



Longwire — Field Day Edition

June 2010



2009 / 2010 Officers:

President:

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bobkcn@yahoo.com

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Treasurer:

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Secretary:

Carol Berg, KB1QPN,
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Roger Thompson, K1PV,
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Neil Collesidis, AA1SB,
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The monthly newsletter for the Port City Amateur Radio Club

PCARC can be found on the web at <http://www.w1wqm.org> and <http://www.yahogroups.com/group/pcarc>

Presidents QSO - By Bob K1AX

Calling all stations, calling all stations, de K1AX

June meeting will start with Carol, KB1QPN and Mike, W1GEK cooking Hamburgers & Hotdogs.

We will be voting for next years officers so I hope you have made up your minds on the nominations. To refresh your memories the candidates will be:

Pres.....Mark, K1RX
VP.....Mike, W1GEK
Sec.....Carol, KB1QPN
Sec.....Jerry, KB1OMQ
Tres.....Dick, W1MSN
Trustee....Tom, AA1CA

Board members:

Kriss, KA1GJU
Igor, N1YX
Roger, K1PV

Trustee:

Tom, AA1CA

Good news, we won the Fox Hunt and lunch was served to the winners. Hi Hi. I talked to Roger, K1PV and he mentioned that the best antenna was.....well I let him tell you at the June Meeting.

Mark, K1RX and Roger, K1PV will have an up-date on field day. There has been a lot of chatter with emails so things are happening.

I do want to say is that I wish I was a better communicator as President of the PCARC. I did what many would not and trust me I struggled through it. Sort of like your first AM contact. Hi, Hi...

73's

Bob K1AX

Treasurers Report - By Dick W1MSN

As of May 21, 2010

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Cash	1,233.00
TD Bank North	3,410.73
Total Checking/Savings	4,643.73
Total Current Assets	4,643.73

TOTAL ASSETS 4,643.73

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	2,489.79
Retained Earnings	1,080.53
Net Income	1,073.41
Total Equity	4,643.73

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 4,643.73

Next Club Meeting June 2nd 2010

Field Day 2010 Polo Shirt - By Mike W1GEK

This year I really wanted to get a shirt that I could easily wear to work and still show off my club pride for the best event of the year!

I had originally hoped to be able to offer the shirts for \$15, but there just wasn't the sales going on for shirts like there was earlier in the year. Still, working with a local vendor we were able to keep the price to \$20 on a decent polo shirt. Next year (if you'll let me do it again, hi hi) I'll capitalize on sales earlier in the year for a higher quality polo shirt for a lower price.

I will be taking orders for this years Field Day shirt through the June 2nd meeting, the next day I will place the order with the vendor.

Here is a rendering of how the shirt should look.

Mike - W1GEK

**Remember to
keep the
Clubhouse
clean!
Anything you
bring in please
bring out, don't
leave it
behind!**



First Annual Seacoast Fox Hunt Challenge - By Igor N1YX

On May 15th the Port City Amateur Radio Club and Great Bay Radio Association hosted the First Annual Seacoast Fox Hunt Challenge. Both clubs decided to engage in this exciting competition after GBRA challenged PCARC to find out which club is the best in Seacoast Area in Radio Direction Finding sport (RDF), also known as the Fox Hunt.

On Saturday May 15th both teams met at the rendezvous location in Lee NH and the hunt began. PCARC was represented by Roger K1PV, Neil AA1SB, Jim W1MCG, Carol KB1QPN, Peter WA1OWH (accompanied by his wife Donna), Steve KB1OVA, Bud KB1QIH, and myself Igor N1YX. The GBRA team was represented by Bill KA1PTW, Bill KB1AWA, Larry K1SRJ, Marybeth N1PUK, George W1BOF. Since GBRA was greatly outnumbered, Shawn W1JEH, who is a member of both clubs, in the spirit of fair sportsmanship decided to play for GBRA.

After introductions and a discussion of the rules, over coffee and doughnuts, we played the first round. Larry K1SRJ was playing the Fox and everybody else was trying to find him. Larry is a very crafty fox. I should admit, it was not easy to find him, especially if you are a one man team. In the allotted time nobody could find him, so he offered up some clues. Finally the Shawn and Marybeth team found him.

Next round was played at the same location and this time Peter WA1OWH was the Fox. He did a great job sticking to "Fox transmit protocol" - 2 minutes on followed by 2 minutes off. It took some time but he was found almost simultaneously by George W1BOF and Roger K1PV.

After that the whole party moved to PCARC club house and prepared for Round 3 for the main trophy. This time the dedicated Fox Larry K1SRJ used automatic CW transmitter with short burst cycle (30 seconds on - 30 seconds off). As we were departing for the hunt, Larry's transmitter battery died and he had to return to replace it. After putting this minor technical glitch out of the way, the hunt begun!

Since this round was the club round, members of the each club were allowed to communicate on separate frequencies to employ team strategies. Looks like PCARC was more successful at this. Without giving up "secrets" lets just say that the fox was found by Jim and Carol.

Oh, the sweet Victory! PCARC received a cool Fox trophy and were the first in line at the barbeque grill manned by Shawn. The bragging and rubbing on was promptly started and will continue till next year Fox Hunt Challenge.

Next time when you meet GBRA members, don't forget to remind them who the Seacoast Fox Hunt Champion is!



Club Auctions, it's a great way to help out the club raise funds and see to it your prized ham possessions end up in a good home! Contact AA1SB

Articles not submitted to the newsletter editor on time next month will require the loss of a limb.



Dayton 2010, a Road Trip - By Derek KB1LXX

What is that noise?.....Oh it's the alarm clock.....what time is it?....It's 3:00AM (07:00z)....why is the alarm going off so early?Oh it's Thursday, I'm going to Dayton for my first Hamvention.

3:30am (07:30z) time to leave, the car is already packed, full of fuel and after two weeks of prep set up for HF, 2M and APRS. First stop Merrimack NH, to pick up Paul, N1PA and his Nephew (not a ham just hitching a ride so he can attend a wedding in Cleveland OH) .

4:15am (08:15z) the neighbors are not happy; we woke them up whilst loading the car? Must be very light sleepers. Not to worry they don't like Paul very much since we put up his tower!

4:30am (08:30z) Gps programmed for Paul's fathers house in Cleveland OH, and off we go again.

6:15am (10:15z) Time for coffee and breakfast at the first rest stop on the Mass Pike, awake again we headed west, time to try out that grey line propagation.

Before stopping for lunch at a rest area near Buffalo NY we had made many contacts on 80 through 20 meters, Florida, Colorado, The Dominican Republic were just a few of the places contacted, we were getting excellent signal reports S9+10 from Colorado. Not bad for mobile with 100w into an antenna coupler and a 20m Ham Stick. As we were eating our lunch five guys came in, one was wearing a hat with a VE call sign. We said we knew where they were going and they apologized for damaging the paint-work on my car as they hit it with their door when getting out of their truck! They were just kidding; they had left an empty space next to us. (Must have been the antennas and the magnetic call sign on the trunk that gave us away)

4:30PM (20:30z) Paul's sisters had been tracking us on APRS, even calling us to report we were 20mph over the speed limit. (Big Sis was watching us, better be careful). They were ready to greet us when we pulled in the driveway, unfortunately I had forgotten about the Ham Stick mounted on the trunk until I pulled under the carport. Fortunately we had had the foresight to mount the antenna on a sturdy spring! I was off to bed early as we still had a ways to go. A couple of Thunderstorms went through during the night, I do hope the weather forecasts are wrong and we will have good weather for Friday.

Wow! I have never seen so many towers and antennas assembled in one place, not even Mark's back 40. Its Friday and its humid , let's hope the rain holds off while we stroll through the Harra Arena parking lot checking out all the goodies for sale, we'll be back in the parking lot flea market tomorrow, when hopefully the prices asked will be lower, for now we will go into the buildings and avoid the threatened rain. Having bought our tickets in advance we easily gained access into the main Hall, ICOM to the left, MFJ and Step IR straight ahead, the DSTAR group to the right, what a wonderland! Paul and I both purchased radios from HRO, even recognized a couple of characters from Salem, we got the Hamfest discount and free shipping so we avoided the Ohio sales tax. When we had finished visiting all the booths in the main (North)hall we checked out the other halls. I picked up an antenna coupler, made in china, from a booth staffed by a guy from Shanghai who didn't know how to collect Ohio sales tax,

another discount. A baseball Hat for the XYL with her call sign, it's very bright, a 40 meter ham stick and assorted hardware rounded out my shopping day. Paul was talking to all the various DSTAR groups, gathering information, he even managed to get his HT programmed for the Hamfest DSTARR repeater. We stayed until the show closed and then made our way to the hotel.

Friday night was spent in the hotel parking lot hooking up my new coupler and ham stick. We managed to blow a fuse in the outlet plug in the trunk, but didn't realize until we had started home that a 20 A fuse in the car fuse box had also blown, knocking out our APRS and GPS. Unable to use the outlet in the trunk as we didn't have a spare fuse we used a power pole otlet Paul had purchased at the Hamvention to complete the installation and get us back on the air. The new antenna coupler was fast, less than 2 seconds for a new frequency and we were getting flat matches from 160m to 10m except on 17m.

Saturday was spent mainly in the parking lot Flea Market, with several trips back to the car to unload oyr acquisitions and start shopping again. Great bargains were to be had if you were prepared to negotiate. 20, 000+ Hams some from as far away as Australia were in attendance, Paul even met some friends from Arizona. Amazingly the weather had stayed fine.

Back in the parking lot we rearranged the contents of the trunk to make room for our suitcases, some-

Port City Amateur Radio Club

Port City Amateur Radio Club
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2m Repeater: 145.150 PL: 123.7
440 Repeater: 444.40 PL: 100
Web site: <http://www.w1wqm.org>

Serving Seacoast NH for over 50 years



Amateur radio is an exciting hobby that can provide a lifetime of enjoyment. Radio amateurs or "hams" communicate around the neighborhood and around the world using state of the art equipment and antennas.

**Affix
Stamp
Here**

Dayton 2010, a Road Trip (continued)

how we had to find space for Paul's Nephew who we had promised to take back to New Hampshire.

Sunday 4:30am (8:30z) we start the long journey home. We made several contacts on 2m with other hams who were also on their way home. In one case a Ham from downstate NY had some items for sale at a very reasonable price so when we went our separate ways and the distance was too great for 2m we continued the QSO on 40m. We could almost copy the Sunday morning net as we passed Buffalo NY but propagation was poor this day and we were unable to check in. We did however manage contacts on 160m, 80m, 40m and 20m. After dropping of my passengers in Merrimack I joined in a qso with Kriss and Igor on the club repeater finally reaching the QTH an 9:30pm (01:30z)

We had a great time, not only at Dayton but on the journey too. Making DX contacts whilst mobile rely makes the time fly. When asked if I would do it again I replied "affirmative" but not next year, I need to save some money for the next trip.

Outbound we used the following equipment provided by Paul N1PA:

- 1.) Icom 706 MK II G
- 2.) SGC SG-235 antenna coupler
- 3.) SGC SG-303 Antenna (2 piece whip)
- 4.) Ham Stick - 20 meter

On the return trip we used my new CG300 antenna coupler and 40m Hamstick. The CG was much faster but will not do 6m and is limited to 200W.

73's

Derek KB1LX