born 9-9-97.

"Opie" and I are also interested in Genealogy, which is also time consuming. Not much time for fishing, or horseback riding—"Opie's" other love.

When Jim talked to me about taking over the Centurion at the eyeball, I thought long and hard as I have been doing a newsletter CQ 6 LAND for the the 6th area and enjoyed doing it very much. I told him I would like to make changes

and he said that was acceptable so I am going to try and fill jim's shoe. Hope I can do as well.

I want to have the newsletter become a bi-monthly so we can be a little more current with events. It is still a \$1.00 per issue only, now it will be \$6.00 per year.

I would like to have the Pres. & Vice Pres. to do an article maybe they could switch everyother issue. I have asked if the area directors would like to do something for their area each month, either themselves or someone else in the area.

Would like to have the QSL bureau managers contribute whenever possible.

Information officer could do a article on what is available for members. (awards, information sheets, etc.). Letters to the Editor.

Net coordinators could also have space.



Space is available for any articles members would like to share.

I Would like to see pictures of members shacks and their antenna farms.

Help!! I need Bio's of members.

How, when, why you became ham.

Your station equipment: fixed & mobile

. What equipment you plan to add, why you like it, or equipment you don't like and why.

What area of ham radio you like—nets,—contesting—Dx—special events—club's you belong to—pet peeves—unusual contacts—unusual QSL cards—has ham radio helped you in your work or an emergency.

Are you married—spouse-name and interests—children—grandchildren—other hams in family.

Message to CQ 6 Land

Hi gang! As you can see, I have a new job and wanted to let you know I will still keep you informed, CQ 6 Land will be a column in the Centurion, so I can express views and vote in your interests.

Congratulations to all you award earners. Quite an impressive list this time. Keep up the good work. All extra envelopes for 6 land will be forwarded to Will for your cards. Any green stamps I have will send you the Centurion either as new sub scription or extend yours.

Cont. page 8 CQ 6 Land

"Eyeball Stories, Eyeball Trips, Eyeball Humor"

I had the car totally jam-packed with camping gear, coax, and radios all ready for the eyeball so that I could leave right after work on Wednesday. This would be my 6th eyeball with the Century Club. From Oklahoma City it was a short 3-hour trip to eastern Oklahoma's Green Country. My wife Linda, N5OJP, had made up some laminated "eyeball" signs. I stopped at various turning points to put these out. Did anyone see these? (Editors note: I saw them and they were adorable, I loved them). The eyeball site was empty when I arrived that afternoon, so I put up my 30-year old canvas tent. It was within extension cord length from the pavilion so I could run electricity to the tent. With the Oklahoma hot summer I had to have an all-important fan.

One of my volunteer duties was to coordinate the setup of the 40 and 75 meter stations. Jerry, K5YAA, came in Thursday morning with two new Delta dipoles. Normally dipoles are easy and quick to put up, right? But there is a little story here. Rudd KC5BAO came by to help us select just the right tree for the rock-throwing contest. I am not sure if the rock or tree won but we finally got the 40 meter antenna put up in an inverted vee configuration. First check on the SWR showed it was off the Chart!! So we changed coax, but it still off the scale. Then Jerry said that there was some sort of static suppressor on the antenna. We took down the antenna center then disconnect these two white wires. Up went the antenna again and so did the SWR. Down comes the antenna again. Jerry laughed when we realized we had disconnected the main feed wires!! The static suppressor was on the back. It was about an inch long and looked like a square resistor. Once that was removed, the antenna tested great. Before even thinking about putting up the 80-meter antenna, we removed the static suppressor. SWR for 75-meter antenna came out fine. Later I tested with my multi-meter the two static suppressors. The 75-meter one was OK, but the 40 meter one had a dead short! No wonder our SWR was off the chart.

Here is what we used for the rest of the station setup. On 40-meters we used Jerry's real nice-looking Kenwood TS-850 to feed RF into my new Ameritron 811H. Both performed very well during the eyeball nets. The Ameritron

put out about 800 watts and ran nice and cool the whole time.

Thanks go out to Steve N5SV (from where?) for bringing in the entire 75-meter station. This was a super-nice Yaesu FT-890 driving a "classic" Collins 30L-1amp. Steve your Collins 30L-1 looks almost brand new. Like the Ameritron, it uses four 811a tubes. This station cooked along with about 500 watts output (and literally heated the entire end of the pavilion). It too performed very well on both evenings. We almost decided to use the 30L-1 to cook the hot dogs, but Steve N5SV (from where?) said the capacitors impart a funny taste.

On 40 M net, president Frank AA0ZP took-up



the list both nights. As is normal at the eyeball, from then on the operation rotates around to those that want to net control for just a few calls. It is great fun and very interesting to watch sometimes. On 75-meters Jerry K5YAA and Bill N5FLD got the list going before turning it over to those that wanted to be temporary net control. I was very pleased that even with two stations only about 40 feet apart, we had no interference between sites.

On the second night of the eyeball nets, the nearby campers complained about the noise level and lights (well we were just having fun!). So to comply with camp rules about the 11 o'clock quiet time and lights out, we decided to run the nets by flashlight and using headphones. Barry AC6LY was just starting the 40 meter late net. The glow of the tubes and flashlights gave the station an "errie" atmosphere. Barry kept going on 40. Most folks had already gone to bed but we all had

great fun passing around the headphones. I trust everyone now has plenty of portable Oklahoma contacts.

I recommend that everyone attend the next eyeball. Make your vacation plans now. Perhaps get a mobile antenna for the vehicle and put out some new states. Bring the whole family and you will have a great time. Hope to see you next August in Oregon.

By N5OHL Jim

Attendance at the "eyeball" requires advance planning to set up travel arrangements. This is specially true for those intending to drive their cars/trucks/motorhomes. The experiences of these travelers are often humorous, interesting, and informative. The following story is a condensed and slightly modified version, of one of our Century Club members trip report.

....Road Warrior

Gene, WM9H, set forth on a journey (by car) to the "eyeball and encountered many challenges that are worthy of mention.

..After leaving Wisconsin, Gene entered a road maize in Missouri that included a revolving door feature to collect toll charges. Gene cycled through the same toll gate 3 times and is now on a first name basis with the toll clerk.

..Next on the itinerary, Memphis and Elvis Graceland mansion. Somehow Gene strayed off the main path and found himself in a neighborhood that he would not wish on his worst enemy, (Chicago Bears football team). Gene escaped to a West Memphis motel where he set-up his car radio and checked-in with the 3905 net. Moments later, a cloud of mosquitos forced Gene to run for cover. QRT!!

..After escaping Memphis, Gene entered Arkansas and more difficulty with road signs. Did I mention that his road map was produced on his home computer program? His next stop was to a friends house which was located in a guarded compound. While Gene was being interrogated by the sentry, his friend suffered a heart attack and Gene decided that it was time to "move on down the line".

Cont. page 4 See Eyeball

