



# THE HAMCALL



Volume 46

Number 5

May 2007

## The Presidents Corner... By Tim Robinson, KF4MGU



I apologize for not having a newsletter last month but most of us had work commitments that wouldn't fit into the HamCall schedule. I think club members really enjoyed the program on Community Emergency Response Teams presented by Bob Myatt, chairman of the Bowling Green/Warren County Local Emergency Planning Committee on Hazardous Materials. I think CERT is something club members could be useful in starting and promoting throughout the community. CERT is targeted at volunteers taking care of their own area, which might be their street, apartment complex, or place of work. It also gives members a chance to mingle with people in their own neighborhoods and might help us to bring more hams to the group. Chris Shaw, W4BGN, is trying to organize a local Skywarn group. Chris has created a news group for it on Yahoo titled, bowlinggreenskywarn. Any club member who wishes to assist with communications for the Tour de Cave on June 2<sup>nd</sup> please contact Mike McClure, KW4MAC. See you at the next club meeting.

Tim Robinson KF4MGU

## Monthly Program Mike McClure, KW4MAC Vice President Elect.

The May meeting (May 11) will be a video presentation of the VP8THU DXpedition to Southern Thule in the South Sandwich Islands. Described by Captain James Cook as the most horrible place on Earth, the South Sandwich Islands are also one of the most logistically difficult places for a DXpedition.

Using only 100 watts and verticals, this experienced team took on the South Atlantic's tough environmental challenge by heading to Southern Thule - the planet's southerly piece of land outside the Antarctic Treaty zone.

Operating within the remains of an old Argentine base (and amongst 100,000 noisy penguins!) this video documents how a super-lightweight expedition set out to bring back the fun of QRP DXpeditions!

Popcorn will be provided!

See you at the meeting.

Mike

P.S. Please let Tim Robinson kf4mgu@insightbb.com know ASAP if you are interested in helping with the Tour de Cave event June 2.

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## Minutes & Sec/Tres Report

By Claire Rinehart, KF4IWX  
Secretary/Treasurer

No submission.

## Weaver's Word

[As always, send replies to k8je@arrl.org. Do not click on REPLY. The ARRL reflector that gets this newsletter to you is one-way, only.]

- Legislative Action Program
- Code Proficiency Field Test Program Approved
- Division Gathering Spot at Hamvention(r)
- RM-11306 Withdrawn
- ARRL Licensing Activity
- A Poll for GLD Members
- New Official ARRL Badges- HQ Goofed
- Tentative Travel Schedule

++ Legislative Action Program

I apparently didn't do a good job of explaining what I meant last month when I talked about the separation of Section and Division legislative action programs. What I intended to say is that the Board of Director's Legislative Action Program (LAP) and the Section Managers' Section Government Liaison legislative (SGL) program operate with differing goals and differing managements. The LAP focuses on Federal legislation and the SM SGL program focuses on State and Local legislation.

These are managerial distinctions, only. In the Great Lakes Division, the Section Managers and I can be counted on to support each other and the respective legislative programs we manage when this is called for. LAP volunteers will be encouraged to volunteer to support an SM/SGL project, and the SMs, I am sure, will encourage their SGL legislative program volunteers to support the LAP.

++ Code Proficiency Field Test Program Approved

The ARRL Programs & Services Committee approved field testing of the ARRL Code

Proficiency Program in the Great Lakes Division at its April 21 meeting. This means that four ARRL VE teams in the Division will soon be offering code proficiency testing at locations in their areas. If successful, the program may be adopted nationwide.

People who achieve solid copy of text for one minute may obtain a certificate or an upgrade sticker for proficiency at the speed they copied. Code speeds range from 10-40 wpm in the on-air program, but speeds in the field test will be from 5-40 wpm.

The field program, as is true of the W1AW broadcasts, will be run once a month. There is no charge for participating in these code runs. There is a processing fee for successful candidates only if they want to obtain a certificate or upgrade sticker. The trial run will be performed by ARRL VE teams headed for this purpose by Fernie Williams, III, KE4MAI, (Lexington, KY), Gary Kline, WC8W (Akron-Canton-Massillon, OH), Bob Johnson, K3RC (Toledo, OH) and Jim Kvochick, WB8AZP (Brighton, MI).

During discussions with the VEC manager at HQ, I learned that a number of countries still require applicants for Amateur Radio exams to pass code proficiency exams. With the FCC having gone out of the Morse code testing business, non-coded US hams who want to obtain reciprocal licenses in these countries are out of luck unless they pass code test in the foreign country. Did you ever consider taking a Morse code test in Japanese?

By running our Code Proficiency field testing program with ARRL VEs, could it be possible that passing one of our code field tests would be acceptable proof of code proficiency for these countries?

++ Division Gathering Spot at Hamvention(r)

Most of you know there will be another ARRL Expo at the Dayton Hamvention(r) this year. One feature of the Expo will be a Great Lakes Division come-and-visit booth. Division members, Division appointees, Section Managers and Section appointees are invited to "come and sit a spell" or stand around and chat with each other. It'll be a good time to get to know each other as well as to ask questions and offer suggestions.

While at the Division booth, feel free to check around the other booths at the Expo. You just might find President Harrison, W5ZN, CEO

Sumner, K1ZZ and a few others in the area would like to meet you and talk.

Check the schedule of ARRL forums in the program book.

++ RM-11306 Withdrawn

By now, everyone has probably heard that the ARRL Board of Directors has withdrawn RM-11306 from consideration by the FCC. This action was a well thought-out move. There was, and is, no sinister motive behind the withdrawal. The fact is that we did a poor job of explaining the benefits of the proposal to you and other amateurs. I realize our mistake and pledge to each of you we won't make this mistake again if there is anything I can do about it.

++ ARRL Licensing Activity

Maria Somma, AB1FM who manages the ARRL VEC program, estimates there has been a 35% increase in new license applications since February 23. There has also been an estimated 50% increase in upgrade applications.

++ A Poll for Great Lakes Division ARRL Members

I'm trying to get a tentative idea of what you think about the following questions. Please answer the following question "yes" or "no," only. As always, you can expand on these very brief answers, but put any discussions at the bottom of your e-mail.

Please do not mix a brief answer with a discussion. I don't have staff that can digest discussions, quickly. Reading and understanding your discussion will occur over following weeks.

The questions:

1. Do you think you understand what ARRL's Regulation by Bandwidth petition would have accomplished?
2. Do you favor changing our band assignments so that any legal mode can operate anywhere in each band (i.e. there would be no subbands for voice, data, etc.)?
3. Do you favor having amateur licenses issued for the life of the license holder (i.e. never expire during the life of the licensee)?
4. Are you happy with the way ARRL has communicated the content of its petitions to FCC with you? (The question is not about how you

## 2007 KCARC OFFICERS

*President:*

Tim Robinson, KF4MGU

*Vice President Elect:*

Mike McClure, KW4MAC

*Vice President:*

vacant

*Sec/Treasurer*

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*Board of Directors:*

Dean Maggard, K4NQV

Hank Cantrell, W4HTB

Bill Fledkamp, K14B

John Coe, KY4COE

vacant

*Webmaster:*

Dean Maggard, K4NQV

[www.angelfire.com/ky/kcarc](http://www.angelfire.com/ky/kcarc)

*HamCall Editor:* Jeff Martin, WB4JM

For editorial questions, call Jeff at (270) 796-8577 or email Jeff at [wb4jm@yahoo.com](mailto:wb4jm@yahoo.com)



## 2007 KCARC Meeting Dates (Third Friday)

January 19  
February 16  
March 16  
April 20  
May 11  
May 18, 19, 20 Hamvention  
June 15  
June 23-24 (Field Day)  
July 20  
August 17  
September 21 (Picnic)  
October 19 (Elections)  
October 31 (Bridge Watch)  
November 16 (Annual Dinner)  
December 15 (Sat Morn.)

feel about the content of the petitions; just about the quality of the way in which ARRL informed you of them and the value of them to Amateur Radio.)

5. Are you in favor of separating our bands into segments for wide-band transmissions (e.g. up to about 4 kHz), mid-band transmissions (e.g. about 1.5 kHz to 300 Hz) and narrow-band (less than about 300 Hz).

I will let you know the results of this year or nay poll.

#### ++ New Official ARRL Badges

In January, the Board of Directors authorized two new badges for ARRL volunteers. These are for the Legislative Action Program's volunteer Legislative Action Coordinator (light blue) and Legislative Action Assistant (rust). You can expect to begin to see these badges at the Hamvention(r).

#### ++ HQ Goofed

At least one person at HQ goofed, anyway, and I apologize for this happening.

Gail Iannone who handles many of the services to Affiliated Clubs was out of the office for a few weeks for medical leave. During this time, other members of staff took over her duties. With the cross-training in jobs that has been done at HQ during recent months, there should have been no problem.

Unfortunately, the person who took over the responsibility for having us directors review and approve (or disapprove) sanctioning of hamfests wasn't up to the task. Gail has returned to work and is uncovering a number of applications for sanctioning that either were not forwarded to the respective director or that had received director approval, but this approval was not passed on to the hamfest sponsor. ARRL "goodies" that were available to sanctioned hamfests were not sent in these instances.

Gail nearly has the situation back in hand. For example, during the last few days before writing this note, I've "re-approved" or approved about six hamfests that had somehow fallen into a black hole initially.

I regret this happened and have made the appropriate manager at HQ vividly aware of the foul up. I've strongly encouraged that corrective measures be taken to prevent this from occurring again in the future. If you've been the unwitting victim of this gaff, please be kind to Gail. She is the person who discovered the problem and knows all too painfully what has happened. She is working vigorously to get everything caught back up to date.

++ Tentative Travel Schedule for K14LA and K8JE.

2007

May 18-20: Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH - Gary & Jim  
Jul 12: Mahoning Valley ARA, Youngstown, OH - Gary  
Jun 17: Monroe Hamfest, Monroe, MI - Jim  
Jul 19: Programs & Services Committee Meeting, Newington, CT - Jim  
Jul 20-21: Board of Directors Meeting, Newington, CT - Gary & Jim  
Jul 28: UP Hamfest, Escanaba, MI - Jim  
Aug 18-19: ARRL National Convention, Huntsville, AL - Jim  
Sep 8: GRAHamfest, Grand Rapids, MI - Jim  
Sep 9: Findlay Hamfest, Findlay, OH - Jim  
Sep 16: Cincinnati Hamfest, Cincinnati, OH - Jim  
Sep 22: Great Lakes Division Convention, Cleveland, OH - Gary & Jim  
Sep 23: Cleveland Hamfest, Cleveland, OH - Jim  
Oct 2: OH-KY-IN ARRL Night, Cincinnati, OH - Jim  
Oct 8: Portage County ARS, Kent, OH - Jim  
Nov 19: Southern Ohio ARA Christmas Dinner, Russell, KY - Jim  
Dec 1: Motor City RC 75th Ann., Wyandotte, MI - Jim

2008

Jan 17: Programs & Services Committee Meeting, Newington, CT - Jim  
Jan 18-20: Board of Directors Meeting, Newington, CT - Gary & Jim

Tnx, 73,  
Jim, K8JE

Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director  
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## HamCall Editor

### By Jeff Martin, WB4JM

It is with this newsletter that I regret to inform you I must let go of the "HamCall Editor;" this will be my last issue. I hope you have enjoyed the newsletter as much as I have enjoyed the opportunity. But it is like stinky socks... you must change them ever once in a while so it is time for change here of which I'm sure the club will benefit from. If you are interested please see our President Tim... this is an appointed position so all you have to do is volunteer. Once you are appointed come see me and I will pass a long all those things that come with being the "HamCall Editor."

73's

- Jeff Martin, WB4JM

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

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:  
May 11th  
7:00PM  
BGPS Community  
Room**

### Local Repeaters

#### Two -Meters

147.060+	PL156.7	KY4BG (CLUB)
147.165+		W4WSM
147.330+		KA4CFW
146.655-		W4WSM

#### 440MHz

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

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

#### ATV

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

### THE HAMCALL

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