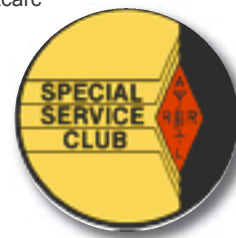




THE HAMCALL



Volume 44

Number 8

August 2005

The Presidents Corner... By Jeff Martin, WB4JM



I arrived back at the house this last week in BG the first thing that came to mind that I missed most was Ham Radio. I walked into my shop, saw my dormant radios sitting on the desk, saw my electronics bench full of wire and other junk, and all sorts of pleasant memories came up from the depths of the gray matter. Ham Radio has been the only hobby I have been involved with since my child hood and it never fails to provide immense enjoyment in working with equipment and making good friends.

Isn't Ham Radio Great! I just recently returned from the National Boy Scout Jamboree held near Washington D.C. where I was with about 42,000 other Scouts. It was hot; 105 with a heat index of 115. When I was with the Scouts I did not watch any TV, did not read any newspapers, did not send any emails, and did not operate any ham equipment. I was electronic free for almost three weeks! But when

I will never forget my first Ham Club meeting. I lived in Nebraska (while going to college) and just a few months prior obtained my novice ticket. The engineers working at the same TV station gave me the test right there in the equipment shop. They were mentoring me and told me when my license came in the mail (no internet then) they would help me get

a hand-held radio (it turned out to be a Wilson brick) and take me to the next Ham meeting. I was so excited. There were several other activities that I participated in with those guys that will be with me until who knows when. I sincerely hope that you have the same type of memories and experiences like I have had and meet the same type of wonderful people.

It has been reported to me that the code class is going well. If you have any questions about the class please contact John Reasoner, WA4QMQ.

We all should thank Hank Cantrell, W4HTB, Dean Maggard K4NQV, and Kittye Maggard KG4AJE for planning the awards night to include the banquet. They have volunteered to chair both committees. On other note, I have reserved the shelter at Convington Woods park for the September Picnic/Swap-Fest; more to come in the September HamCall but for now start thinking about stuff you want to sell or swap. The last committee we have to fill is the nominating committee. If you don't have much experience with such or are a recent club member, don't let that stop you. I will coach you and help you along. These are just the types of individuals we need! They are eager and energetic and want to serve the club and its members but more importantly, they want to make a difference!



Code Class

See you at the meeting.

73's

- Jeff

Monthly Program

By John Coe, KY4COE
Vice President Elect.

No submission.

Minutes & Sec/Tres Report

By Claire Rinehart, KF4IWX
Secretary/Treasurer

The July KCARC meeting was conducted by Jeff Martin. Business included:

- A report on the grounding of the tower at the police department.
- Code class is starting and will be held at 6 PM on Tuesday evenings at the Christian Church on 11th and State Street. John Reasoner, WA4QMQ, will conduct the class.
- The KCARC did not receive funding from the Homeland Security grant that was submitted earlier this year, however, we would like to thank Jeff and those that helped put this together.

We have a need for chair persons for the following committees:

- Picnic committee
- Awards Banquet committee
- Nominating committee

If you can help out with one of these, please contact Jeff Martin, WB4JM, at 796-8577 or at jeff.martin@wku.edu.

The program consisted of a tape on Ham radio during Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. As usual, all had a good time!

We had a new ham visit the meeting, Mike McClure, KI4JGQ. If you hear him on the air introduce yourself and invite him back.

73's - Claire

"CW" Ole Morse Code

CW, confused words, curse words and to some confirmed wisdom. No matter what you may think or how you may or may not use CW it is the backbone of the amateur hobby. It's not for everyone. Neither is sewing, painting or any other hobby you may undertake. But it is part of our hobby and we need to treat it with the respect that you would want shown to anything you might try to master.

Our hobby has so many avenues to choose from that we may at any one time change our minds or directions and never get tired of what we're doing or learning. There is AM, FM, repeater, simplex, digital, SSB, moon bounce, satellite, slow scan, fast scan, HF, VHF, UHF, a combination of two or more and then to top it all off there is echo link that could do just about any one of the afore mentioned modes. But, and there is always a well so what or a but, if it weren't for CW the invention of these other modes would probably never happened as CW brought together the ways and means for the amateur radio to move forward.

There are translators, teaching machines, Elmer's, software, hardware and traffic training nets for CW. Many books have been written on this subject and hundreds if not thousands of "I did it this way and it worked for me" stories have been told. To some it is easy, to some it's hard and to some it was something they'd never be able to achieve. There have even been medical waivers given by the FCC to accommodate those with hearing or writing disabilities.

For years the different CW steps separated the men from the boys as just about everyone could learn 5 words per minute (wpm). But it took time and study to develop the ability to send and receive 13 wpm and even more time and dedication to master 20 wpm. As time moved on it waited for no one and the different modes and operational aspects of the hobby were developed. The author is not saying though that

2005 KCARC OFFICERS

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Vice President Elect:

John Coe, KY4COE

Vice President:

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Dean Maggard, K4NQV

www.angelfire.com/ky/kcArc

HamCall Editor: Jeff Martin, WB4JM

For editorial questions, call Jeff at

(270) 796-8577 or email Jeff at

jeff.martin@wku.edu



2005 KCARC Meeting Dates (Third Friday)

January 21
February 18
March 18
April 15
May 20
June 17
June 25-26 (Field Day)
July 15
August 19
September 16 (Picnic)
October 21 (Elections)
October 31 (Bridge Watch)
November 18 (Annual Dinner)
December 17 (Sat Morning)

if you don't do CW or you're a no code tech that you're not a ham. No, I am just saying that the ole timers who have their code requirements have something on us and most, if not all of them, either operate on or have investigated the other avenues of the hobby. As a singer learns a new song it is not just the words they write it's the music that makes those words have meaning and to a CW operator the music and rhythm of CW is music to their ears which bring them meaning.

The FCC has dropped the 13 and 20 wpm criteria but they have not dropped the CW sub-bands nor should they. We have a special place on the bands for each of our modes and CW should not have to give up their sub-bands to accommodate the new modes that that have been developed or those that are being developed. To ask those who appreciate confirmed wisdom or CW we need to give them the courtesy and the place to enjoy it without complaints or uncertainties.

What I'm saying folks is that we need to have compassion for those who like CW as well as those who do not like it. There is room for all of us and we need to make sure that each part or mode of our hobby is used to it fullest if we expect to keep our frequencies. I'm not belittling anyone who has not mastered the art of CW. What I am trying to get across is to live life to it's fullest enjoy what you're doing and have respect for those who do things different than you. Our hobby will flourish and good will be shown. Remember it's easy to say that you're a good operator but it's another thing to live it.

73's
John D. Meyers, NB4K
Kentucky Section Manager
Great Lakes Division

WEAVER'S WORDS

Inside this issue...

- BOARD APPROVES REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH
- EXPLANATION
- THE MOST IMPORTANT PROJECT
- LETTERS TO CONGRESS - THANKS
- ELECTIONS

BOARD APPROVES REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH

The ARRL Board of Directors approved a proposal to segregate amateur bands based upon bandwidth of transmitted signal. This method of assigning sub-bands would replace the current system that designates where we may operate by our mode of transmission. If adopted, essentially all that would change is the way we refer to sub-bands.

For example, where we currently think in terms of frequencies open to SSB, we instead would think in terms of where we could use its approximate bandwidth. This bandwidth is typically considered to be about 2.7-2.8 kHz. SSB sigs would fit very nicely into the 3.5 kHz sub-band that would be available to them. (I pushed for a wider sub-band, but this didn't work out.) Similar situations would relate to CW, the several digital forms, etc.

The big deal about this proposal is that it would enable hams to return to the leading edge of development in communication technology. And, yes, there are provisions for AM, FM, etc.

Whenever changes are made in long established practices, confusion often occurs. Not surprisingly, this is true of the Bandwidth regulation proposal. What is the uncertainty?

The principal question I've been asked is, How am I supposed to measure the bandwidth of my transmissions?

The answer: The Bandwidth proposal would require us to do nothing we are

**Next Meeting
Friday
August 19th
Bowling Green
Police Station
7:00pm**

not required to do now. Unless someone is involved in in-depth development of new forms of transmission, we generally don't measure bandwidth, now. We will not need to measure it in the future.

Think of it this way. Under existing regulations, we talk in terms of SSB, ATV, SSTV, CW, etc. What actually is going on is that the regs authorize us to use these modes provided the signals we transmit satisfy requirements of good operating practices -- which include proper transmitted bandwidth. Even though we think in terms of mode, we operate in terms of bandwidth.

As typical operators we generally rely on the quality of our equipment and its components, as well as on reports of the quality of our signal (that we receive from fellow hams or by monitoring our own transmitted signals) to determine that our SSB, CW, PSK-31 or other emission quality is good and inside designated sub bands. Nothing about the Bandwidth proposal would change this.

EXPLANATION

One tradition in the Great Lakes Division is that the Director and Vice Director travel to club meetings, hamfests/swaps and similar local events throughout the year. These visits bring ARRL to its members. I totally support this tradition. Recently, though, a short-term medical problem has made it difficult for me to travel. You deserve to know the problem is being solved and I will be able to

resume my normal routine, soon. In the meantime, please accept my apology for limiting much of my travel.

If you have any questions about this, let me know.

THE MOST IMPORTANT PROJECT -- AND WHY

To succeed at nearly anything, we must learn to control our destiny! Boy, have my children and grandchildren, even people who reported to me at work heard this statement of one of my philosophies on life . . . often. What this means is that if we want something to be done, we need to take responsibility for making it happen.

What would you identify as the single, most important accomplishment Amateur Radio should pursue in order to protect and expand our great Service? Is it protecting our frequencies? Or is it attracting new hams to the fold? Or what about guaranteeing amateurs the right to erect antenna supports and antennas without being hassled? Is this the most important thing?

As important as these are, none tops my most-important list. First on my list of critically most important projects is ARRL's non-partisan Grassroots Lobbying. When properly pursued, Grassroots will make success possible in many other highly important projects.

Grassroots Lobbying? You bet. We need to be able to work the legitimate systems available to us to attain our legitimate objectives. The political system is a very important one of these systems. Like it or not, everything we do in life is impacted by politics. Our personal involvement with politics begins with many of the interactions we as youngsters have with our parents. And, can you think of any aspect of life that is more politically charged than the relationship between wife and husband?

But ARRL is a non-profit organization and cannot legally become involved in

politics, you say.

Not so, I reply. Non-profit organizations, ARRL included, may legally enter into the political arena provided they follow IRS rules. These rules essentially require us to avoid involvement in partisan politics (e.g. not to act on the basis of political parties) and to limit expenses incurred in lobbying to specified percentage of our income. Lobbying within these limits can be highly effective.

ARRL qualifies fully in all respects to lobby in favor of our non-partisan, pro-Amateur Radio agenda. Failing to lobby can mean disaster for ham radio.

Why, would any of us want to get involved in politics though? This answer is simple for us who really enjoy Amateur Radio as a hobby as well as for us who appreciate the tremendous contributions of hamming to public service.

What is the most important thing individual amateurs can do to make our lobbying effort effective? Follow the through on the strategies developed nationally as these are provided to you through the Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio State Legislative Action Coordinators.

What is about the worst thing you can do? Choose, as is your right, to be a loner . . . to ignore the advice attributed to Abraham Lincoln that "if we all do not hang together, we shall surely all hang separately."

Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT has accepted my request to head the Grassroots effort in the Division (Division Legislative Action Chairman). The State Legislative Action Coordinators who manage this program in their states are Gregory Baize, Sr., KG4VJC (Kentucky), Val Rose, N8EXV (Michigan) and Jim Ashman, W8ASH (Ohio). You may hear from one of these Division leaders.

One important point to recognize is that the Grassroots Lobbying Program is separate from the Section Government Liaison (SGL) program.

Grassroots Lobbying is focused on national legislation. SGLs limit their activities to intra-state activities.

LETTERS TO CONGRESS

Since my last newsletter, many more (still far from all) Division members have written their US Representatives urging them to support H.Res. 230. To you who have written, thanks for your help.

ELECTIONS,

In case you missed the notices, elections for Director and Vice Director of our Great Lakes Division will be held in just a few weeks. I am pleased to say I've learned there will be about six candidates for these offices. This provides testimony to the level of importance Division members assign to ARRL. Full members will receive ballots in the mail. Watch QST for further information. I encourage you to review carefully the qualifications of each candidate and vote for the candidate of your choice for each position. Be sure to participate in selecting the people who will represent you in Newington.

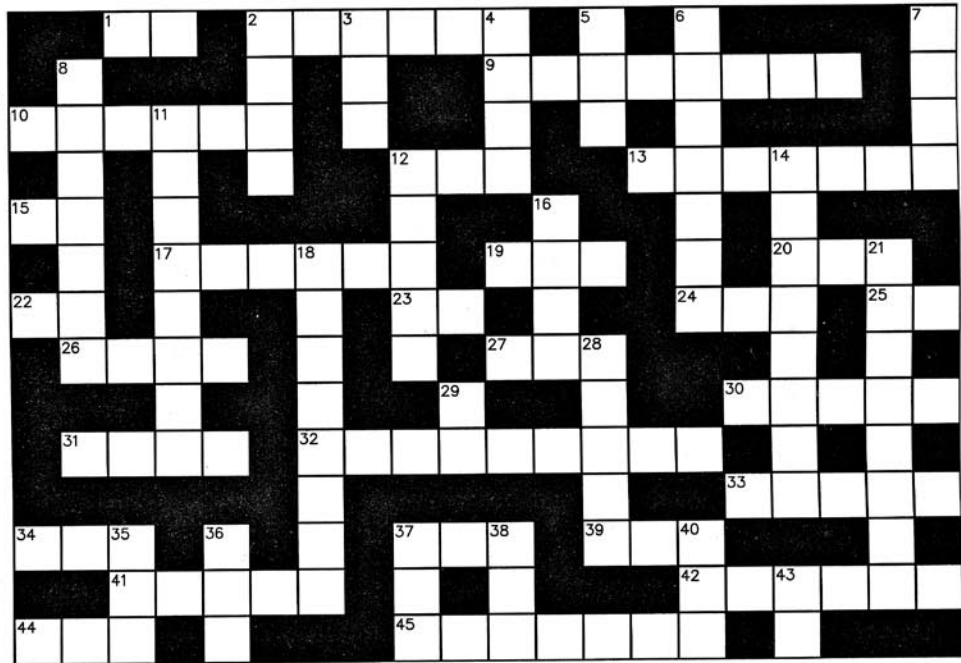
73, more later,

Jim Weaver, K8JE
Director, Great Lakes Division ARRL;
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Tel.: 513-459-0142; E-mail:
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ARRL: The reason Amateur Radio Is!
MEMBERS: The reason ARRL Is!

Bit, Snak, Nybl and Byte— A Digital Crossword!

ACROSS

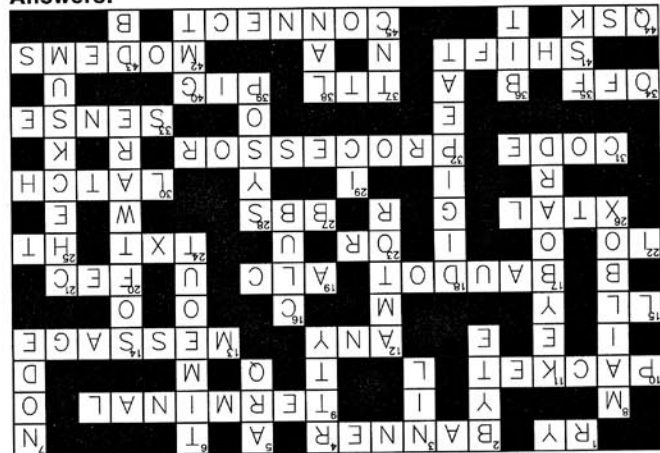
- 1 Alternating teletype mark-space
- 2 Sign-on message
- 9 Dumb device
- 10 Group of bytes transporting data on a network
- 12 Opposite of none
- 13 Passed as "traffic"
- 15 Landline (abbr)
- 17 Invented teletype code
- 19 Controls level automatically (abbr)
- 20 Allows error correction without retry (abbr)
- 22 Computer data export
- 23 Opposite of AND
- 24 Filename extension for text files
- 25 Hand-held radio (abbr)
- 26 The ham's "rock"
- 27 Bulletins post here (abbr)
- 30 Captures data
- 31 Patterns of symbols
- 32 A micro_____
- 33 Detect (synonym)
- 34 Not on
- 37 Logic family
- 39 Another type of ham
- 41 Change from numbers to letters
- 42 These modulate and demodulate (plural)
- 44 Full break-in keying (Q-signal)
- 45 Establish a link



DOWN

- 2 A pair of nybls
- 3 Nothing
- 4 Oldest electromechanical mode (abbr)
- 5 Request repeat automatically
- 6 Too long of a wait
- 7 Network junction
- 8 Keeper of message
- 11 Human data entry device
- 12 Digital HF mode (abbr)
- 14 The brains behind the operation
- 16 Group of enthusiasts
- 18 Digital relay
- 21 Error checking calculation
- 28 The person who runs the system
- 29 Miniature electronic device (abbr)
- 35 Encode by changing frequency (abbr)
- 36 Smallest quantity of information
- 37 Controller for packet radio (abbr)
- 38 Wired network (abbr)
- 40 Olde English time (abbr)
- 43 Popular type of RS-232 connectors

Answers:



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KCARC CLUB MEETS AT THE BOWLING GREEN POLICE STATION COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM. 911 KENTUCKY ST.

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THE FORTH DISTRICT ARES NET MEETS 7 NIGHTS A WEEK AT 9:00PM LOCAL TIME. REPEATER FREQUENCY 147.330 MHZ, KA4CFW. SECONDARY REPEATER 147.165 MHZ, W4WSM.

Local Repeaters

Two -Meters

147.060+	PL156.7	K4LOL (CLUB)
147.165+		W4WSM
147.330+		KA4CFW
146.655-		W4WSM
145.450-		KG4FEJ (Echo-link)

440MHz

444.100+		W4WSM
444.700+	PL136.5	WB4JM (IRLP 4678)

(Use the # key before dialing any IRLP node number)

444.850+	PL103.5	N4GER (Horse Cave)
444.475+	PL103.5	N4GER (Mam Cave)
444.425+	PL103.5	N4GER (Morgantown)
444.900+	PL179.9	N4GER (Leitchfield)

ATV

439.25 AM IN - W4HTB
1280.00 FM Out - W4HTB
421.25 AM Out (CH-57) - W4HTB

THE HAMCALL

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Alvalton, KY 42122