

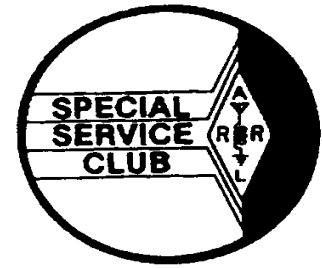


# THE HAMCALL

The Official Newsletter of The Kentucky Colonels

Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Call: KY4BG  
Bowling Green, Kentucky

Web page: <http://www.angelfire.com/ky/kcarcl/>



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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



President Mike McClure  
KW4MAC

Hello Everyone,

It's been a busy fall. In September we had our annual club picnic and the Disaster Summit. At our October meeting we elected officers and board members for 2009.

2009

Ed Gann N4HID

President

Mark Gillim KJ4DGZ

Vice President

Claire Rinehart KF4IWX

Sec-Treas

Board of Directors

Fred Painter KA4CFW

Tom Williams WB4SCV

John Renfrow KI4KFD

Chris Shaw W4BGN

Mike McClure KW4MAC

And on Halloween night Chris Shaw, W4BGN, coordinated our annual Bridge Watch. A

big thanks to Chris and everyone who participated in the Bridge Watch.



Chirs W4BGN and John KI4KFD  
Bridge Watch Command Station  
KY4BG

It's important to take an active role in our club, and there are many opportunities available. We need a volunteer to serve as editor of our club newsletter, The HamCall for 2009. We need volunteers to teach Tech classes to our local Red Cross. And we need volunteers to coordinate and help with all the annual events (Tour de Cave, Field Day, Picnic, Bridge Watch, Awards Dinner, etc.) scheduled for 2009. It takes all of us to keep our club growing, so please give your support to our new slate of officers for 2009.

Our next meeting will be the Award's Dinner at Ryan's Steakhouse at 6 pm CST on Friday November 21.

73  
Mike McClure

## Secretary/Treasurer

Claire Rinehart, KF4IWX

Elections were held during the October club meeting. The November Meeting will be the Annual Awards

Banquet held at Ryan's Steakhouse at 6 PM, Nov 21st.

On a personal note, I recently took a trip to Seattle and found a very active group of hams on 2M. I was able to easily hit their repeater with my little handheld and had a good visit with several of the locals. They hold nets at 9 AM and 9 PM each day. The repeater that I was using did not have the courtesy tone and the exchanges were very rapid and concise. I guess that since this is the Microsoft capital that communication efficiency is probably a common practice. There were lots of reports on rainfall since they had just received 5 inches rather rapidly and were in the midst of flooding in several areas. Anyway, it was good to get back home. I look forward to seeing you all at the Awards Banquet!

## SKYWARN

Submitted by Chris W4BGN

For 365 days of the year, Amateur Radio operators with the Skywarn program provide the National Weather Service with critical, ground level reporting

of major weather events. But one day a year, the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio, and Skywarn join in the recognizing the hams' service and light up the airwaves just for fun.

While some sites will use communications modes including PSK-31, RTTY, Packet, and CW, most stations will operate on 80,40,20,15,10 and 2 meter frequencies using voice communications. The use of repeaters to make contacts is allowed. VoIP modes like IRLP and Echolink are also encouraged. There are no specific band plans for the event but participants are encouraged to make all contacts using portions of the bands available to Technician or General class licensees. The Extra portion of the bands may be used if band conditions get crowded. Contact as many radio operators and NWS stations as you can and exchange your signal strength, location, and current weather. After the event, participants can file for a great Weather Service Skywarn certificate by sending your electronic logs via email to [MatthewMehle@noaa.gov](mailto:MatthewMehle@noaa.gov)

Get ready for Skywarn Recognition Day 0000UTC for 24 hours December 6. Skywarn Recognition Day is a fun Saturday. It may even bring out the sunspots! Further details can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/10/30/10417/>

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From James Weaver K8JE  
Weavers Words article Nov.15 2008

+++ String of dits QRM solved ++

In a perfect example of inter- and

intra-organization cooperation, the source of a continuous string of dits transmitted on the 40 meter band was located and resolved. The offending signal was reported to HQ by an amateur in North Carolina one recent morning. This brought the crew into action.

The folks at HQ contacted the FCC's HFDFing station and requested the general location of the transmission if the staff there could spare the time. The report came back that it was coming from a suburb of Columbus, OH.

Ohio Official Observer Coordinator Rick Swaim, KK8O, was notified of the problem and volunteered to tackle the task of locating the source and getting it turned off. Unfortunately, no one in the vicinity of the transmitting site was able to hear the dits the rest of this first day. The next morning the signal was readily heard throughout the area.

Rick contacted Ohio Assistant Section Manager, Bill Carpenter, AA8EY for assistance. Bill lives in the area from which the signal was coming. Together, Bill and Rick in their respective cars found the source of the dits and were able to turn the transmitter off.

No one knows for certain what caused the transmissions. However, the owner of the station had left the transmitter on when he left for work. He operated CW and uses a set of paddles with a keyer. No one -- except the pet cat -- was at home when the long series of dits were transmitted. This leaves everyone involved believing the cat somehow pushed against the paddle to activate the transmitter.

With the only suspect in this case being the cat, does this make it a possible feline felon? Will we soon have FE1INE join K9DOG on the bands?

+ QSL Bureau web site changed + Our 8th Area Incoming QSL Bureau Manager, Jay Slough, K4-ZLE, has been doing a tremendous job since he accepted appointment to this position. Not only has he been managing the Bureau, but he took over care and feeding of its web site. Being Manager is a big job, itself. Doing both tasks is . . . well . . . too much. A change was appropriate.

Effective immediately, Great Lakes Division Webmeister Gary Osborne, W8XS has accepted responsibility for maintaining the Bureau's web site.

The site has been moved to <http://www.greatlakes.arrl.org/gld-buro.html>. If you do not store this link, simply go to the Great Lakes Division web site (<http://www.greatlakes.arrl.org/index.htm>), click on Links in the header bar and click on 8th Call QSL Bureau on the link page. Gary and Jay will work together to keep the site as up-to-date as practical.

### **Late Breaking News**

**From The GEARVAKf (f is silent) Bulletin.**

**Ohm's Law overruled again-** After years of legal wrangling and bitter controversy, the US Supreme Court last Monday finally settled the argument by ruling Ohm's Law unconstitutional. In a unanimous vote the high court said that the Ohm had on legal basis, and could no longer be used to justify electrical resistance. -K8DMZ

And on the technical side..

### **Basement filters offered**

Given the recent unbridled enthusiasm for roofing filters, Sherm Bobwood Engineering has just announced a new line of complimentary basement filters

to improve receiver selectivity. These easy-to-install filters follow a receiver's last audio stage and significantly improve selectivity with their steep skirts, claims Mr. Bobwood on his wevpage. When asked to provide data in support of the claims for his new product Mr. Bobwood declined, saying even he wasn't smart enough to understand the operational principles; but he was positive they couldn't work well with rigs with VHF first IF frequencies because nothing does. Independent testing at the Gearvakf destructive testing lab indicated the filters dont exist, but when they do they are made of divanadium pentoxide with not nearly free radicals (\$129.95 +S&H) simultaneously tunneling between two states (Georgia and New Mexico). The filters reportedly add a hollow sound to the processed audio—akin to the meow of Schrodinger's cat.

#### **Editors Note:**

This issue of the Hamcall will be the last of this year and the end of my work as editor. I want to thank all who have helped by contributing articles I have enjoyed this task and will be available to assist the next editor. -N4GG

#### **Coming Events and Hamfest**

Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> KCARC Awards Dinner  
Ryans Steak House  
(more info at Oct mtg.)  
Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> Evansville Hamfest  
Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> Customer appreciation Day  
R & L Electronics  
Hamilton Ohio  
Dec 20<sup>th</sup> 9 am Potluck Brunch &  
KARC “ No Meeting -Meeting”

#### **NEXT KCARC CLUB MEETING:**

**Awards Dinner :**  
**Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> Ryan's Steakhouse 6 pm**

#### **Traders Net -**

**Each Monday 1900 cst**  
**147.330 rpt. Tone 107.2**

#### **KCARC Net -**

**Each Tuesday 1900 cst**  
**147.330**

4<sup>th</sup> ARES NET MEETS 7 NIGHTS A WEEK

**AT 9 PM LOCAL TIME. Frequency: 147.165**

**MHz. W4WSM Repeater.**

**Secondary**

**Frequency: 147.330 MHz.**

**PL Tone 107.2**

**KA4CFW Repeater**

#### **For Sale:**

#### **REMINDER-**

If you have any equipment that belongs to the club please let Mike KW4MAC or Chirs W4BGN know as they are putting together a list .I hope to publish this list in one of the Hamcalls.

#### 2008 KCARC OFFICERS

President: Mike McClure  
KW4MAC

Vice President: Ed Gann  
N4HID

Sec-Treas: Dr. Claire Rinehart  
KF4IWX

Pres-Elect: John Reasoner  
WA4QMQ

Hank Cantrell W4HTB

Sonja Logan KI4JJS

Dean Maggard K4NQV

Fred Painter KA4CFW

Tim Robinson KF4MGU

Tom Williams WB4SCV

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