The Spectrum

Issue 02 February 2005

Words From The President

Keith … KG4ZXK

The cold winds of winter are upon us. I am glad that almost all the outside work at the QRM room has been completed. In fact, Saturday the 22nd of January was a first for me. I went up to the QRM room and had my first contact on 6 meters! That is one thing I have really enjoyed with amateur radio so far. It never gets old when you find a new way to make a contact.

Many thanks to everyone who has helped with getting the QRM room in tip-top shape. There are some minor things that need to be done and the current radio layout in the room may change but the major things have been done. You all should be proud of your club's home.

Jim Rogers, KG4WOJ, has to leave us to do what Uncle Sam has asked him to do. Jim, I have enjoyed working with you and hope you return to us soon to pick up where you've left off. That means we are need of a communications officer. If you know of anyone you think would be right for the post, please contact one of the board members and let us know. In the interim, Ricky Lee, KC4RIC, has been nominated as Field Day Committee Chairman. If you would like to assist with this fun task please get in touch with Ricky Lee and let him know. I'm sure he would appreciate the extra hands.

With all of the work that has been done recently and with everything going on behind the scenes to have a club that runs smoothly I have been noticing lately the fact that some folks may have forgotten that Amateur Radio is a hobby. Some people have gotten into amateur radio to communicate with the world. Some of you enjoy building electronic devices to transmit on the air. Some are antenna experts. Others enjoy working with digital modes. We also have folks that are into helping their community through emergency communications. That is what makes our hobby great is the way folks with diverse interests are able to coexist. I don't see this in many other hobbies.

I do not know how many of you have heard about the Amateur's Code. No it's not Morse code. It's a mantra of how we as Amateur Radio Operators should treat each other and the hobby as it becomes a part of our life. I am going to ask our newsletter editor if he can include it in each future editions of the Spectrum.

I know for the older hams that they have read this and will see that the version I am working with has probably been updated or changed since it was originally conceived back in the 1920's if I have my time correct. You mostly will find this in each edition of the ARRL handbook.

The code basically states that hams are considerate of other amateurs both on and off the air. States that hams are a group of loyal folks who support their fellow hams, clubs and other organizations such as the ARRL. That as a group we are progressive, trying to expand our knowledge of our hobby, running efficient stations; that we are friendly. That we have patience with those who are not at our level, that we offer advice and assistance when needed. That we are patriotic but the main point is that we are balanced.

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Links of Interest

KG4ZXK.com Home page

Ham radio animated clipart and Graphics

2004 Skywarn Day Event Photos (look for us under WX4AKQ - Wakefield, VA)

SERA releases stand on IRLP and Echolink

Upcoming Events

CARS Meeting/Shack Day

Meeting - Monday, February 7th, 7:00PM
Shack Day, February 12th, 9:00am
QRM Room

Skywarn Training

Feb 23rd, 6:30 – 9:00 PM
Indian River Library, 2320 Old Greenbrier Road

General Class License Preparation

Starts February 8th,
Contact Leo KG4PWC for further details

Frost Fest

February 20th

Monitor Merrimac

March 5th or 6th. Details to follow

They're Up! Now let's Eat!

Sonny … K4WYS

That was the cry from Richard, WA4BUE as the last set of guys were tighten by Paul and Dennis. Then echoing across the opening and the trees across the hollow you could hear Karon informing the slow pokes to hurry up. The four towers of Richard's 160 meter loop antenna are up and ready to support the wire. The main tower is a 40 self-supporting Rohn BX tower with a 2 meter vertical "Boomer" beam at 50 foot above the ground. The balance of the 160 meter antenna support towers are three each 40 foot "Tabet" towers, with 10 foot steel masts, guyed at 40 and 20 feet. These towers are 150 feet apart in a square with the sides running north and south, and east and west. In about two and a half hours all the structures were raised and the area looked like a "Radio America" transmitting site in Dinwiddie County. The crew consisted of Barry, W3AFH; "DOC" Joe, KG4PWB; Don, KB4NKP; Sonny, K4WYS; Karon, KI4FNR and her hubby Quint; Paul, K4PRB; Dennis, K4DKR; Rich, KI4EUM; Keith, KG4ZXK; Matt, KB1LCS and late but not least Leo, KG4PWC. Richard, WA4BUE, our host and owner of this fine site for radio towers was kept busy bringing parts and tools to the work crew. And what a crew it was! By the time we got the procedure down to get it done well, we ran out of towers. It was a good thing we put the last tower up before we ate, because after the feed, we were useless and content. Oh, yes the feed, a sumsus repass as Barry puts it, was spread out in the kitchen by Harriet, that's Richard's XYL.

At 7:00 PM, Richard could be heard through the W4CAR, 146.820 repeater, full quieting from 73 miles away from the repeater. His closing comment was **thank you** to all who helped out this fine day in Dinwiddie County.

From one of the crew, this is when Hamming is fun!
Sonny, K4WYS

Quint, and Rich (KI4EUM) steady the tower as Barry (W3AFH) prepares to insert the pin

"Doc" (KG4PWB) and Rich (KI4EUM) look on as Quint, Barry (W3AFH), Sonny (K4WYS) and Don (KB4NKP) attach the main tower to the foundation

Sonny (K4WYS) makes final adjustments on the 40' Rohn BX tower

LOCAL NETS

SKYWARN NET 146.820 MHz
Fridays 1900 hours.

Old Dominion IRLP Net 145.600 MHz
Sundays 2000 hours.
IRLP Node #4865 (Simplex Frequency)

CARS 10 Meter Net 28.400 MHz
2000 hours on Mondays CARS doesn't meet

Hampton Roads Public Service Net 146.970 MHz
Mon-Sat 2100 hours

VBARC 10 Meter Net 28.400 MHz
2000 hours on Thursdays VBARC doesn't meet

Portsmouth "RagChew" Net 146.850 Mhz
Monday & Wednesday 1930 hours

Southeastern Virginia Traffic Net 146.850 MHz
Sun, Tues, Thurs @ 2000 hours

Portsmouth Amateur Radio Emergency Services Net
Fridays 2000 hours 146.850 MHz

FCC falls short in readers' eyes

By Glenn Bischoff
January 14, 2005

A couple of weeks ago in this space I suggested that, while the FCC does tend to move slowly, there are reasons for its deliberate approach to policy decisions and that the commission generally has reached conclusions that are fair, balanced and well-contemplated.

MRT's readers, as always, have their own thoughts concerning the FCC. As promised, we are sharing a few of them with you this week. They have been edited.

"From my very-small-business point of view, I am usually very critical of the FCC's seeming attempt to destroy little folks like us. But your short article reminded me of the tremendous task the FCC has before it and the fact that there is no way that everybody is going to be satisfied. Small business is usually just along for the ride with the very big decisions -- hopefully, [the FCC] sees the much larger picture."

"The result of the [FCC's order], which you applaud, are as follows: A little more spectrum for public safety [but] an interference threshold standard of -85 dbm for portables, for the three years it is supposed to take Nextel to reband. That means that, if the desired signal is weaker than -85 dbm, [public safety has] to accept the interference. After three years, it is dropped all the way to -101 dbm. ... I know that where this FCC-Nextel thing is going is good for equipment manufacturers and service providers -- and maybe even for the industry in general (by virtue of more equipment to maintain) -- but is it the best public interest?

"I admit that I don't know all the ins and outs of broadband over power lines, but I am very concerned about the FCC's attitude towards the concerns that have been brought up over BPL. The ham operators point to a case in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where it took eight months for the utility to shut down its system causing interference. What will happen if it starts to affect local public-safety radio systems? ... You can't tell me that, as a firefighter in the middle of an emergency call at O-dark-30, [when] I experience interference from a BPL system, my local utility is going to willingly jump right up and shut down the system. Let's pray that we don't have a injury or fatality due to this.

"As a long-time amateur radio operator, as well as long-time FCC First Class license holder, I can see both sides of the [BPL] argument, but I don't have any faith in the FCC regarding this matter. I pity the short-wave listeners who won't have any grounds for complaint. ... What happens to BPL when we legally use our hobby and transmit as licensed radio operators? It will certainly raise havoc with the BPL users who will immediately accuse us of further interfering with their poorly designed equipment."

"For many years, utility companies -- especially transmission line bulk power shippers -- used carrier current schemes just like BPL on HV power lines for their own communications. But, for the last 15 years or so, every major transmission line has a fiber-optic communications line embedded in the topmost ground cable for that purpose. They do not use BPL at all ... despite the fact it is essentially free to them. I don't have to tell you why, do I? Interference is a big part of it. ... A whole technology exists right now -- fiber optic in ground wire -- that is safe, secure, non-interfering and offers probably a 100,000-fold increase in data-handling ability over the wildest dreams of BPL advocates. ... If the utilities want to get into data shipment, why not do it right, instead of wrong? Almost every power pole has a grounded conductor, which could also be the real data highway. They have to put it up the ground wire anyway, so why not use it wisely? Are these people really this clueless? The point is there are much better technical alternatives toward achieving the same goal as BPL."

"Very few mention the vulnerability of BPL to outside RF elements. [Hams] have been testing and found we can bring the system to a halt just by driving and talking.

Continued on next page

FCC FALLS SHORT…*from page 3*

... A ham operating within 300 feet at 100 watts will stop communication via BPL. Preliminary tests show 5 watts interrupts the data flow."

So there you have it. Thanks to all of our readers over the past year who have taken the time to share their thoughts. While we can't respond to each e-mail, nor can we publish them all, we do read every one, and they always give us more to think about. We hope you'll keep writing, and reading.

E-mail me at gbischoff@primediabusiness.com

Reprinted from the "MRT BULLETIN...Jan 14th, 2005"

February Shack Day

Sonny Hood …

At the January 20th BOD meeting it was discussed that the 75-40 meter antenna is the last item to complete the basic communications needs at the shack on Reservation Road. This antenna will give the station a direct voice link to the state EOC station in Richmond, Virginia.
We have a new copy of the AEA 75-40 meter loaded dipole with 1:1 Balun in the file cabinet at the shack. Frank, K4PRR wound the coils and I cut the wire and assembled the unit.

The plan is that Saturday February 12th starting around 9:30-10:00 AM, Rich, KI4EUM volunteered to help me install the antenna. We hope to have a low band HF dipole installed at 40 plus feet up across the top of the QRM room fed in the center at the tower.

The first phase is to measure the length of coax needed to run from the gaff-mounted pulley on the 40 ft. tower, through the wall, across the attic and drop into the low band HF station. After cutting, solder a PL-259 in the cable.
Next, cut two 100-foot lengths of the Dacron (black) antenna line to install on the terminus insulators of the antenna. A third length of line is to be cut 80 foot long for the lift line of the antenna. The third line is to replace the white nylon presently through the pulley on the tower.

Next a 5/8" hole needs to be drilled through the tower bracket board into the attic. The end of the coax without the PL-259 is to be fed into the attic. The fitting end of the coax connected and sealed to the antenna balun and the unit tied to the lift line.

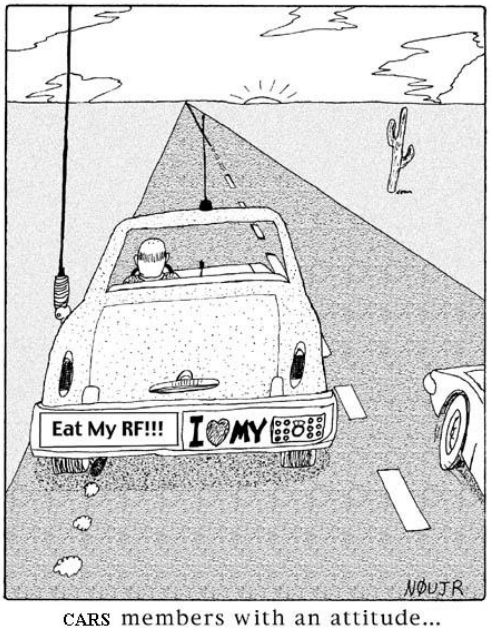
Rich said that he would bring his ladder to climb the pine tree west of the shack. Sighting the alignment across the pulley to the pine tree and the old 100 ft tower, we will select which tree to tie the end of the antenna line. Install the screw eye bolt into the pine tree giving a clear pull towards the tower at 40 plus height. Pull the end line through the screw eye and drop the slack end to the help on the ground. A good tree climber would make this task a quick job. The other end of the line will be carried across the roof and dropped to a climber that will pull the line around the side of the tower at 40' plus height. The help can direct the folks at each tie point to align the antenna to a level position. Tying off the ends of the lines above normal elevation to prevent vandals from tampering is desired. The end of the center lift line can be tied off to the tower by reaching out the shack window, to keep the line away from unauthorized hands. This will complete the outside work.

The final task is to enter the attic and pull the coax to a hole in the ceiling above the operating desk for the low band HF operating station.

Based on BOD discussions the low band HF operating station is to be in the paneled room on a 6-foot table along the south wall. Some of the stuff in the room may need to be relocated. The last task is to put a rig (or analyzer) on the coax (after the PL-259 is installed) and check the basic unmatched SWR to determine the resonate frequencies. Move the TenTec station to the table with the LDG auto tuner and make contacts to determine the local and DX range.

Folks that can perform the above tasks (and supervise) are encouraged to come on down to the shack to participant in the project, the more the merrier. More folks will make the project go to completion in a short time and the fun of getting on the air wouldn't take long.

Coffee and doughnuts, as normal menu for shack days, will be available throughout the project.



CARS members with an attitude...

A Microphone Tale

Leo … KG4PWC

Nothing is more annoying than not being heard except being heard but not understood. The scariest moment in a new Ham's life is the first use of the Push-To-Talk microphone and making the first QSO. You push the button and you hear the click or sound of the repeater. You freeze and say nothing. The repeater clicks off. Now you feel terrible because in your Technician Class, your instructor told you that what you did was "Kerchunking the repeater" which is a Faux pas that will haunt you for the rest of your brief life. You press the PTT switch and say your call. You pause and say it a few more times. The speaker comes to life and you are elated that your radio works. Then you hear "Station calling, please come again?" So you say your call again. You hear, "Sorry Old Man, but I got a K and a 4, could you say your call again". You hold the microphone closer and scream your call into the microphone. You hear, "KZ4 I didn't get the complete call. You are coming in weak and noisy into the repeater. Thanks for trying but I cannot copy you well."

You sit stunned. You just spent a couple hundred dollars on this new radio and you cannot make a contact. You pull out the manual and you see the microphone settings. You decide that you just don't have the punch so you turn up the compression and the microphone gain. You try again. This time your Elmer hears you calling. "K... is that you John?" he asks and continues, "You sound real raspy and weak into the repeater." You acknowledge that it indeed was you. "John, we checked out your antenna and I know your rig should be hitting the repeater better. Since you are near me, try going to simplex." You do this and call your Elmer on 146.550 MHz. "John, I hear you better but can you check the microphone gain and compression. You sound harsh and hot". You reset the settings back to the factory default and try again. "John that is better, but try turning up the compression one notch since you have a deep voice." After doing this your Elmer says, "you sound better but still a little hot, try holding the microphone further away from your mouth or speak across it. You feel relieved that your rig is working OK and dutifully call back. "OK, John, now let's go back to the repeater". You do this and your Elmer says, "John, you are pretty weak into the repeater, what are your frequency settings?" You give him your input and output frequency. Your Elmer comes back, "John, I suspected as much. You are off 5 KHz on you settings." You change frequencies and you hear, "John, you sound much better!" Relieved, you tell your Elmer you had accidentally reset the memories and forgot what the frequency pairs were for the repeater. It is getting dark so you flip on the fluorescent light. After your next transmission you hear, "John, I don't know what you did but you now have a pretty good AC hum". You turn off the light and he replies. "I agree it must be the light. But you sound good so keep working on your station. I have to get back to some other things so if you have any other questions call me on the land line. 73!" With that, your Elmer gives his call sign and clears.

A little more confident, you say your call sign and the previous operator comes back. "John, welcome to Amateur Radio. You sound great. Fine business on your station!"

73
Leo
KG4PWC

It works!

Sonny … K4WYS

If you remember back on January the 8th twelve members of CARS took a trip up to Richard Siff's QTH to raise his towers for his dream antenna. That was a fun Saturday and a very fine job done by the crew.

Well, this past Sunday morning Frank, K4PRR, and I struck out at daybreak for Dinwiddie County to continue the project. Boy was it cold and windy. Arriving on the hill we were met with frequent snow flurries. But as the labor of love for a ham project proceeded, the flurries left but the cold stayed.

Richard had performed the long division and came up with a length of wire needed for his loop antenna to work on 160 meters. He had driven stakes in the ground and strung the wire with the insulators ready for the installation. A quick walk around the layout and the insulators were locked on the corners with cable ties.

Now, speaking about cold, when we attempted to solder the 450-ohm twin lead wire to the southern leg of the antenna, the wind absorbed the heat and the solder wouldn't flow. Now that is cold! Luckily, the shed was about 10 feet from the base of the tower so we pulled the lines into the shed. With a soldering gun and a soldering iron we finally got the solder to melt
.
The second circuit, walk that is, was to connect the guy lines to the wire and hoist the wire up about half way of the towers. The third round trip was to raise the wire to an even height, as seen by Richard and Frank as they watched as I labored on the lines. You know the weight of the wire and the tension to level out the wire wasn't as great as I had estimated. The 10-foot pipe masts at the top of the Tabet towers didn't show a minor amount of bending.

Continued on Next Page

It Works! … *from page 5*

A quick check with the analyzer clipped to the down drop of twin lead produced a multitude of resonate frequencies. Next the 4:1 balun was connected between the twin lead and the coax. The power rating on the aluminum box said 2-KW, Richard must have a plan!

Inside we went, to thaw out the noise, fingers and toes to fire up the rig. Boy was the hot chocolate a great warmer upper. The resonate points were in or near most of the desired ham bands, but Richard said no need to cut it, the tuner will match the system. And match it, it did! I noted the tuner settings for all bands for reference. With the tuner it would match from 160 meters to 10 meters. I worked a VE4QZ on 17 meters to confirm that it worked.

Over the next few days Richard has heard stations on 160 from California and worked station in the mid west on 17. On 75, he runs a 10 dB over S-9 at my QTH. The kid has a new toy and his dream antenna. The only band he hasn't experimented on is 60 meters.
But that will happen soon.

Yes, **it works**, and now we all can dream or go visit Richard and see a dream come true.

Sonny, K4WYS

In the Beginning...
Kid's Day Jan 2, 2005

Leo … KG4PWC

The Key to life is the Key. In this case it is a 3-foot long straight key used to make big the simple beauty and the historical significance of Morse Code. The story of the creation of this larger than life telegraph key is subject of folklore. The Key would hold preeminence in the halls of the castle of W4CAR over those symbols of Amateur Radio governance the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch (www.cebik.com/radio.html). But alas, the QRM room is only large enough to contain the Key, so its true importance to our club is not apparent to the uninitiated.

As is the case with life being more fantastic than fiction, the ARRL Straight Key night precedes Kid's Day, which occurs the day after New Years. So we celebrate a new beginning with acknowledgement of our past and passing down the knowledge to our offspring. Little did Jim, KG4WOJ realize that his toe tapping on the Key and sending out "hello", "Chesapeake" and other words, not only mesmerized the kids in the QRM room but was an act of Amateur Radio forces beyond his control. Jim also turned out to be an outstanding teacher. An educational kit sold by Radio Shack and made by Elenco www.elenco.com allows one to snap together electronic parts and gizmos to demonstrate electrical properties. The kids, Hector and Ricky Lugo, and John and Sarah Richmond were enthralled and eager to learn. The Amateur Radio gods were less forgiving of my lack of preparation using the new Yaesu FT 847. Noise conditions in the main room and on the air lay like a thick blanket smothering any signals on the designated frequencies. Switching to the Ten-Tec Omini VI Plus in the adjoining room did snag a station from the Johnson Space Center near Houston Texas and the four kids were all able to carry on a short QSO.

The event of the day was the mini-Fox Hunt. Bill WF4R tried his best to hide the transmitter in ever increasingly difficult places to locate, but the kid's including Keith, KG4ZXK and Jim, KG4WOJ, Dee Dee, KI4DNN and Ron, KI4FNN were able to find it. Even the Pizza distraction did not dull the transmitter locating abilities of the kids. The weather was pleasant and very warm for a January weekend. Maybe the Wouff-Hong and Rettysnitch were hovering over us that day.

When one reflects back on what the QRM room looked like 4 months ago, the transformation is fantastic. We have 3 HF rigs of which 2 are VHF and UHF capable, 2 automatic tuners, a LPDA and 6-meter beam and vertical VHF/UHF antenna on a tower complete with rotor. Many of the cosmetic blemishes are being removed and it was a very comfortable place for Kid's Day. Paul, K4PRB and Matt KB1LCS also came out to help.

I greatly appreciate all who came out to assist. At the end of the day, the Key was stored away until the next time when good Amateur Radio practices can be passed down to another generation.

73
Leo - KG4PWC

Matt (KB1LCS) introduces two aspiring young HAMS to the world of HF

Jim (KG4WOJ) works the project board

NEED SOME ALUMINUM TUBING FOR ANTENNA PROJECTS?

CARS has a barrel full of miscellaneous sizes and lengths (mostly the elements from the old LPDA lost in "Isabel"). Club members can purchase at a price that you feel is adequate compensation to the club. Check out the supply at the February 7th meeting at the QRM room.

Minutes of the January 3rd, General Meeting of the Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service, Inc.

President Keith Ainsley, KG4ZXK at 7:35 PM EST, called the meeting to order.

Self-introduction was made with 2 guests and 17 members in attendance.

Health & Welfare: There was no listing of members to the request (conversation prior to the meeting someone said Lee might be in the hospital and that Ruth was not feeling well).

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Minutes of the December Dinner meeting were read and accepted; the minutes for the December 20th, Board of Directors meeting were read for information of the general membership.

Treasurer's Report: The club was informed that Lee, KI4CAV, had resigned due to possible burden on his health; the membership was asked if anyone was interested in taking the position. The report was presented by acting Treasurer, K4WYS.

Program: Reggie White, W5SSB, presented the program entitled "Software Defined Radio". It was a very interesting subject and enjoyed by all.

Communications Officer Report: Jim, KG4WOJ, advised that the shack and operating positions were coming along fine. The six-meter beam is mounted between the GP-9 and the LPDA. A proposed antenna distribution system was under design to be able route all antennas to several positions and would be installed after the Ground Hog Day schedule. January 15th was set up as the Shack Day for radio operating training and etc.! The VHF/UHF antenna and tower would not be ready by Ground Hog Day, due to the relocation of the VHF position, but it is in the plan.

Repeater Committee: Bill, WF4R said that the 444.000 UHF repeater was in the QRM room (as seen) but it needs some twicking on receive. He heard that there was a meeting planned for discussing the status of the Bower's Hill system sometime this month.

Springfest Committee: Remember the date of April 9th, 2005. Thickets this year are $5.00.

Public Service Coordinator: Kid's Day was a success. HRPC will provide space to have Tech class starting Jan. 11th Paul, K4PRB, is in charge. Tour-de-Cure ride is on schedule for April 23rd. The balance of the upcoming events will be posted later.

Newsletter: Rich, KI4EUM, said that the newsletter has been reported as being read by folks out of the area, with great interest. The problem downloading the "newsletter pdf" file on the homepage will be corrected soon by moving the files to KG4ZXK.com and providing a link form the QSL.net page. There was discussion on future use of the bandwidth on Keith's site for future postings. Currently any wanting the file e-mail Rich at
graham812@cox.net.

OLD BUSINESS:
The club is still looking for a Dinner Meeting coordinator?

NEW BUSINESS:
The recently received eight sections of the Rohn HBX self-supporting tower (no base hinges or brackets) is worth about $100.00 in its present condition and can be sold if anyone wants it now. Barring any sale the disposition of the 40 Ft. HBX Tower, held by CARS and stored at K4WYS' QTH, was determined to be raffled off at the upcoming Springfest for $1 a chance and 6 for $5.

Paul Buckwalter, K4PRB, won the 50/50 Raffle. $11.50, his share, was donated to the club.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM EST.

The Spectrum

Monthly newsletter of the Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service (CARS)

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Bill Runyon WF4R

Spring Fest Coordinator:
Leo Kusuda KG4PWC

Field Day Coordinator
Rick Smith (Ricky Lee) KC4RIC

The Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE - Never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL – Offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through with Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE – With knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY – Slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED – Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC – Station and skills always ready for service to country and community.

-- The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.

Presidents word … from page 1

By being balanced the code is saying that this great hobby is a part of your life. It's not your life. You should never allow the hobby to interfere with duties that you need to perform for your employer, family, school, or community. You should also never allow the hobby to interfere with your health.

We are going to have several events come up this year. I would like to see each and every one of you participate. However, I understand that everyone cannot attend every function or be at every meeting. I would rather folks come out to events because you want to, not because you feel forced. That way we build a better atmosphere for the club.

So I hope this information will help put amateur radio into perspective and help you enjoy the hobby even more. I would also like to hear from you if there is something you would like to get out of the club but feel isn't there. This is your club. If we the board do not hear from you then we will think everyone is happy with the direction we are going.

Take care, be careful in the frigid weather and look forward to seeing everyone at the February general meeting. Soapbox is now free for someone else to take.

73
Keith Ainsley, KG4ZXK