



Mountain Flashes

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R.A.C.E.S. Mountain District - Mile High Radio Club News

June 2008 Edition

In this Issue:

KN6JV's Korner ✦ *May RACES/MHRC Meeting Notes* ✦ *Bill's Quiz*
Bill's Comic Revue ✦ *ARRL Field Day Details* ✦ *June Meetings and Events*
Bill's Quiz Answers

KN6JV's Korner

Field Day (June 28/29) is just around the corner. It's our chance to get some publicity for the Club and RACES. Typically we do a clean up on Jim Johnson's property on the Thursday before the event. While it looks pretty clean just passing by, we always find trash and some raking that needs to be done. Then for setting up on Saturday and breaking camp on Sunday we need additional troops. I hope we get a good response.

As usual, weather permitting, we have the gas grill available and share "pot luck" dishes for Saturday evening. Please plan being part of our event.

Training: This month will be the Field Day. The regular meeting of MHRC and RACES will be additional planning and getting volunteers for various tasks.

Events coming up: Off in the future (November) we will participate in the Southern California earthquake drill "The Great ShakeOut". November 13th. More details are getting to be available on the web site www.ShakeOut.org (note the Caps in the address). The potential magnitude 7.8 quake on the San Andreas fault has a lot of built-in scientific and theoretical event sequences from the duration to following events. It is billed as the largest earthquake drill in U.S. history. We need only to look at China and realize that it is possible and WE ARE OVERDUE! As radio amateurs we need to hone our skills, get equipment tuned up and make our personal preparations for real event. At this point we are unsure of RACES roll in the event but expect to be well involved.

Roll Callers June are: June 4, Bill KD6KTV; June 11, Carroll K6PRB; June 18, Pat KG6AVZ; June 25 Vi K6VBH

Bill Baker KN6JV
R.A.C.E.S. Mtn. Dist. Emergency Coordinator
MHRC President

May MHRC/RACES Meeting Notes

President Bill Baker, KN6JV, presided over the meeting with nine members present. Secretary Vi Hallacy, K6VBH, gave a short summary of the April meeting. Members are encouraged to read the more detailed minutes in the Newsletter. A show of hands confirmed that all present do read the Newsletter.

The financial report showed a balance of \$1,673.73 in the Radio Club account, \$877.46 in the Repeater account and \$2,713.63 in the RACES account for a total balance of \$5,264.82

Paul Miglin, KI6TIL, designed and printed some very attractive membership cards which were passed out to all those present who have paid their dues.

Bill Tell, KD6KTV, has been working on getting a banner made for the Club and RACES. It would have both logos and probably cost around \$250.

Bill passed around a signup sheet for the 4th of July Parade.

Tom Unwin, WA6SSS, is putting together the cost for a portable field programmable repeater. He will have this for the June meeting.

Bill asked for input from the members on new projects and they said we need more community exposure.

There was a break for the refreshments donated by Christy Huss, KG6AVU

Bill passed out repeater code cards with the codes on one side and important emergency telephone numbers on the other.

Gregg Morris, KI6HVA, reported he and Bill Tell had done the repeater inspection and all was O.K. Chris Johnson, KI6LOD asked if the battery would ever be exhausted and Bill told us he had run the old one seven days without a charge.

Bill passed out the new RACES caps.

There was a recap of the Bike Race with several suggestions for improvement and members thought it would be a good idea for us to be part of the planning next year. Bill said he would try to contact Katie to present this to her.

The training for this month was given by Rick Foster, KG6TIJ, on message handling and use of the message form.

The next meeting will be on June 12, 2008 at 1830 at the Idyllwild Fire Station. We will be doing the planning for Field Day.

Vi Hallacy K6VBH
R.A.C.E.S. Mtn. Dist./MHRC Secretary

Bill's Quiz

1. One battery type not designed to be recharged is:
(a) lithium – ion; (b) Lead – acid; (c) Nickel – Cadmium; (d) Carbon – zinc
- 2).What is the frequency range of the 70cm band in the U.S.?
(a) 222 to 225 MHz; (b) 144 to 148 MHz; (c) 50 to 54 MHz; (d) 420 to 450 MHz
- 3).What rules apply to your station when using it at the request of public service officials or at the scene of an emergency?
(a) RACES; (b) FEMA; (c) FCC; (d) ARES

(Answers at end of the newsletter)

Bill's Comic Revue

God was missing for six days. Eventually, Michael, the archangel, found him, resting on the seventh day. He inquired of God. "Where have you been?"

God sighed a deep sigh of satisfaction, and proudly pointed downwards through the clouds, "Look, Michael. Look what I've made."

Archangel Michael looked puzzled, and said, "What is it?"

"It's a planet," replied God, "and I've put Life on it. I'm going to call it Earth and it's going to be a great place of balance."

"Balance?" inquired Michael, still confused.

God explained, pointing to different parts of earth. "For example, northern Europe will be a place of great opportunity and wealth, while southern Europe is going to be poor. Over there I've placed a continent of white people, and over there is a continent of black people. Balance in all things," God continued pointing to different countries.

"This one will be extremely hot, while this one will be very cold and covered in ice."

The Archangel, impressed by God's work, then pointed to a land area and said, "What's that one?"

"Ah," said God, "That's Washington State, the most glorious place on earth. There are beautiful mountains, rivers and streams, lakes, forests, hills, plains, and coulees. The people from Washington State are going to be handsome, modest, intelligent, and humorous, and they are going to be found traveling the world. They will be extremely sociable, hardworking, high achieving, and they will be known throughout the world as diplomats, and carriers of peace."

Michael gasped in wonder and admiration, but then proclaimed, "What about balance, God? You said there would be balance."

God smiled, "There is another Washington...wait until you see the idiots I put there."

Mile High Radio Club's "ARRL FIELD DAY"

Well folks, this year's Field Day event is just 4 weeks away. We have been given permission to use the same location as last year's event. Jim Johnson, K6GUN is a kind man and such a proponent of Amateur Radio, that he is happy to see us set up on his property and share this great hobby with so many others. So with that said, please start talking to your friends, neighbors and family and get them out to our local field day event June 28th and 29th. The more visitors the better our exposure is to the community. Let's see how many people we can get out to see us this year!

Our local paper has been running notices of the upcoming event. We are even mentioned in the Summer Visitor Guide Calendar put out by the Town Crier. Soon we will be campaigning in the Press Enterprise, the Desert Sun and both the San Diego and LA Times to do the same. We also plan to give our President Bill Baker KN6JV a bit of writers cramp this year when we prepare the letters of invite to many of the local officials.

This years contest rules have changed a bit. They now allow for points towards education. So if there is a topic that you feel would be great to share with our members and the public, let's run with it. Some of the types of instruction that is suggested includes the preparation of coaxial cable and connectors. Other suggestions would be radio set up and proper grounding of equipment. Many of these topics would be simple to share with others, as much of this will be on display during our event. After our recent Bike Race event, I think a general overview of radio selection, wattage, cross band repeat and antennas would be handy, as we have many challenging field locations across our mountain range.

We look forward to having everyone out for this fun and informative event.

Bill Tell KD6KTV

June Meetings & Events Mark Your Calendars!

MHRC Bd. of Dirs. Mtg., Thurs., June 12, 6:15 PM, Idyllwild Fire

MHRC/RACES Meeting: Thurs., June 12, 6:30 PM, Idyllwild Fire

ARRL Field Day: June 28 and 29

ALL AMATEURS are cordially invited to attend any of the above meetings.

MHRC Website

You may access the MHRC website at www.milehighradioclub.org

Bill's Quiz Answers

(1) d (2) a (3) c