



Mountain Flashes

www.milehighradioclub.org

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

February 2008 Edition

In this Issue:

*KN6JV's Korner ✦ Bill's Quiz ✦ Bill's Comic Revue
January Combined RACES/MHRC Meeting Notes ✦ February Meetings and Events
Map Class Info ✦ Bill's Quiz Answers*

KN6JV's Korner

I'm sure all members know of the death of Dick Kramer K6RWK. Dick was a long time member of the Club and RACES and will be missed. A Silent Key Tribute was held January 23rd at a regular roll call.

OK so who shrunk the calendar? January's gone!

The combined MHRC/RACES meeting has been tested and except for the short amount of time devoted to MHRC vs RACES it seems to work. I don't want the radio club to disappear so we'll have to work on balancing the times for each.

Some more work needs to be done with the repeater (cabling) but nothing urgent and we can catch-up when the weather is more favorable.

The January meeting was scheduled to be a planning meeting for 2008 activities for MHRC and RACES. One item set for early on is the Map reading class by Jim Kent. It had been set for the March and April meeting dates. After reviewing the time lapse between sessions and also the few actual meeting dates for the group, it seemed better to have the classes on successive Thursdays. Jim agreed and **April 10th and 17th 1800 to 2100 are now the scheduled dates.** Members wanting to take the class need to plan on attending both sessions. Contact Bill Baker or Jim Kent and get on the list for the classes. Interesting stuff!

Coming up in May is the BIKE Race for which we provide communications. May 3 & 4th. More on that later. You should find a link to the bike race on our web page.

There was a RACES Council Meeting on Jan. 16th which I planned to attend but was unable to do so. At the meeting, new patches were issued to replace the big blue patches on the white RACES "dress" shirt (not the polo). I need to have members who have the "old" patches remove them so I can turn them in. Also caps were issued for all members. I'll collect all that later. In addition to that, RACES ID badges for 3 new members were ready. Not a good meeting for me to miss!

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

Bill's Quiz

- 1). The current rating of the power supply for your mobile radio should be capable of:
 - a) 75% of the radio's current rating.
 - b) The same as the radio's current rating.
 - c) Twice the radio's current rating.
 - d) 130% of the radio's current rating.
- 2). Which type voltmeter is usually more accurate: an analog meter or a digital meter?
 - a) Analog meter.
 - b) They are the same.
 - c) The digital meter.
 - d) It depends on the test lead length.

(Answers at end of the newsletter)

Bill's Comic Revue

Strange notes left for the milkman:

1. *Please send me a form for cheap milk, for I have a baby two months old and did not know about it until a neighbor told me.*
2. *Please leave no milk today. When I say today, I mean tomorrow, for I wrote this note yesterday.*
3. *Milk is needed for the baby. Father is unable to supply it.*

March MHRC Meeting Notes

There were nine members present at the meeting. The pledge of allegiance was led by Bill Tell. In the absence of the treasurer, Bill reported a balance of \$5,350.16 in the combined accounts.

Mile High Radio Club Dues are now due and payable. They are \$12.00 for one person and \$20.00 for a household.

The repeater is now operating at 12 volts or higher and the requested cleanup of the cabling has been done. Bill Tell and Greg Morris will do the repeater inspection for January when weather allows.

The roll call calendar for 2008 has been e-mailed.

Jim Kent requested that all articles for the Newsletter be sent to him by January 25 and encouraged any and all to contribute.

The signup sheet for meeting refreshments for 2008 was passed around.

Bill Tell reported that the Web Site has been brought up to date with the new officers for 2008 and the meeting place, date and time. Also, the brochure has been updated.

There were questions about the number of amateurs on the Hill and Paul Miglin volunteered to get that information and also make up a roster of Club members that would include their license class.

Known MHRC activities for 2008 include the 4th of July Parade and possibly the Jazz Fest. Those responsible for the Jazz Fest have hired an outside organization to organize the event and it is uncertain whether we will be asked to help. Suggestions for other activities included a picnic with the Anza group, Field Day and two potlucks. Christy Huss will contact Paul Boggs of the Anza group about a picnic and it was suggested that the potlucks take place at the Legion

hall on the dates the concerts were held at the State Park as this would alleviate the parking problem at Idyllwild Fire on those days.

RACES activities for 2008 will include participation in the statewide earthquake drill being planned for in October. Jim Kent volunteered to give another map and compass class emphasizing the need for those who have not yet had the class to take it. He would like to have these classes take place on meeting days possibly from 6:00 to 8:30 in March and April (see other articles for a change in map class scheduling). Preparation for Field Day would take place in May and June.

Christy Huss volunteered to do a training session in July. The group asked Bill to do a training session on use of our radios.

The question was brought up about what our mission is and how we would function in an emergency or disaster. During the following discussion people brought up the following ideas: we should meet with various agencies to see how they think we could help, we should have more people with a general license to operate in HF, and we need to learn more about local linked repeaters.

This was a very long meeting with lots of ideas and discussion. These minutes were transcribed from a tape. If there are any additions or corrections, please make note of them and bring to the February meeting.

Thanks to Pat Kent for the refreshments.

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

February Meetings & Events

Mark Your Calendars!

MHRC Bd. of Dirs. Mtg., Thurs. Feb. 14, 6:45 PM, Idyllwild Fire

MHRC RACES Meeting: Thurs., Feb. 14, 7:00 PM, Idyllwild Fire

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

Map Class Info

As indicated in Bill's column, we will hold a Map Reading Class at the April 10 Meeting and on the following Thursday evening (April 17). The location is Idyllwild Fire. On both evenings, the time will be from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. I'll try to get you out earlier than 9:00, but there is a lot of material to cover.

Although the class is presented for people who have never been exposed to the subject, individuals who want to attend for review purposes are welcome. However, I need to know which members will definitely attend, or definitely not attend. Please contact me or Bill in as soon as possible with this information—it's needed to determine the amount of materials and equipment needed. You definitely need to bring a **pencil and eraser**—not a pen!

The subjects included will be: Public Land Survey System (PLSS), UTM Grid System, Elevation and Relief by interpreting contour lines, determining direction based on True and Magnetic North, and use of the compass. If time permits, we'll talk generally about GPS systems.

It's important to commit for both Thursday sessions: much of the material will not make sense without attendance both nights, and time won't allow me to go back and cover material from the previous session. Feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Jim Kent KF6TYZ (659-3296 or jim327kent@verizon.net)

MHRC Website

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

Bill's Quiz Answers

(1) d

(2) c