
OFARC Monthly Meeting Minutes 2025_0927

The meeting was called to order by Mark WB5ANN at 0913.

Today is a show and tell about how to set up antenna and how to use the tools to assemble antenna. Warning to everyone, use a sensor when drilling into the wall of any location that you do not know what is behind the sheetrock, so that you do not get shocked, start a fire, or end up with a big electrician or Emergency Room bill.

A demo of how to test for live electrical outlets was given. The non-contact testers were given. Klein Tools has a good low and line voltage tester. The Klein has an O-Ring to keep it water “proof” and the new ones have a flashlight built into the tester. The Klein testers have near contact that will indicate the presence of voltage. The narrow slot on an electrical outlet is supposed to be the hot, and the wider slot is SUPPOSED to be the neutral on modern wiring. The Fluke brand is a lot more bulky, and the original ones failed to have a battery tester. Milwaukee Brand has started licensing their name to Home Depot and so you do not know what you will be getting in that brand. Capacitor testers are great for working with radio parts. Electricians are often color blind, and a white wire may be wired as a black wire should be, therefore, you need to be able to test your wires to be sure it is wired correctly. If a white wire has black tape wrapped around it, they probably ran out of black wire and just wrapped a white wire with black electrical tape to mark it as “hot”.

Fluke and Southwire handheld electrical testers were shown.

Get a bag to hold your gear and eye protection, preferably insulated screwdrivers, pliers, side cutters, utility knife, scissors for small wire cutting, coaxial cable cutters, wire strippers, vice grips, crimping tools adjustable wrenches, razor knife, electrical tape., soldering iron,

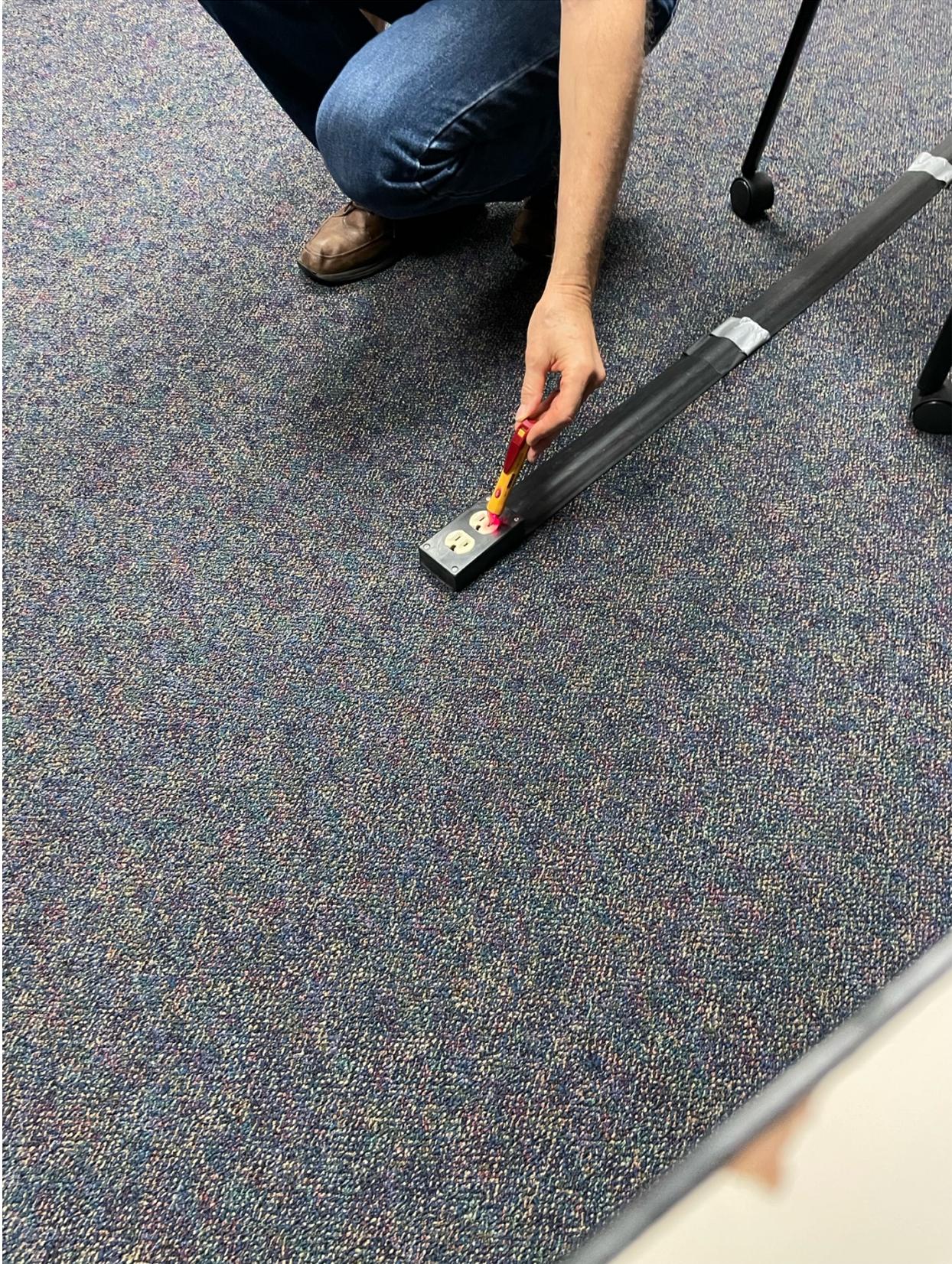
Low Voltage is up to 48 volts, which can kill you under the correct circumstance.

Four people took and passed the HAM license exam this morning. All passed! One person wanted a license to use in Dubai, one for contacting relatives in Oregon, one for working as a HAM radio coordinator at the air show, and one to use off shore (boating) to have better communication with emails and other communications on oil rigs.

14.300 MHz was mentioned as a World Wide Marine radio frequency, so if you're in a boat, make sure your radio is tuned to that frequency.

Pictures below are of voltage tester, and various tool collections for use in soldering things together. The first picture is of a test of the voltage running through an extension cord, then the Klein tester itself, then a 2-prong neon bulb tester being demonstrated, then a picture of Soldering Irons, and then a picture of a tool kit with various solders, and tools to use in the

process of soldering including a couple of heat sinks for keeping the hot tip of the soldering iron off of a surface that is being used to solder things together. The picture with the red bag is tools for use in helping to prepare or to hold things to be soldered. A good idea is to have rubber bands to hold the handles of pliers together so that they can hold wires steadily as they are being soldered - a makeshift vise. The last picture is of a 3 voltage testers along with coins for scale.



Klein non-contact tester in use



Klein non-contact tester in closeup



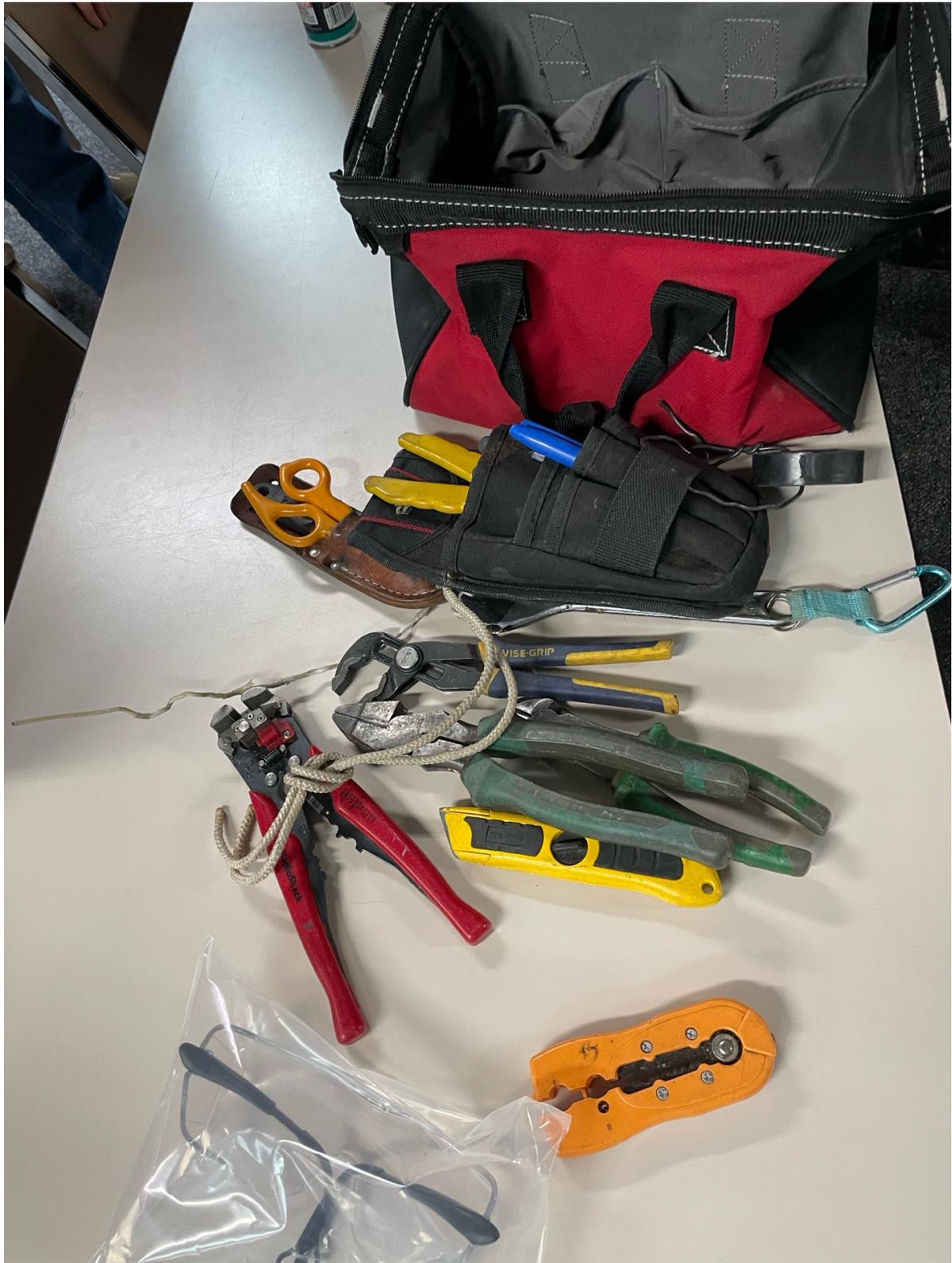
Neon bulb, low tech, voltage tester - one or both electrodes will glow at about 50V.



Heatsinks provide a resting place for hot irons.



Various soldering Irons and butane torch for preheating coax connectors.



Assorted Tools Used for Repeater Antenna Maintenance



Pen style multimeter (contact), Southwire and Fluke non-contact testers

Links:

An example of a non-contact Klein voltage tester for under \$30 is available through Amazon at this link: https://www.amazon.com/Klein-Tools-NCVT2P-12-1000V-Flashing/dp/B07L5N8ZWS/ref=sr_1_8?

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Pen Style Multimeter:

https://www.alibaba.com/product-detail/ZL12B-Intelligent-Digital-Display-Test-Pen_1601251307726.html

Minutes Recorded by Ken Wenzel, KW5KEN