



L. A. R. S. Laurel Amateur Radio Society

An A.R.R.L. Affiliated Organization

July 1, 2010

Volume XX, Number 7

L. A. R. S. Lines, the newsletter of the Laurel Amateur Radio Society, is published monthly in written and in email format as a service to its membership and to the amateur radio community. Officers of the Laurel Amateur Radio Society for the year 2010 are:

Peter Rock KJ4ND President
Alan S. Smith, Jr. KF4ZUX Vice-President
Stanley Baker KD4ERF..... Secretary / Treasurer

Minutes of the June Meeting

The June monthly meeting of the Laurel Amateur Radio Society was called to order by its president, Dr. Peter Rock KJ4ND at 7:24 p.m., local time, on Thursday evening, June 3, 2010 at the Fiesta Mexicana Restaurant near the Kroger and Advance Auto Parts store opposite the new Dino's (formerly Laurel Landing) at traffic lights #6 of the 192 By-Pass off Exit 38 off Interstate 75 at London, KY. Ten were present for the meeting.

As the first order of business, Peter KJ4ND called for the treasurer's report. Stan KD4ERF gave the report which was accepted as given. Next, Peter KJ4ND led a discussion of the club's plans for the Field Day 2010 events. All the Field Day 2010 events would be taking place on the grounds of the Fire Training Facility, located at the intersection of the 192 By-Pass and Highway 229 off Exit 38 of Interstate 75 at London, KY. This is the location that the Laurel Amateur Radio Society has been allowed to use for the past several years for Field Day activities and other special events such as the Weather Spotter Training classes. The club set the plans for the customary potluck dinner at the Field Day site for 6:30 p.m. on Saturday evening (June 26, 2010) of the Field Day events. The club would be supplying the chicken and fixings while those attending would be requested to bring a dessert, side dish, or soft drinks for the dinner. Members of the fire departments, police departments, sheriff's departments and other emergency personnel were extended a cordial invitation to attend. Mr. Troy Rudder, the Mayor of the city of London, KY, issued a proclamation the week of June 21 – 28 would be Amateur Radio Week in the city of London, KY. The local newspaper, the Sentinel-Echo, published a picture and information on the mayor's proclamation in their newspaper. Reporters from local newspapers would be encouraged to attend and report on the activities.

Jim Russell N4ICU, a.k.a. the "Sneaky Fox" and Stan KD4ERF, a.k.a. the "Elusive Red Fox" would provide a working demonstration of amateur radio transmitter hunting (Fox Hunting) on the Field Day site with opportunities for those attending the Field Day events to participate in the fox hunt. Peter KJ4ND would be providing a "farm" of antenna structures to cover most of the bands and also several items of radio equipment and matchers. He would also provide his

smaller and more convenient power generator. Peter KJ4ND would bring his archery equipment to help string the antenna wires to some of the tall trees on the site. He was also interested in attempting to get a good copy of the Field Day bulletins both on CW and by voice.

When the plans for Field Day 2010 were completed, Randell Young WB4TTW, who maintains the 146.610 MHz WD4KWV Repeater along with Henry Heaberlin WD4KWV, informed the club of a problem that has been noticed that affects the use of the repeater. In an email from Randy WB4TTW, the problem was explained as follows:

"During May I noticed one day the 61 repeater was linked to a news update on the NASA space flight. On another day it was linked to a technical session on oscilloscopes and electronics in general.

My first thought was the ability to link through the Internet was wonderful. My second thought came after the program went on for an hour with no pause. The people doing the program on a repeater in the north east did let their repeater drop out occasionally to reset their timer, but not long enough to let 61 reset. The repeater timed out several times!!!!

I tried to find a way to break the link and let the 61 repeater go back to normal service. But, the computer and radio, transmitting into 61 repeater, was locked on transmit with on way to receive a tone signal to stop, break, quit, shut down, etc., . . . etc.

I think the owner of the computer link was out of town and left the linking system turned "on" and available for him and others to use. This seems OK to me. But, if nobody is home at the computer and someone here links to a repeater with a long program in progress, the 61 repeater is captured for as long as the program lasts!!!!!! Local use of 61 is dead until the program ends!!!!!!

I do not know how to find what is on a repeater before a link is turned on. But, I do know one condition that takes away the option to turn the link off.

Please feel free to correct me if I my limited experience with Internet radio linking is obvious and I have overlooked something!!!!!!"

Randell Young

WB4TTW

ryoung@barbourville.com

If you have any ideas on solving this problem, they will be greatly appreciated. The 146.610 MHz WD4KWV Repeater is a very important repeater for amateur radio communications in this area along the interstate and we must help Randell and Henry to solve this problem.

Then, Jimmy Ware WB4HGF moved to adjourn the business meeting. It was seconded by John Whitaker KG4LFY and Peter KJ4ND adjourned the business meeting at 8:15 p.m. local time to a good roundtable session of amateur radio conversation while finishing the great Mexican food and visualizing how great Field Day 2010 would be!

----Minutes by Stanley Baker KD4ERF

The July Monthly Meeting of the Laurel Amateur Radio Society Is Scheduled for Thursday, June 3, 2010

The L.A.R.S. monthly meeting for June is scheduled for Thursday, July 8, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., local time, at the Fiesta Mexicana Restaurant near the Kroger and Advance Auto Parts store opposite the new Dino's (formerly Laurel Landing) at traffic lights #6 of the 192 By-Pass off Exit 38 off Interstate 75 at London, KY. Come out and enjoy our discussion of the events of Field Day 2010 while having some of the great Mexican food at the Fiesta Mexicana Restaurant and making plans for the next few months.

Field Day 2010 – Great Amateur Radio Experiences

By Dr. Peter Rock KJ4ND

We started setting up on Saturday about 8:30 am at the fire training area. Stan, KD4ERF let us into the building. John KD4LFY and I started putting up the antennas. We started on the tower and put up inverted V's for 10m, 15m, 20m, 40m, and 80m. This took longer than I expected, and it was soon after 2pm. So, I got on the air and started making contacts. Dave N4YAD came soon after, and got on the radio, also. A little later, Dallas AJ4MP arrived and got on the air, too.

The bands were better than 2 years ago, especially 15m, which had very few contacts 2 years ago, but we had a good number of contacts on that band both Sat. and Sunday. We had our pot luck dinner about 6:30 pm, and had about a dozen people there. We all had a good time with the dinner.

We continued to work stations into the night, and I finished putting up some of the antennas in the trees that I did not have time to do earlier. Jim N4ICU also had his "fox" there, and several people tried finding the fox. I stayed until about midnight, and John did too, and apparently came back later too. But Dallas was the one who stayed the rest of the night, and he worked more stations than any of us. I came the next morning, and copied the field day message, first in CW, then managed to get it on SSB on 17m. We worked a couple more hours getting contacts. Then it was time to take everything down. The weather was threatening, and I had to rush along to get things off the tower.

We managed to get everything packed up, and the weather held out. I have not tallied all the contacts, but our numbers are definitely much more on most of the bands, especially 15m. I will probably have some more definite numbers by the next club meeting. It was definitely a good field day!

73s

Dr. Peter Rock KJ4ND

President

The Laurel Amateur Radio Society

Note: Pictures of the Field Day 2010 activities will be on the club's website by July 10....

Field Day 2010 Fox Hunt Article

By Jim Russell N4ICU, a.k.a., "The Sneaky Fox"

Gina, KJ4RUR with Peewee KF4ZUX's help found the FOX first. Then, Rodney KG4LKY, and at last Josh, W4TKO

found the fox transmitter.

I should have gotten a picture of it. Old 220 single main breaker/cutout box, rusted, with dry grass in the openings was removed from Fire training Site on Friday Night and returned Saturday afternoon with the FOX inside and placed on the ground beside the telephone pole in the same depression that the box had made. A little dry grass was sprinkled around to cover the black wire antenna and to disguise any evidence of tampering. The FOX was wrapped in camouflage cloth with a bit of dry grass partially blocking the view of the fox from outside. Rodney and Josh actually had to pick up the Camouflage Cloth to make sure there was a radio in it!

73 & God Bless You

Jim Russell N4ICU, a.k.a., "The Sneaky Fox"

FCC Call Sign Update for Region 4

Extra – AK4AJ

Technician, & General – KJ4WIL

Next Meeting Date: Thursday July 8, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., E.D.T, at the Fiesta Mexicana Restaurant near the Kroger and Advance Auto Parts store opposite the new Dino's (formerly Laurel Landing) at traffic lights #6 of the 192 By-Pass off Exit 38 off Interstate 75 at London, KY.

Mid-Month Meeting: Thursday, July 15, 2010, at 12:00 noon, at Fazoli's on the 192 By-Pass at Exit 38 off Interstate 75 at London, KY.

Membership: \$15.00 /year

L. A. R. S. Lines

Laurel Amateur Radio Society

Peter Rock (KJ4ND)President

Alan S. Smith, Jr. (KF4ZUX) ..Vice-President

Stanley E. Baker (KD4ERF).....Sec/Treas.

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***DO NOT FORGET THE L. A. R. S.
EMERGENCY NET EACH SUNDAY EVENING
AT 9:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME, ON THE
WD4KWV 146.61 REPEATER!!!!***

***DO NOT FORGET THE SOUTHEAST
SKYWARN WEATHER NET EVERY OTHER
(2nd) THURSDAY EVENING AT 9:00 P.M.,
LOCAL TIME, ON THE KG4LKY 146.925MHz (-
)79.7 PL REPEATER LINKED TO THE
444.275MHz (+)79.7 PL KF4IFC REPEATER
AND ECHO NODE 16883 !!! THIS NET IS
CONDUCTED BY TONY W4WXR.***