



"The Laddeline"

River Cities Amateur Radio Association

Serving Boyd - Greenup Counties Kentucky

KG4DVE Repeater 146.940



Activites Area

June 2 - Club Meeting 7:30pm Salvation Army
Program- K5D DXpedition W8OI

June 6 - Carter County Hamfest 8am-2pm

June 14 - Dist. 9 ARES Management Meeting

June 27-28 - ARRL Field Day



July 4 - Summer Motion Special Event Station
Central Park

July 7 - Club Meeting 7:30pm Salvation Army
Program- Ireland/Marconni Event W8HC

July 11 - VE Testing 9:00am Salvation Army

FISTS CW Club

The FISTS CW Club is an international organization formed in 1987 to: (1) further the use of CW on the amateur bands, (2) encourage newcomers to the CW mode, and (3) engender friendship within its membership. Also referred to as the "International Morse Preservation Society", there have been over 14,400 amateur operators to join since its inception. The only requirement to jopin FISTS is a love of Morse code and a concern for its perpetuation.

With a view of fostering CW, the club is directed primarily at newcomers, but it also maintains a hard core of veterans to help enclurage them. The guiding principle of FISTS is "Accuracy Transcends Speed". The hallmark of a good FISTS operator is considered to be the quality of code sent rather than the speed at whichg it is conveyed.

FISTS members gather on recommended frequencies to practice their skills, and are also kept abreast of developing issues and upcoming events through a comprehensive newsletter. More information is available at www.fists.org.

by: Dan Huffman K4VTA

Presidents Corner

Well its time for Field Day 2009 ! This year we will be at the Northeast Kentucky Fish and Game Club in Boyd County. We will be running a 1A entry with one station operating SSB, and the Wireless Outback DX Crew will be operating CW QRP at the same site. Frank KI4WAZ will be outlining our program at this months RCARA meeting. This past month I had the opportunity to visit my daughter in New Hampshire, and we enjoyed a day of whale watching onboard one of the "Blue Ocean" research vessels the "Granite State". The adventure was very interesting and we were able to see six whales in their natural habitat. Even more interesting was the Amateur Radio communications between the Blue Ocean vessels to spot and report whale activity in the north Atlantic area off New England. When the crew of the Granite State found out I was an amateur radio operator, the fun began. I was invited to the bridge to observe the communications equipment (standard Vertex Marine Radio, Yeasu 857 with power supply), and had the opportunity to make a report to another vessel some 150 miles to the north east of our location via HF on 80 meters (3.875Mhz) using only 10 watts erp to a vertical antenna on the ship. The watch we were on was some 45 miles north east of Portsmouth, New Hampshire off the Jenkins Oceanic Shelf, and about 20 miles from the Isle of Schols in the Bay of Maine. It certainly was a great expierence, except for the 6-8 foot seas, and it just shows you that Amateur Radio is there and ready for all applications.



One of the Humpback whales off our port side about 20 feet from the ship. The whale is feeding, and the exposed is the 50ft. Humpbacks mouth.

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The Ladderline



Kentucky District 9 ARES/RACES



District 9 DEC Scott Jacobs KI4GSF has called a District 9 management committee meeting for June 14, 2009 in Ashland, KY at the Salvation Army HQ. This meeting will be for all ADEC's, EC's, AEC's and District PIO, District Net Manager etc. The meeting will cover a number of issues, including 09 Plans SET exercise 2009, and much more. If you are an ADEC, EC or AEC please plan to attend this very important meeting for the District. See ya there !

Presidents Corner cont.

As the RCARA year comes to a close in September 09, please remember to get your dues into our treasurer as soon as possible, and make your plans for the 09-10 RCARA year. There is still a couple of months ahead of us in 2009, but please be thinking of who you would like as officers/directors for the 2009-2010 year. The nominating committee will be appointed next month, and please think of running for an office, or make your opinions known to the nominating committee before their report in August. I would like to thank John Easterling KG4IVM for his work on the repeater as Repeater/Tech Chairman. This can be a trying job at times, but the repeater is on the way, and we thank John for his efforts. Till next month, have a great time on the bands, and best 73 Matt AA4XA

DAYTON 09



Dayton Hamvention 09 was another great success, with some 17,000 Amateur Radio operators and others got together for a fun weekend of Ham Radio. The ARRL Forum was again great, with everything Ham Radio you could want. The RSGB Great Britain, Japan ARRL, and the German Radio League were also at the EXPO area. Everyone that attended from the RCARA had a great time and took home some goodies for the shack. KI4WAZ Frank took home a new HF rig a used Kenwood TS-930S, good looking rig. If you have not been to Dayton, make your plans to attend in 2010.

Mike Pugh KA4MKG SK

It is with great sadness and total disbelief that Mike Pugh, a former member of the RCARA, living in Lexington, KY died Wednesday May 27, 2009. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jeanie KB8QLC, Mike's wife, for her heartbreaking loss. We cannot express our thoughts, we can only express our grief for this loss to the Amateur Radio community of Kentucky. Mike was the Asst. Director for SERA here in the Kentucky Section, and a long time friend of all hams in the state. Jeanie, KB8QLC is the current Kentucky Section ARRL Club Coordinator. Mike received his license at one of the RCARA class sessions held at ACC, and conducted by his Elmer Dave Vest KZ4G.

Dayton Hamvention 09 Scenes



New IARU WAC Awards

Pictured below are the new IARU Worked All Continents Awards offered to all Amateur Radio operators. These awards are for WAC any mode and bands, and Five Band WAC (80,40,20, 15,10 meters). Check your logs, and hop on the air and Work All Continents !!!

