



June 2005

The Feedline

QRV From Red River Gorge
Ham-O-Rama Wrap-Up
Field Day Preview
New Hope in the BPL Fight

*The Official Monthly Newsletter of the Northern
Kentucky Amateur Radio Club*



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Repeaters — K4CO

147.255+ 444.350+ Edgewood, 147.375+ Walton, 146.895+ Highland Heights
Nets

N. KY. Amateur Club Net: Tuesdays, 7:30 PM on the 147.255+/s
Kentucky District 7 Amateur Radio Emergency Team
Net: Thursdays at 8:00 PM on the 147.375+

—WEB Site—

WWW.K4CO.ORG

Membership meetings on the **2nd Monday** at 7:30 PM, Turkeyfoot Middle School, 3230 Turkeyfoot Rd in Edgewood

Board meetings on the **1st Monday** at 7:00PM, Szechwan Garden Kyles Ln. & Dixie Hwy. in Ft. Wright, Ky..

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST NKARC MEMBER

Rick Fox, WA4QMV

The Feedline is published monthly by and for the members of the Northern Kentucky Amateur Radio Club.

Permission is hereby granted to any non-profit amateur radio group to quote or reprint from this publication provided appropriate source credit is given. Submissions to The Feedline must be received no later than the last Monday of the month prior to publication. Submissions should be of 500 words or less, and **in electronic format**. Submissions, address or call changes and circulation problems may be sent to The Feedline Editor: Tim Anderson, AG4XM: 912 Main Street, Covington, KY 41011 — Email: AG4XM@ARRL.NET or Telephone (859) 581-8588.



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Our Next meeting is Monday June 13th

We'll have a presentation from the Paddlefest Chairman, debrief the Ham-O-Rama, and discuss our field day plans

The Feedline

June 2005 Volume 2005 Issue 6

Top Of The Tower — NKARC President, Mike Wagoner, KB4VKS



Greetings, As summer approaches our busy season begins. By the time you read this the Ham-O-Rama will have already happened and field day will be just around the corner. Then we have Paddfest in early July.

While no one likes to talk more than I do, talking is only part of the reason I got my license. On April 4, 1974, I sat in the cafeteria at college. While eating breakfast, I

overheard some guys talking about taking radios and helping with communications in the area effected by the tornado. I started asking questions and learned that they were ham radio operators and were going to help others in a time of need. Public service and emergency communications are the primary reasons the FCC issues us licenses. I believe it is our obligation and responsibility to help our fellow man when we can. I ask all of you to help in any way you can and for those who do help, my sincere thanks and gratitude for

your help and support.

I would like to thank all the NKARC members who helped during the MS Walk.

Everything went very smoothly and you guys did an excellent job. Thanks to Brian, W4SOU, Ben, KG4NMH, Joe, K14QG, Don, W8NSV, and Tom K4LID, for helping this year. Everyone did a great job and both Dean and Gary pass along their thanks as well.

73 *Mike*, KB4VKS
President, NKARC

Editor's Shack — Feedline Editor, Tim Anderson, AG4XM



There's so much to talk about this month I barely know where to start and I know I don't have room to say everything I want.

The Dayton Hamvention was terrific. The

weather was perfect and there was lots to see and do. Hats off to DARA, the Hamvention Committee and the ARRL for a first-class event. My only complaint was that it was way too short.

Our own Hamfest was great fun and reasonably successful but an apparently well kept secret. The turnout this year was at a record low. This seems to be a sad trend for the local hamfests and one I hope we can arrest next year with some creative promotion and marketing.

Field Day, June 25th and 26th and the Paddfest on July 9th are the two events that are near and dear to my heart. Please, please, please contact me to volunteer for these two events and help support amateur radio and our community.

Well, The-elephant-in-the-living-room, (one of my father's sayings for something that you can't ignore but wish you could) is the sad news that I will be leaving you in mid-July. As most of you know, I lost my job of seven years back in February. The good news is that I have found a new one. It's a great opportunity in which I can help make radio history. I've accepted a position as a broadcast systems engineer with the company that is bringing IBOC High Definition

digital technology to American radio stations. It's going to be very exciting. The bad news is that Mary Anne and I will be relocating to Columbia, Maryland.

It has been my honor and privilege to get to know each of you and to serve this fine club. Over the next month, I will be shedding my responsibilities as I get ready to move and I hope that some of you will pick up the torches and carry on the things we have built.

Next month's Feedline will be my last issue as editor. I'll try to make it a special one. I've loved every minute of doing this and whoever steps in to take my place, I hope you are as blessed as I have been.

73—*Tim*, AG4XM

NKARC Meeting Minutes, Monday May 9, 2005

President, Mike Wagoner, KB4VKS: Called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by self-introductions.

Vice-President, Brian Clark, W4SOU: Not present, Tim AG4XM reporting US "Representative Rep Michael Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, has introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives calling on the FCC to "conduct a full and complete analysis" of radio interference from broadband over power line (BPL). The ARRL is asking all amateurs to write their Congressmen in support of this bill. Details are on the ARRL web site and will be in next month's Feedline.

The date for the Kentucky QSO Party have been set. It will begin August 28 at 1600Z (12 noon local) and run until 0400Z on August 29 (August 28 until midnight local) details are posted on www.ky4ky.com.

Next month's program will be presented by folks from the Paddlefest in which we will be taking part in July. ARRL Great Lakes Director Jim Weaver will be our guest speaker in July. Programs for the remainder of the year are open.

Secretary's Report, Tim, AG4XM: Apologies for it being late this month. They were sent out today. We do have printed copies available here tonight.

The April meeting minutes were published in the May Feedline. Motion to accept the March meeting minutes as published in the Feedline by KZ5KR and seconded by WA4AAI, passed. The Feedline was sent out via email to all members in good standing.

Treasurer's Report, Ben, KG4NMH: Copies of the April financial report were handed out. Motion to accept the treasurer's reports by WA4AAI and seconded by WA4KAP, passed.

Communications Manager, Bob Burns, AB4BK Not Present. Nothing to report.

VE Team, Lyle, AB4SH Not present. There was no test session tonight.

Net Manager, Don, W8NSV: Not present. AG4XM mentioned that the rumor regarding the Tuesday night net being suspended for the summer is not true.

Hamfest, Rob Blocher, N8JMV: Not present. Noted that Hamfest is on Saturday June 4th. For questions, contact Rob, N8JMV. Ken, KZ5KR reports that the food vendors will set up at 7am this year. Doughnuts and coffee will also be served by the club. AG4XM has a list of indoor vendors from the Lexington hamfest to share with the club for next year. AG4XM will set up a PA system.

Field Day, Tim, AG4XM: Field day is on June 25 & 26th from 2pm Saturday until 2pm Sunday. It will be at Middleton-- Mills Park and will be a joint effort between NKARC and KD7ARET. Some thoughts were written in this month's Feedline. We are planning to operate as 3A Voice and CW HF, with an additional station for GOTA and a VHF station. We will be using the club's generator for emergency power. We hope to make this a family event with a Saturday afternoon cookout. We need to have some people willing to step up and volunteer to help make all of this work. We will need help with setup on Saturday morning, we would like to get a schedule of operators for the event as well as other duties. A sign-up sheet is being circulated. We have a need for 4-5 laptop computers that are WiFi capable. Lynn, WD8JAW will provide the logging software. More next month.

Web Master, Jerry WB8WEV: Hamfest flyer has been put on site. It was noted that some information is still outdated. We would like to make note of the regional newsletter award and get the new roster on. Jerry will be working further on the site.

Old Business:

Radio Raffle, Ben, KG4NMH: Tickets are available for \$2.00 each. We have sold 154 of the 300 needed as of tonight. We will sell tickets at the hamfest and hope to have the drawing there as well.

Tim, AG4XM; Paddlefest, This event will be on July 8th and 9th. Our services will be needed on the morning of the 9th. We will need 20-25 communicators. We will meet at the Four Season

Yacht Club early Saturday morning. After the race starts around 10am we will break camp and relocate to the Serpentine Wall. Shuttle transportation will be provided. Assignments will be made then. Logistics are yet to be worked out. A signup sheet was passed around. The Paddlefest folks will be here to talk to us at our June meeting. Need to underscore how important this event is to our public service image.

New Business:

Joe, K14QG: KY QSO Party, Suggested that we participate in the QSO party as a club. Idea was discussed and well accepted. We will discuss this further at June and July meetings.

Lynn, WD8JAW; OH-KY-IN Hamfest will be the 23rd of July and Lynn has tickets. Buy early and receive two chances for door prizes.

Motion to adjourn: A14IP, 2nd: KG4SBG, passed. Refreshments were served and fellowship followed.

Respectively Submitted

Tim Anderson, AG4XM Secretary

2005 NKARC HAM-O-RAMA RECAP

This year's **NKARC HAM-O-RAM** held on Saturday, June 4th was excellent. The nice weather brought out 242 of our friends and fellow hams. After expenses, this year's hamfest netted the club a total of \$751.45. There were 60 tailgaters in our flea market area. Inside we had a terrific computer vendor with lots of laptop specials along with computer parts and accessories. Also inside, Joe, K14QG kept the busy talk-in frequency running smoothly and John W4RIW kept up with the prize drawings, announcements and raffle ticket sales. For the first time at a Kentucky Hamfest, the Civil Air Patrol was represented with an attractive display and very knowledgeable officers and cadets from the Campbell County Composite Squadron answering questions about CAP and communications. Thanks and congratulations to the Fox hunt team of Dick Arnett, WB4SUV, Bob Frey, WA6EZV and Brian DeYoung, K4BRI who made short work of the foxes with WB4SUV taking the prize in less than three minutes and then did demonstrations and training for several interested people.



Congratulations to our door prize winners:

Richard, W5VDU who won the grand prize, an Alinco DJ-596T Handheld 2m/440, C.A., WA4HVO and Brian, K4BRI who each one won an ARRL Handbook, Kim, N8OX who won an ARRL Antenna Handbook, Ohio Section Manager Joe, K8QOE who won a nice 2m/440 Antenna for his Handheld and Steve, KB8CWC who won an ARRL Repeater Directory,

We would like to thank all of those who volunteered their time to help where needed to make this another successful hamfest. We also want to say, "Thank You Very Much" to all who came out to enjoy the day with us, including the flea market sellers and buyers, our indoor vendor, and those wonderful cooks from Union, KY for their great food. Have a wonderful summer, of hamfests and we'll see you next year!

73 — Rob Blocher, N8JMV NKARC 2005 Ham-O-Rama Chairman

QRV from Red River Gorge

Story & Photos by Mark Volstad, AI4BJ

Hiking, camping, bird watching and amateur radio are my favorite recreational activities, and I recently decided to combine all four by planning an overnight hiking and camping trip to the Red River Gorge Geological Area in Kentucky. This 29,000 acre area is known for its numerous natural stone arches, unusual rock formations and sandstone cliffs. The Red River was the first designated National Wild and Scenic River in the state.

This would be my first trip to the gorge, so I did some careful research. I learned that it is a popular destination for the younger set, and that an average of one life is lost every year when somebody wanders away from camp in a drunken stupor after dark and steps off of a cliff. As my trip was planned for Memorial Day weekend and perfect weather was forecast, I expected crowds. I therefore decided to eschew the more popular trails in favor of the more remote (and hopefully peaceful) Clifty Wilderness section of the park.

As a wilderness area, Clifty is managed to preserve its natural conditions. There are no modern facilities and very few signs. A good map, compass and backcountry skills are essential. Swift Camp Creek, a tributary of the Red River, has carved a deep and rugged gorge through the center of Clifty. The creek earned its name from the legend of Jonathon Swift's lost silver mines, which are said to be in the vicinity. I planned a first-day hike of about four miles to what seemed to be a suitable primitive camping site on my map.

Rig selection was easy, since I own only one, an Elecraft K2. With integrated 3 AH gel cell battery, the K2 weighs in at a hefty 7 pounds. Not the most trail-friendly rig, but on the positive side, I get all-band coverage, a receiver that is bettered by few rigs in any class, 7-10 hours of operating time on a single battery charge, 15 watts of transmit power, and SSB capability. The latter is important to me, as my CW copy speed is not much more than 15 WPM. One of the pleasures of operating from the field is that I am never at a loss for something to talk about!

I arrived and parked at the northern trailhead at



2 o'clock on Saturday afternoon. I quickly downed a sandwich and apple and eagerly headed off down the trail. The first mile or so was on level ground and I hardly noticed the 40 pound pack on my back. Yes, 40 pounds is a heavy pack for an overnight trip in warm weather, even taking the K2 and accessories into account. I have not yet fully invested in lightweight camping gear, and I was carrying all of my water in with me. At the one mile mark, the trail joined up with Sons Branch creek and began its lengthy descent towards Swift Camp creek. Large sandstone outcroppings began appearing alongside the trail. Along the ridge tops, Oak and Pine predominated, but in the cooler, moist valleys, Rhododendron, Holly, Mountain Laurel and Bigleaf Magnolia competed for space.

Once the trail reached and began running parallel to Swift Camp Creek, I encountered several delightful little grottos which invariably had a rivulet of deliciously cold water running through them. These are nature's refrigerators, and were ideal oases to rest and cool off in. The trail now had more hills and dips than a Coney Island roller coaster.

It was at about the midpoint of my hike that I had my MSE (Major Snake Encounter). I had been keeping a wary eye on the trail, and suddenly found a Copperhead snake smack in the middle of it. It was completely motionless -- an

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6) apparent defense mechanism, as it was well camouflaged. Copper-head bites are rarely fatal, but are said to be exquisitely painful and debilitating. To the left of the trail was a steep 50 foot



drop to the creek, while on the right was a dense Rhododendron thicket, known as “Rhody Hell” in these parts. I struggled through the thicket, and left the Copperhead in my rear view mirror.

At the 3-mile point, I switched to a side trail that ascended from the gorge, and my legs began to rebel. By the time I reached the top about a mile later they were beginning to cramp and I was ready to make camp. I found a nice level spot beneath an Oak tree and set up my tent. The next priority was my antenna. My field antenna of choice is a 66-ft doublet fed with 33 feet of ladderline, coupled to my K2 via a compact Elecraft 4:1 current balun. The antenna and ladderline are made of two continuous 99-foot lengths of 24 AWG Teflon-insulated (and tangle resistant) stranded wire. I use 6-inch pieces of plastic coat hanger as line spacers. With this wide spacing, I only need a spacer every two feet or so, and losses due to SWR are very low. For storage, I wrap the antenna on a piece of cardboard that fits nicely in a gallon-size Ziploc bag. I use a slingshot to launch a 2-oz lead weight over any handy tree branch, and haul the antenna up using some very slippery fishing line, in inverted-V fashion. A nearby Wood Thrush entertained me with its mellifluous notes while I completed this task.

With my tent and antenna erected, I finally relaxed, and treated myself to a hearty supper of freeze-dried chili macaroni prepared on my new isobutane-fuelled micro stove. Then the K2 came out of my backpack. The built-in ATU matches this antenna easily on most bands. I tuned to the 20 meter phone band first, and for the umpteenth time marveled at the ultra-low noise levels afforded by a wilderness operating location. My CQ was quickly answered by KN4LK in Florida, and we exchanged 59 reports. My next contacts were with KE1HG

(Charlie) in New Hampshire and KQ6XA (Bonnie) in California. Charlie and Bonnie both offered to send emails to my XYL (Lylah) letting her know that I was safely encamped for the night. Dusk had arrived and a Whip-poor-will began a monotonous soliloquy somewhere in the woods. I wondered if I would get any sleep. I switched to 40 meters and had a nice chat with KK6KV (Andy) in northeastern Ohio. By now I had talked myself out, so I wandered over to the 41 meter broadcast band and spent the next hour just listening to music and voices in many languages wafting into my tent upon the ether. The Whip-poor-will must have had enough as well, and I slept peacefully under the Milky Way.

Sunday morning’s dawn chorus included Hooded, Pine and Black-throated Green Warblers, several Ovenbirds and an Eastern Towhee sternly instructing me to “drink your TEA”. I’m not much of a tea drinker, but a mug of hot chocolate set me up nicely, and then I connected my Palm paddle to the K2. I answered a CQ by W0TUP (Nels) in Minot, North Dakota on 30 meters. Nels said that my tone was unstable, which puzzled me, as I had never heard this complaint before. QRM forced us to cut short our QSO, and then I noticed that my battery voltage had dropped to 9.5 volts. The tone mystery was solved, though I was left with the new puzzle of why my fully charged battery had run low after just a few hours of use. Subsequent testing at home revealed that the battery capacity had dropped to just 1 AH, probably due to improper maintenance on my part. Lesson learned!

I broke camp, taking care to leave no trace of my brief stay, and enjoyed an easy 2-mile hike on level ground back to the car. The Red River Gorge is now in my blood, and I look forward to many future explorations of its wonders.





WRITE YOUR US REPRESENTATIVE TO CO-SPONSOR HOUSE RESOLUTION 230 Your urgent help is requested on this one.

From the ARRL web site: US "Representative Rep Michael Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, has introduced a resolution in the US House of Representatives calling on the FCC to "conduct a full and complete analysis" of radio interference from broadband over power line (BPL). The resolution, House of Representatives Resolution 230, says the Commission should comprehensively evaluate BPL's interference potential incorporating "extensive public review and comment," and--in light of that analysis--to "reconsider and review" it's new BPL rules. If approved by the full House, the non-binding resolution, introduced April 21, would express the requests as "the sense of the House of Representatives." The FCC adopted rules to govern so-called Access BPL last October 14 in ET Docket 04-37."

OK, so what does this mean to you and to your ham friend down the street and to me? It means that we all -- and many more as well -- should send an E-mail to our own US House member (this is, to the House member who currently represents the House District in which each of us live). In this letter, we should ask these House members to co-sponsor House Resolution 230. This Resolution, if passed, would "ask" the FCC to review and reconsider the regulations it approved for BPL, last year.

Rep. _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. _____

As a federally licensed Amateur Radio operator in your district and as a member of ARRL -- the national association for Amateur Radio, I ask you to support House Resolution 230. This resolution urges the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the potential of "broadband over power line"; (BPL) systems to interfere with public safety and other licensed radio services.

BPL utilizes electric power lines to serve as the conductors of the broadband signals. Unfortunately, because the power lines are not shielded, they also act as antennas and radiate the signals into the air. These radiated signals will interfere with radio receivers tuned to the same frequency range. BPL has only been deployed to a very limited extent, but Amateur Radio already is experiencing severe BPL interference that the FCC has been unable or unwilling to correct. Unlike BPL, other methods of providing broadband Internet services to consumers, such as cable, DSL, wireless and Fiber to the Home, do not pollute the radio spectrum.

Last October 14, the FCC ignored the evidence that BPL systems will cause widespread interference and adopted rules for BPL deployment that provide inadequate protection to radio communication by First Responders and others who need reliable radio communication to ensure our security. The FCC needs to do what it should have done in the first place: fairly and carefully review this evidence and adopt rules that will keep interference from BPL within reasonable bounds.

Because we need no infrastructure in order to communicate, the Amateur Radio Service is the only 100-percent fail-safe emergency communication capability in the world. Interference from BPL emissions will significantly disrupt this capability. Please cosponsor H. Res. 230 as soon as possible to express your concern over the interference potential of BPL to Amateur Radio operators and to public safety licensees.

Sincerely,

Name Address (Email and telephone optional)

SPECIAL NOTE: Do NOT send the letter directly to your congressman. Instead, please send it to Zach DeWaters at. Zach is an executive for the ARRL account with Chwatco, our retained lobbying firm in Washington, DC. Mr. DeWaters will put your letter into a packet of the other letters they receive for your congressman/woman and will hand-deliver the letters to the respective congressmen/women.

Because of this, address the following letter to your congressman/woman, insert the entire letter (with address, etc.) into the body of an E-mail and send the E-mail to: zach.dewaters@chwatco.com. Please copy your E-mail to me (k8je@arrl.org).

To find the name and House District of your US Representative, go to: <http://www.house.gov/>. It will expedite your search if you have your ZIP+4 codes.

Please let me know if you need any additional information. Also, please spread this request throughout your clubs and other amateur groups.

Thanks for your help.

FIELD DAY 2005 Its coming on June 25, 26 (GMT, UTC, Zulu)

To learn everything there is to know about FD 2005, go to <http://www.arrl.org/htdig/?q=field+day+2005>. From here you can click on links that will take you to the rules, score sheets, report forms, goodies and more. Many of you may want to purchase FD T-shirts that you can wear on this great occasion. Don't wait too long to firm your individual and club plans. Invite the local press and broadcast media, local officials and the public out to show off Amateur Radio. Be sure to have information sheets and a friendly guide ready to conduct tours. A club officer or guide should also be ready to make brief, pre-planned statements to the members of the Fifth Estate as well as to all visitors. Be certain statements given to the media, government officials and the general public, say what you want to convey to them.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY "Old radar men never die - their echoes only fade away in accordance with the inverse square law." (Neil Schwanitz, V73NS/WD8CRT, ALTAIR Radar, Marshall Islands and Michigan.)

NEXT ISSUE: Among other items, I'll share the status of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act with you, and what we need to do to resume work on it. Frankly, I think we could have gotten this passed in the last Congress if BPL had not demanded our full attention.

FINAL THOUGHT: Thanks to everyone who shared views on the developing Regulation by Bandwidth proposal with me. You have voiced many valid points, which warrant thorough consideration along with additional information. I appreciate your help.



Milford Hamfest

Milford, Ohio
Electronics and Computer Show
Fifteenth Annual MARC Hamfest
Sponsored by the Milford Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 100, Milford, OH 45150
Saturday June 18, 2005
8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
Location:
Live Oaks Career Development Campus
5956 Buckwheat Road
Admission: \$5.00
(Children under 12 admitted free)

- *Free Tailgating
 - Inside Tables \$5.00 (Requires an admission ticket)
 - For tables call Chris, KB8SNH at 513-351-2776 or e-mail KB8SNH@os.com
 - Commercial Vendors
 - Hourly door prizes plus grand prize drawing at and the end of the Hamfest!
 - VE Exams - 9:00 AM - Walk-ins Welcome. Bring ID
 - Fox Hunt - Register @ 10AM - Contact Donna KC8KIA on arrival

For additional information call Jim WB8RRR at 513-831-6255 or e-mail wb8rrr@arrl.net

Directions: TAKE I-275 TO EXIT 57. GO EAST ON ST. RT. 28 TWO MILES TO BUCKWHEAT ROAD, TURN RIGHT FOLLOW TO SCHOOL.

GATE OPENS AT 6:00 A.M. FOR SET-UP

TALK - IN: 147.345 - MARC website: www.w8mrc.com



ARRL NEWS

Kentucky emergency communicators receive donation (May 14, 2005) -- The

Kentucky District 7 Amateur Radio Emergency Team ([KD7ARET](#)) has received a \$5000 donation from the John E. and Betty J. Meyer Family Foundation. The funds will support the group's efforts to provide emergency communication to served agencies during emergencies and disasters.



KD7ARET most typically supports police and fire departments, the National Weather Service and emergency management offices. In addition, some of the money will be go into a fund to purchase a mobile communication van with Amateur Radio capabilities that could serve to back up local police and fire

departments. KD7ARET boasts more than 100 Amateur Radio volunteers from the nine-county area comprising District 7 in Northern Kentucky. ARRL Kentucky Section Manager John Meyers, NB4K (photo, with check), says the team plans to participate in ARRL Field Day, June 25-26, at Mills Road Park in Independence, Kentucky. In the past year KD7ARET has bought reflective vests for its members as well as radios, antennas and coax for the Owen County Emergency Operations Center. "We are in the process of buying radios, antennas and coax for the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky Regional Communication bus, the Campbell County Emergency Operations Center and the District Office of Emergency Management in Walton, Kentucky, as well as additional handheld radios and extra battery packs for emergency coordinators," he adds. Since KD7ARET's incorporation in January 2004, the group has received \$10,000 in cash and more than \$2000 worth of equipment to enhance local emergency communication capabilities.

House Resolution 230 "A Fair Request," ARRL President Says (Jun 6, 2005) -- ARRL



President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, says House Resolution 230 (HRes 230) represents "a fair request" to the FCC and deserves the support of the US House of Representatives. Sponsored by Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, HRes 230 calls on the FCC to comprehensively evaluate BPL's interference potential incorporating "extensive public review and comment," then to "reconsider and review" its new BPL rules in the light of that public input. Renewing his call for League members to contact their congressional representatives to sign on as cosponsors of the non-binding measure, Haynie said Ross's resolution only asks the FCC to do what it should have done in the first place regarding BPL.

An Unconventional Convention: Dayton Hamvention and ARRL 2005 National Convention a Winning Combo (Jun 2, 2005) -- By all accounts, Dayton Hamvention and the ARRL



National Convention/ARRL EXPO 2005 represented the best of times for all involved--perhaps especially for the Amateur Radio community. The League's 2005 convention was like no other that came before. For the first time, the ARRL virtually took Headquarters on the road, making available in the ARRL EXPO 2005 area all of the

League's core activities, plus live demonstrations and mini-forums on a variety of topics. To those who've never made the trek to Newington, ARRL EXPO 2005 was a chance to see the League in action firsthand, showcasing public service, advocacy, education and membership. Perhaps ARRL Vice President Kay Craigie, N3KN, said it best when she called it "an unconventional convention."

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ARRL to Sign Memorandum of Understanding with Civil Air Patrol (May 18, 2005) -- The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and ARRL will sign a *Memorandum of Agreement* during Dayton Hamvention® May 20-22, where CAP plans to field a major presence. The agreement will spell out guidelines for CAP--the US Air Force Auxiliary, and ARRL--the national association for Amateur Radio, to better use and integrate their resources during communication exercises and emergencies.



ARRL and United States Power Squadrons Join Forces in Education (Jun 3, 2005) -- The ARRL and the United States Power Squadrons (USPS), a national boating and educational organization, will formally ratify a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on June 4. The MoU spells out areas where the two organizations can work together in educational activities of overlapping or mutual interest to their respective memberships.



Special commemorative broadcast to mark debut of FM (May 16, 2005) -- Broadcasting history buffs mark your calendars! A special commemorative FM broadcast June 11 and 12 will mark the 70th anniversary of Maj Edwin H. Armstrong's first public demonstration of wideband frequency modulation (FM). The broadcast June 11 and June 12 will emanate from Armstrong's 400-foot-tall experimental tower in Alpine, New Jersey, overlooking the Hudson River. An area landmark that also served several New York City broadcasters in the wake of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks that destroyed the World Trade Center, the gigantic structure now is owned by [CSC](#)



[Management Inc.](#), headed by Charles Sackerman Jr. He and Steve Hemphill, WA3ZAE, owner of Solid Electronics Laboratories--a Pennsylvania broadcast equipment manufacturer--have secured a Special Temporary Authority (STA) from the FCC to conduct the FM broadcast on Armstrong's original frequency of 42.8 MHz at a power of 250 W ERP. They'll use the experimental/STA call sign WA2XMN, reminiscent of Armstrong's W2XMN call sign. The program itself will consist of David Ossman's dramatic production of "Empire of the Air," based on the book by Tom Lewis. They also plan to air excerpts from a 1941 test broadcast between member stations of the original New England Yankee Network, featuring actual voice recordings of Armstrong, Yankee Network Chief Engineer Paul deMars and others. They'll also rebroadcast the final signoff of Armstrong's pioneer FM station W2XMN/KE2XCC. The station went silent February 25, 1954, following Armstrong's death by suicide. A streaming webcast of the commemorative broadcast is also planned; details are not yet available, however. Information about the June commemorative broadcast and the Alpine tower site is available on the CSC Management Web site.

CW Ops Whip Whippersnapper Text Messengers on National Television (May 16, 2005) -- It might have been Friday the Thirteenth, but it was a lucky day for Morse code--and particularly for veteran CW contest ops Chip Margelli, K7JA, and Ken Miller, K6CTW. During a May 13 appearance on NBC's *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, the pair was able to pass a message using good old fashioned Morse code more rapidly than a pair of teenaged text messengers equipped with modern cell phones. The victory, which replicated a similar challenge that took place recently in Australia, has provided immense encouragement to Amateur Radio's community of CW operators, who've been ballyhooing the achievement all over the Internet. The text messaging team consisted of world text-messaging champ Ben Cook of Utah and his friend Jason. Miller said afterward in a reflector posting that the CW team won fairly handily.



Field Day will be here before we know it. Saturday June 24th and 25th (always the last full week-end of June) are the busiest and most fun filled 24 hour in amateur radio. This year promises to be better than ever as NKARC and KD7ARET join forces to hold a joint field day event at Middleton-Mills Park, Shelter #1, which is just inside the entrance by the lake.

Field Day is a national event, when we hams setup our stations "in the field" using emergency power and portable antennas. We then attempt to make as many contacts as possible over the next 24 hours.

The goals of Field Day are to fine-tune our emergency communication skills and to raise public awareness of what we hams do.

This year's Field Day promises to be a fun, family event at a great facility with lots of public exposure. The parks has play-grounds, horseshoes, sand volleyball, hiking trails, fishing (you must have a KY Fishing License). So bring the family, the fishing pole, the volley balls and the horse shoes and come on out for a fun afternoon. We'll start setting up Saturday morning at 8:00 and begin operations at 2pm. Everyone is encouraged to signup for at least one two hour shift, whether it be to help setup, operate, log contacts, greet the public, help with the cooking and refreshments or help us tear down Sunday at 2pm. Saturday afternoon around 5pm we'll have a potluck dinner with burgers, dogs, chips and sodas provided by the club. The dinner is open to everyone to say thanks, so bring out the family, bring a covered dish, salad or desert and join us for some fun and fellowship.

The plan is to operate 3A using the club generator with three HF "contest" stations capable of 80-15 meters a Get-On-the-Air station and a VHF station.

Brian, W4SOU has done a terrific job getting out press releases and invitations to the media and local officials. An article is in the works with the Kentucky Post as well, so we do expect to have publicity.

**Directions to NKARC/KD7ARET
Field Day
at Middleton-Mills Park
3415 MILLS RD, COVINGTON**

From **I-275 at Madison Pike...**

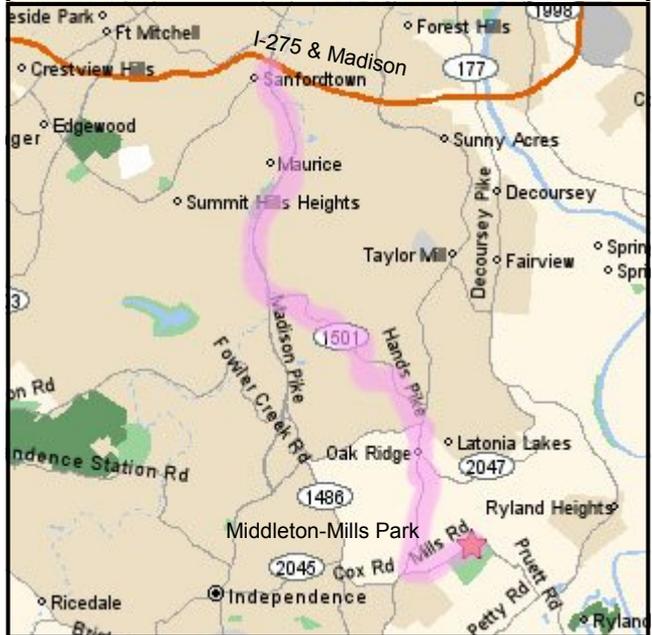
Go **SOUTH** on **MADISON PIKE**[KY-17] - 3.3 mi

Turn **L** on **HANDS PIKE** - 2.5 mi

Turn **R** on **TAYLOR MILL RD** - 1.9 mi

Turn **L** on **MILLS RD** - 0.8 mi

The Park is on the Right (At St. Patrick's Church).
We are in Shelter #1 on the lake.



**Kentucky Amateur Radio Emergency Service
Nominations Open for the 2005 KyARES OOTY Award!
Ron Dodson, KA4MAP—KY Section Emergency Coordinator**



Nominations are now being accepted for the Ky ARES Operator of the Year for 2005! <http://www.kyham.net/ooty.html> Since 1999, the Kentucky Section Amateur Radio Emergency Service has recognized the accomplishments of operators who go "above and beyond" and serve as an example to other amateur radio operators in both deed and dedication to the field of amateur radio emergency communications. The pinnacle of this recognition is the KY ARES Operator of the Year Award. Any Kentucky Amateur Radio Emergency Service Operator who is nominated by another operator is eligible to receive the award provided they are not a previous winner of the award, or an evaluator choosing this year's recipient.

The winner of the award is selected through points values assigned to the response to each yes/no question, and the content of the free form question. Be sure to completely list all relevant information for your nominee. Understand that this award is for activities from July 2004 to June 2005. Information from past years can serve as background information, but will not be considered as part of the judgment for this year.

This year's award will be presented Saturday, September 10, 2005 at the KY ARRL Convention at the Greater Louisville Hamfest www.critterbob.com/glha during the EMCOMM Forum.

Nominations will close July 31, 2005.

Previous Winners Were:

1999 - Ron Ritchie, KF4MOM (now N4MOM)

2000 - Scott Co ARES - WD4KYD, KE4KWR, WA4QAK, et al.

2001 - Fred Jones, WA4SWF

2002 - Ron Nutter, KA4KYI

2003 - Lynn Ernst, WD8JAW

2004 - Tom Mansfield, KG4TND, and Donald Munsey, KA4UHL

Hurricane Season has arrived

June 1st was the official beginning of the "Hurricane Season". Do not think that just because Kentucky isn't located on the South Eastern US coast or in the Caribbean you can't be of service. Band conditions may be such that a relay station outside of the normal service area of these nets occasionally may be of great benefit. As with all emergency nets: DO lots of listening! and DO NOT!!! Check-in unless called, or your help is needed, or you have traffic.

NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER AMATEUR STATION: <http://www.fiu.edu/orgs/w4ehw/>

HURRICANE FREQUENCY LISTINGS: <http://www.qls.net/g3yrc/hurricane.htm>

NIMMS Evolving

Lastly, What with the continuing saga of developments with the new National Incident Management System or NIMS, many have valid questions (BTW, amateur radio has not been specifically addressed as yet). To assist you in obtaining the most recent and updated info, I suggest checking out the FAQ page of the NIMS Integration Center at www.fema.gov

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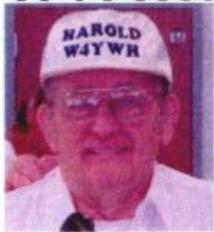
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Happy June Birthdays..
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 Donald Hornbeek, W4OWN

HAROLD F. BLOCHER Sr.
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VE Testing

Here is the results for the VE Session at the Hamfest VE testing session:

Andrew Costa and **Daniel Swartzel** earned their Tech License, **Michael & Jennifer Denison** drove all the way from Louisville to take their exams, she earned her Tech License, he upgraded from Tech Plus to General.

Two other candidates need to study a little harder. Three candidates are registered for the regularly scheduled June session on Monday, June 13th.

Lyle Hamilton
 NKARC VE Liaison

Imagine your business card here!
 If you or someone you know has a business that could benefit from being seen by nearly 200 amateurs each month Consider advertising in The Feedline Only \$50.00 per year for 12 issues! Call Tim, AG4XM at (859) 581-8588 for more information!

NET REPORTS

NKARC—March 2005

Northern Kentucky Amateur Radio Club

Sessions: 4
Checkins: 57
Minutes :131
Traffic : 1

NSC Stations.:KZ5KR, KG4HMO, NB4K,
KI4EME

Net Manager: Don Maupin, W8NSV

KD7ARET

Kentucky District 7 Amateur Radio Emergency Team

Sessions: 5
Checkins: 46
Minutes:187
Traffic: 6

NCS stations: W4SOU, KB4VKS, W8NSV

KG4SBG

Net Manager: Lynn Ernst, WD8JAW

UPCOMING HAMFESTS & EVENTS

June 18 - Milford Amateur Radio Club

Live Oaks Career Development Campus,
Milford, OH

Talk-In: 147.345+

June 25th & 26—Field DAY 2005

Joint Event between NKARC & KD7ARET
Middleton-Mills Park, Covington, KY

Set up Saturday 8AM

Talk-in 147.255 +

Contact Tim, AG4XM for details

July 8 & 9th Ohio River Way PADDLEFEST

Four Seasons Marina in Bellevue, KY, On
the Ohio River and at Sawyer Point at the
Serpentine Wall

**20 Communicators needed on Saturday
July 9th Assist in event communications.**

Sign up or more info. Contact Tim, AG4XM

23 July - 8th Annual OH-KY-IN Hamfest

Diamond Oaks Career Development Campus
Cincinnati Ohio

<http://www.ohkyin.org>

Talk-In: 146.670 (-)



Fox Hunters (l-r) CAP Cadet Christopher Marzulli, Brian DeYong, K4BRI, Bob Frey, WA6EZV and Dick Arnett, WB4SUV from this year's Ham-O-Rama Fox Hunt. Dick won in under three minutes. Brian holds one of the cleverly disguised "foxes".

Stubby

by Fred
Hurteau, WD4SKH

