

ROADs REPORT©

Newsletter of ROADs
(Radio Operators Association of Dallas)

JULY 2009

PRESIDENT'S SCREED...

First of all...don't forget to come to the July dinner meeting at Murphy's ---6:00 Friday July 17. We will be "honoring" Fred W6KXA on his 90th birthday.

We made it through another Field Day. It seems to me that we keep improving our efforts...not especially in the number of participants, but in the quality of the setup and amount of contacts. I have been entering the contacts into Excel and, if I remember correctly, there are at least as many if not more than last year. I will have a better idea when I put all the info into the ARRL submission format.

We need to populate the club calendar for the next year...any suggestions will be appreciated.

Swaptoberfest is coming soonish...might be a good idea to start thinking about it and maybe make a decision as to whether we want to have a booth. We need committed members to help out.

I am all out of WhoWhyWhereWhen candidates...

Time to step up to the plate... Think of the benefits:

You will join a small select group...it will change your life...you will become famous...people will point at you on the street...children will flee at your approach...dogs will bark and may mark your foot when they see you...of course your mileage may vary.

How can you resist these benefits? Let me know and I will send you a questionnaire. It's quite painless.

PRESIDENT	DAVID	KD7VLP
VICE PRESIDENT	DON	KX5W
SEC/TREASURER	IRENE	K7IJK
DIRECTOR (1yr)	ABE	W7ABE

DIRECTOR (2yr) KELLY KG7G

Check out our web page WWW.W7ORE.COM

ROADS CALENDAR

JULY 17

DINNER MEETING AT MURPHY'S

UPDATE REPORT: BOB KE7QXN

I accepted an offer from Peace Corps to help with four agriculture groups to market their organic produce in this part of Panama. I expect to be here until next year.

David, please give my best to Fred and the group, I'll toast a beer in his honor and the group...Panama has some great beer

DX COMMENTARY by Doc KX5W

FJ St Barthelemy TO8YY This is the latest new country listed.....note the other prefix (TO8) rather than the standard FJ. Two German ops will be there from the last few days of June thru at least the first full week of July.

3B8 Mauritius 3B8/I3LOP will be on for the first half of July.

SV5 Rhodes SV5/GM0IIO is on thru July 9; this is Rhodes, not Dodecanese.

3DA Swaziland 3DA0DJ and 3DA0SS from the scout camp in Manzini -- will be on as an 8 person team from July 28 to Aug 15.

8Q7 Maldives 8Q7QQ A Swiss op with a 6 element yagi will be there from late June thru mid July.

IS0 Sardinia IS0/I2MOV starts July 20 for a 2 month stay and operation.

TT8 Chad TT8CF thru July.

There are a lot of DXPedition web sites. Here's a few of the current ones you can see for more info:

Glorioso (FT5GA) <<http://glorieuses2008.free3.fr/>>

Midway Is (K4M) <<http://www.midway2009.com>>

Austral/Marquesas (FO) <<http://www.fo2009sp.pl/>>

No DX worked during field day. But we did hear on Abe's home made wire beam log periodic (the antenna that looked like a spider web a lady guest said) a station in Estonia at about 5 by 7 working a stateside pileup--before the Field Day start time. Abe is quite the antenna builder.

Field Day Report by ABE K7ABE

Field Day is "once a year" and we survived this one. Well, ok, some of us even had a great time.

A lot of contacts were made (don't ask me how many yet 'cause I don't know). And I even made one myself. Hey, don't laugh, most of you didn't even show up and make that one contact! We could have used you there; there was plenty of room, antennas, and radio gear had we had ya'll there to operate it. Well maybe next year? And for those who did show up... well done! It is a pleasure and privilege to watch the magic take place.. The age falls away, the gray disappears, backs straighten, and those who love amateur radio do what they love to do (well maybe the gray did not go away but it was not noticed any more).

And for the ones that showed up to help set up, keep things going, and take down... well, I can't say enough here... you really helped make it happen! Again, Thanks to all!

Field Day Observations by Doc KX5W

I thought we had a really good field day. Only negative was propagation/conditions were poor most of the time. Then the bands did open up later in the evening. 20 meters and 40 were the best bands.

We have Bob W7LOU and the fire department to thank for the 8 rope and pulley lines up the sides of the fire tower, making antenna installation MUCH easier!

The plan is to leave them there. I'd like to thank Jim N7WWH, Dudley W7NLI, Fred W6KXA, Kelly KG7G and others for the set up and take down of my Carolina Windom--it worked well on all bands.

Mike KA7HBB installed a tower but wasn't able to get a KT34XA beam up it due to Abe's injury.

Abe's homemade log periodic was a hit. Abe K7ABE worked hard on set up and take down and also injured his arm--hope he isn't too bad.

I'd give the hardest worker award to Jim N7WWH--he did a lot on set up, takedown and kept the generators going for the entire operation, for 2 days and all night. He and about 4 others were the all nighters. Fred W6KXA brought his 5th wheel and was a great location for my old Kenwood station.

I enjoyed operating with Mike K7CIE on 20 cw, as he brought his computer with computer logging for field day plus a 756 Pro III --quite a treat to see and use that awhile on Saturday. Kelly KG7G and I operated 15 phone toward the end on Sunday, but I worked mostly cw on bands that nobody else was on.

As usual, Irene K7IJK ran our operation well administratively plus got us lunch from a local establishment so we could keep operating! She does a good job keeping W7LOU in line, ha! (Just seeing if anybody is reading this).

Mike Shelby W7RIS and his wife Gail KE7RRQ were there all day and night working 40-meter phone. He supplied us with the camp watchdog, a cute little silky. I came back Sunday morning and was greeted with a little soft growl, but in a few seconds we were pals. I'm sure I left somebody out that contributed a lot so thanks to all. The weather cooperated completely.....sunny in the 80's Sat and about 75 on Sunday when we finished.

K7QXG REPORT

7 Land QSO Party results are out (7QP). I know that all of you made at least a few random contacts, but probably did not submit a log.

K7QXG placed 8th overall for 7 Land Single Op with High Power (500 watts). Sad to say, if my computer logging program had not died with 4 hours left, my score would have made me #4.

K7ZZ in Marion county finished 4th.

There was no chance at all of catching the top three...without a station like W7LOU's.

If you are interested in looking over the categories, here is the web site: <http://7qp.org> .

FYI, I only had 24 phone QSOs and 1 Digital QSO. All the rest were CW.

This month's WHOWHYWHENWHERE subject is Mike KA7HBB

1. HOW-WHY-WHERE-WHEN did you get involved in Ham Radio?

Well I started out as a Short wave listener. Dad brought home a Hallicrafter S38. Then I had a couple of friends who got there licenses while we were in high school. I hung out and did some 3rd party stuff and got the bug. But then came cars and girls so it took a back seat until after I went through Radioman School in the Coast Guard. After I got out of the Coast Guard I finally got my ticket.

2. Did you have an Elmer to get you started? Or were you a lone wolf?

This is kinda a yes and no. I got the bug from an Elmer but I ended up taking a class at LBCC. I aced my code test and my

novice test.

3. What is your current license? Since when?

My current license is Extra and I upgraded at the Roads testing session in May 2009.

4. Did you, or do you, use radio(s), in some form or another in your work life?

I have used radios at work. I worked for Forest River RV in Dallas for a year and used it all the time and of course I used it as a Radioman in the Coast Guard.

4a.If you used radios at work...did your background as a ham give you an advantage?

Not really but at least I knew what I was doing .

5. Are you active in Ham Radio now? What and how?

Yes, I check in on HF nets and rag chew a bit. I'm more active on 2 meters though. I work alone so it gives me something to listen to. I'm usually on the 145.29 or the 147.16 repeaters.

6. What does your shack look like? Is it in your garage, the back bedroom or maybe the cab of your pickup?

My shack is in the dining area of my home. Right now it's a total mess because I've been doing a lot of cleaning and the desk is piled high with stuff I need to store else where.

7. What kind of equipment and antennas...etc?

My shack has a Kenwood TS440s and a Yeasu FT 736R. I'm using my back up antennas. A Ringo Ranger and a B&W 65. I have my tower down doing maintenance so my Wilson tri-bander and DXA are down for the moment.

8. Any major awards, achievements, coups or contacts that you want to brag about in order to make others feel insignificant?

Nothing major. Just worked all states and I had a lot of fun working Satellites for a while.

9. Other hobbies or past-times?

I hunt and sometime fish. I like to 4 wheel and scuba dive but finances have cut that out for now.

10. Unless your family has lived in Polk County since 1846, how did you end up here in, or around, Polk County?

I was born in Los Angeles and lived in Burbank for a year or two but moved to Oregon after my first birthday. I lived in Corvallis and then moved to Philomath in about 58. I lived there until I joined the Coast Guard in 72. Came back when I got out and I've lived in Benton, Linn and Polk counties since then.