



THE HAMCALL



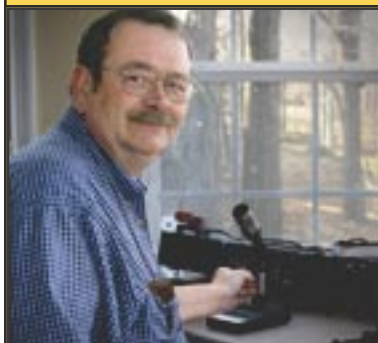
Volume 45

Number 6

June 2006

The Presidents Corner...

By John Coe, KY4COE



No Submission

Minutes & Sec/Tres Report

By Claire Rinehart, KF4IWX
Secretary/Treasurer

The current balance after paying the annual insurance premiums and state registration fees stand at \$1181.07. We added a new member, Warren Willoughby, WA4MWN.

- Claire

Monthly Program

By Henry Cantrell, W4HTB
Vice President Elect.

The program for June will be discussion and preparation for Field Day by Bill Feldkamp, KI4B, Field Day Chairman.

- Hank

ARES News

By Jeff Martin, WB4JM
Warren County ARES EC

Thanks to all who helped out the Bowling Green League of Bicyclist "Tour De Cave" bike ride. It was a great success and the Bike Club was very appreciative of our efforts (they gave us all a free T-Shirt - \$15 value). We manned five check points and put two Hams in SAG (support & gear) vehicles (John Coe and Claire Rinehart). We handled several types of traffic to include a bike wreck (no one was seriously hurt). Mike Kallstrom operated at Railton with Cross Band repeat; this allowed Mike to rove the area with just a hand-held. Fred Flowers repeaters were off the air at the time so Ben Runner, W4WSM, gave us permission to use his. We may

be asked to provide comm support for the Special Olympics "Rebel Ride" on September 23rd. If you are interested please mark your calendar and let me know you want to assist. The Hams that volunteered for the "Tour De Cave" were:

- Barry Scanlan, KY4K
- Mike Kallstrom, NU4Q
- Bill Feldkamp, KI4B
- Marilyn Feldkamp
- Marshall Love, KC4WFN
- John Moser, KG4TOO
- Bonnie Jean Moser, KG4ZYG
- John Coe, KY4COE
- Claire Rinehart, KF4IWX

Ron Dodson, ARRL EM for Kentucky has an article that is in this HamCall that we all should read, "Ten Commandments of Tower and ECOMM Safety." With Field Day just around the corner, we can never be too safe.

73's
- Jeff

ARRL Field Day 2006

By Bill Feldkamp, KI4B
Field Day Chairman

FIELD DAY 2006 is almost upon us! Of course for the Kentucky Colonel Amateur Radio Club it is the primary social and operating event of the year. Operating is what we do, but you just cannot chow down any better than our 6 PM pot luck meal on Saturday night. Our June Meeting is the last chance for everyone to gather together and finalize our FD Plans.

One of Bill's, KI4B, field day coordinating goals is to provide an opportunity for everyone to get involved. FD is not just for a few - it is for every member of the Club.



What are YOU doing this FD? Could be you are helping with the before or after pot luck details. Maybe you are the one who throws lines over the trees to pull dipoles up. Bring along a can full of gas for the generators. Help set up one of the stations. Assemble the beam. Raise the tower. Man the visitor welcome table or explain an aspect of ham radio to a guest. Are you going to operate a radio? How about keeping a log or a dup sheet for one of the stations? Maybe both. Maybe you could just spell the regular operator or contact logger to give them a brief break. What are YOU doing this FD? The cumulative effects of every one's active support is what makes for a memorable FD.

At the June meeting we will confirm and gather details about all the actions and issues discussed last month, as well as focus on signing up operator and logger times for the stations and finalizing all the last minute details. Come prepared to ask your questions and provide your answers.

73, Bill, KI4B

Ten Commandments of Tower and EMCOMM Safety.

By Ron Dodson, KA4MAP
ARRL KY Section EC

THE WORKSHOP
PROJECTS FOR EMCOMM OPERATORS
- by D.W. Thorne, K6SOJ
An EM basic studies training module

This month...as result of a tragic accident...we focus on SAFETY. Permission is granted to reproduce and re-publish this article in its entirety and with credit to: EMCOMM MONTHLY at: <<http://www.emcomm.org>> www.emcomm.org

On May 14, 2006, Amateur Radio lost one of its best. Ron Spears, W7IX, of Keno, Oregon, was killed in a tragic antenna tower accident. He was 44. He was in the process of taking down a 40M 4-element beam from atop a 150 ft. tower. Ron was an expert DXer and Morse operator. He also was an experienced tower man and was on the crew when the tower and antenna was first erected at the "world class" DX station of the late Ray Balch, K6VX, SK about 15 years ago.

The station is one mile from my home and I used to look at the tower out my living room window. I was not present when the accident occurred, but have visited the site three times since. I am not a professional engineer or accident investigator. It appears that a 1/2 inch rope was being used to support the 260 lb. beam, over a pulley/gin pole, and was belayed/anchored to a large tree. Apparently the rope separated about half-way between the pulley and the ground causing the beam to fall striking one or more guy cables causing the 18x18x18 tower to collapse.

This tragedy has deeply affected many. It should also serve to remind us that SAFETY FIRST is still the best motto.

As radio amateurs tower work is not the only risk factor. Working with higher voltages (even 110 v.a.c. can be lethal) is cause for constant vigilance. EMCOMM Operators on field assignments are at an increased a risk. Vehicle accidents, injuries from direct hazards such as fire and floods, falling debris, tripping over some small object or even stepping on a nail, can render you out of commission for weeks. Most of us know the proper safety precautions...but we can get careless. Again, I am NOT a professional safety engineer, but as an attempt to promote safety, and maybe save lives, below are a few safety tips...especially relative to tower work.

TEN COMMANDMENTS OF TOWER and EMCOMM SAFETY:

1. Have a plan for every project.
2. Do not hesitate to ask for help and/or advice.
3. Know your own limitations!
4. Consider hiring a professional tower installer to do the job...especially for larger installations.
5. Have an adequate crew for every job. No less...and no more than is necessary. If you must have a party...do it afterwards. Onlookers are a hazard!
6. Make sure all helpers know their job assignment...and understand the plan.
7. Have all tools and other equipment ready and handy.
8. Always be sure that the working load rating is well above (a minimum of 3 X the actual weight being lifted or supported is not unreasonable). Make sure that your climbing harness and all ropes are in "like new" condition and undamaged. THE SLIGHTEST ABRASION OR "NICK" IN A ROPE CAN CAUSE FAILURE! If you don't know how to properly rig ropes and

2006 KCARC OFFICERS

President:

John Coe, KY4COE

Vice President Elect:

Henry Cantrell, W4HTB

Vice President:

Tim Robinson, KF4MGU

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Dean Maggard, K4NQQ

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



2006 KCARC Meeting Dates (Third Friday)

January 20
February 17
March 17
April 21
May 12
May 19-21 Hamvention
June 16
June 24-25 (Field Day)
July 21
August 18
September 15 (Picnic)
October 20 (Elections)
October 31 (Bridge Watch)
November 17 (Annual Dinner)
December 16 (Sat Morn.)

cables...don't even try! Hire a professional antenna/tower installer instead. Use only locking carabineers. (Or use two non-locking 'beeners reversed.) NEVER use hardware store chain or rope clips. Use of a second safety line or belay is highly recommended!

9. Always wear sturdy boots. This also applies to all field assignments. Do you keep a pair of old boots shoes in your vehicle...just in case? (I once saw a person show up on a SAR call out wearing shorts and flip-flops!) Appropriate protective footwear, clothing, gloves, goggles, a respirator, a dust mask, or a bandana is a must at fires, floods, earthquakes...and just about every other disaster.

10. Everyone who climbs a tower ought to always wear an approved climbing helmet (with chin strap). All ground crew members ALWAYS wear an OSHA approved construction hard hat. NO EXCEPTIONS! A falling 3/8" bolt can kill! Instruct the ground crew: "Don't be looking up." A hard hat won't do much good if something falls and lands in your face. If you must observe stay well out from under the tower area and be sure to wear proper eye and/or face protection! Keep children and pets out of the work area and use low power HT's crew comm. (If you plan on wearing a helmet on emergency or disaster assignments, try to avoid standard fire dept. colors (white=chief, red=engineer, yellow=fire fighter, etc.) Check your local supplier or search on the Internet for "hard hats" you will find many choices. I found several vendors with prices below \$5.00. Pretty cheap life insurance! Why not get a group order together (same style, same color) for your ARCT or other emcomm team? Some vendors offer custom imprinting. Example: TYPE I ARCT or COMMUNICATIONS Here are some sources you can check:

<http://www.tasco-safety.com/hard-hat-head-protection.html>

<http://www.tasco-safety.com/hard-hat-head-protection.html>

(I prefer the dark blue full brim 6 point suspension style for \$8.50)

<http://www.tasco-safety.com/hhats/inexpensive-Pyramex-hard-hats.html#HP24110>

<http://www.tasco-safety.com/hhats/inexpensive-Pyramex-hard-hats.html#HP24110>

<http://www.hardhats.4ursafety.com/>

[index.html](#)

<http://www.hardhats.4ursafety.com/>

[index.html](#)

(This company has some pretty exotic hard hat designs such as camo, patriotic, "support our troops", even "cowboy style"!)

WORK AND PLAY SAFELY ... WHETHER AT HOME OR IN THE FIELD!

Weaver's Words

In this issue --

- BPL -- Good News Continues
- Dayton Hamvention®
- ARRL Members Forum at Hamvention
- DFing
- Scholarship Winners
- Question No. 2 -- You asked. Here is the answer.
- My Travel Plans

BPL -- GOOD NEWS CONTINUES

I continue to be optimistic about the future of BPL. As you may recall, we have been successful at getting a favorable amendment inserted into HB 5252, the US House of Representatives version of the Communications Act rewrite. This amendment would require the FCC to ensure any BPL system they allow to operate will not interfere with the operation of any licensed telecommunications service. This means the FCC must ensure BPL does not interfere with safety services communications systems . . . and Amateur Radio. There is nothing for us to do at this time on this bill, but you will be asked at the proper time to write your Congressman to support the bill.

We also have received word that a high-ranking US Senator has come out in support of including similar wording in the US Senate version of the Communications Act rewrite. Again, you will be requested to write in support of Senate action when the proper time comes.

In each case, our success came largely as the result of letters written by our members in key Congressional Districts regarding HB 5252 and in a key state regarding the Senate rewrite wrote to their Congressman

and their Senator, respectfully.

Grassroots action works! Grassroots action is legal! Grassroots action is honorable! Grassroots action is smart! Grassroots action is the only way you, the member, can help ensure your Amateur Radio survives and remains healthy.

If you'd like to learn what you can do to become more involved in our grassroots Legislative Action Program, send me an E-mail request. I'll be happy to be certain you receive information.

Final thought: The news about BPL may be pretty good on several fronts these days, but there is still a lot of work to be done. We need your help to ensure victory. Please help when the time comes.

DAYTON HAMVENTION

My observation is that the Hamvention was a tremendous success for the Hamvention Committee, the Dayton ARA and the vendors -- ARRL included. We don't know, yet, what the profit/loss statement for ARRL's EXPO will be for this year, but EXPO was an unquestionable success. Once again, it brought thousands of amateurs and many of the Directors, officers and staff of ARRL to meet face to face. The members were able to put faces on the people they elected and the people who in turn were hired to serve the League by the elected officials. The elected and hired people were able to put faces to members whom they serve. When this occurs, it is more difficult for anyone to consider an elected official, employee or a member as being uncaring or unintelligent. This brings us all a better appreciation of each other so that we can, together, work toward resolving the problems we all as radio amateurs face.

You may not have known it, but the man who sold you a new Handbook at EXPO might just have been Bob Vallio, W6GRG, Director from the Pacific Division. The fellow who handed you your PASSPORT might just have been Director Jay Bellows, K0QB of the Dakota Division. Also available in EXPO as well as at several of the forums, were President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, Vice President Kay Craigie, K3KN, Central Division Director Dick Isely,

W9GIG, Southwestern Division Director Dick Norton, N6AA, Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR, Northwestern Division Director Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, Southeastern Division Director Frank Butler, W4RH, Midwest Division Director Wade Walstrom, W0EJ, and nearly each member of our senior staff from Newington . . . and more.

Me? I was either in the two forums I moderated or at the Grassroots Legislative Action booth nearly throughout the Hamvention. I'm sorry that I missed seeing a number of you who stopped by to say hello, but I was very happy to get to see many others who came by.

ARRL MEMBERS FORUM AT HAMVENTION

No one had hard questions to ask ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, Vice President Kay Craigie, K3KN, Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE, CEO Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, COO Harold Kramer, WJ1P, Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH or Membership Manager Katie Breen, W1KRB . . . or me. At least no one with a hard question asked it during the Member Forum in spite of my attempts to goad them into doing this. Obviously, everyone understands and is happy with the League's proposed Regulation by Bandwidth -- it wasn't brought up -- or proposed restructuring -- it wasn't brought up -- or work with the High Speed Multi-Media Working Group -- it wasn't brought up. There were several good and interesting questions asked . . . and answered, but no tough ones. On the other hand, I thought I heard a few chickens clucking from outdoors in the flea market.

For you nay Sayers, all I have to say is that you had your chance, once again, to have an enlightened discussion of issues with the League= leaders who have the detailed answers. Bluntly speaking, you blew it, once again.

DFING

The Sixth USA National ARDF Championships took place April 7-9 near Raleigh, North Carolina. Later this year, the 13th World Championships will get under way on the Black Sea coast of Bulgaria.

Bob Frey, WA6EZV, Cincinnati, took second place overall and was first in 2M for US Men in the age 50 category. In categories for women, gold medal winners included Emily DeYoung, K4MLE, of Alexandria, Kentucky. Dick Arnett, WB4SUV, Erlanger, Kentucky took bronze in the male age 60 category on 80 M. Talks about perennial top-runners, these three always are near the top of the hotly contested DFER's heap! Congratulations, again!

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Great Lakes Division young hams walked off with two scholarships in the recent, annual ARRL Foundation scholarship awards. Paducah, KY resident Jonathan Jewell, K14ETM received a Northern California DX Foundation Scholarship of \$1,000 and Portage, MI ham Kathryn Ankenbauer, KD8AHA received an ARRL Foundation General Fund Scholarship, also of \$1,000. Please join in congratulating the scholarship winners from the Great Lakes Division.

Fifty-three scholarships ranging in value of \$500 to \$5,000 were awarded through the Foundation. Many of the scholarships were sponsored by Amateur Radio organizations or by individuals. The ARRL Foundation is just one of the sources of scholarships awarded through ARRL. For information on the full range of scholarships contact Mary Hobart, K1MMH, k1mmh@arrl.org.

QUESTION NO. 2 -- YOU ASKED. HERE IS THE ANSWER.

Isn't ARRL merely a publishing house with its sole purpose being to make money printing and selling stuff?

As often occurs, a fair amount of truth is implied in this question. ARRL does run a publishing house as its business arm, and one purpose of this business is to make money. The validity of the implications voiced in the question end at this point.

There is nothing wrong with making a fair profit. It is the lifeblood of economics all over the world. ARRL's profits from its publishing business are honorable in two of their two aspects. First, the profits are fair. They compare favorably with profits of

other publishers in the country. There is no hint of price gouging. Second, profits made by ARRL are used to help support ARRL (which is you, the members). Partly through this profit, dues are kept at a reasonable level and services are provided that could not be provided without the profit or much higher dues.

The publishing business run by ARRL is a win-win proposition for us members. The members win and the League (which, again, is its members) wins. Without the income from the business, we would suffer by having a much weaker ARRL that would be limited to providing much less support for Amateur Radio. In addition, without ARRL's publishing activities, Amateur Radio operators and those studying to become hams throughout the US and much of the rest of the world would have far fewer, high quality technical books and materials available to use and study.

There is one additional aspect to the prices ARRL charges for certain publications. The League sells a number of items that are controlled by someone else, not by ARRL. Two examples of these items are the license training video the League sold for several years and the Radio Society of Great Britain -- RSGB - publications we and CQ and others sell. To the greatest extent, the owners of these items set the prices we charge for them. In the case of the video, its owner charged a substantial royalty on each copy ARRL sold.

The real choice open to ARRL is whether to sell or not to sell such items. The prices charged must be enough so that we make a limited profit on each sale. The choice the potential buyer has is whether to buy or not to buy. Just be glad you aren't buying college textbooks!

What is the second reason ARRL publishes its books? These are unsurpassed and often the least expensive sources of quality electronic and communications information in the world. What better source is there for hams or people studying to become hams to find information? We've even had government officials from small countries obtain our publications to use as the primary reference sources for their telecommunications departments.

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Not bad for a small, private publishing house.

MY TRAVEL PLANS

Jun 6 -- Saginaw Valley ARS 50th Anniversary Dinner, Saginaw, MI
Jun 18 -- Monroe County Radio Commun. Assoc. Hamfest, Monroe, MI.
Jul 8 -- QCWA Luncheon, Cleveland, OH.
Jul 20 -- A&F Committee Meeting, Newington, CT.
Jul 21 -- 22 -- ARRL Board of Directors meeting, Newington, CT.
Aug 3 -- Salem Area ARC, Salem, OH.

Tnx for reading this issue. Let me hear from you at anytime.

73, GL,
Jim Weaver, K8JE
Director, Great Lakes Division
Chairman, Legislative Action Committee
5065 Bethany Rd.
Mason, OH 45040
K8JE@arrl.org; Tel., 513-459-0142; FAX, same
ARRL, the Reason Amateur Radio is!
Members, the Reason ARRL is!



Barry Scanlan, KY4K and John coe, KY4COE at Net Control.



Claire Rinehart, KF4IWX



Railton SAG Stop - Mike Kallstrom, NU4Q



Early in the morning at the start line...

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

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.

**Next Meeting:
June 16th
7:00pm
Social time
at 6:30pm.**

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

The Kentucky Colonels Amateur Radio Club
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