



The Feedline

A Saint Among Us

By Mark Volstad, AI4BJ

Our church bulletin is usually the last place that I would expect to find anything relating to Amateur Radio, but that's precisely what happened to me several weeks ago. Our pastor, Father Mike Comer, likes to write about the feast days of the upcoming week. On this particular Sunday I was amazed to discover that there is a patron saint of Amateur Radio!

His name is [St. Maximilian Kolbe](#), and his feast day is celebrated in the Catholic Church on August 14th each year. He is also the patron saint of drug addicts, political prisoners, families, journalists and the pro-life movement. Whew — that seems like an awful lot of responsibility for one saint! According the Father Mike, Pope John Paul II referred to him as the “Patron Saint of Our Difficult Century” (the Twentieth Century).



Maximilian Kolbe was born Raymond Kolbe in 1894 in what is now Poland but was then part of the Russian empire. In 1907, Raymond and his elder brother entered a junior Franciscan seminary in Lwow. Here he excelled in mathematics and physics and his teachers predicted a brilliant future for him in science. He was received as a novice in September 1910 and with the habit he took the new name of Maximilian. In 1912 he went to college [cont'd on page 4]

Upcoming Programs

October's NKARC meeting will feature a **Show-and-Tell**. All members are invited to bring an Amateur Radio-related item that might be of interest to fellow members. It can be big or small, old or new. Perhaps you have a QSL card that you are particularly proud of, or have an old or home-built piece of equipment that you would like to show off. It should be an interesting evening!

Our **November** meeting will feature a program by Rod Villari, KJ4IAM, on **digital scanning**.

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Dates to Remember:

- Oct 10 – [Emergency Preparedness Fair](#)
- Oct 12 – NKARC membership meeting
- Oct 24/25 – [Halloween Haunt Sprint](#)
- Nov 5 – Dixie Heights VE Session
- Nov 9 – NKARC membership meeting
- Nov 25 – [NKARC special event station](#)

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Repeaters (K4CO): 147.255+ and 444.350+ Edgewood (PL 123.0), 147.375+ Walton, 146.895+ Highland Heights. The 147.255 repeater is a linked Echolink node, accessible via N4IJS-R.

NKARC Net: Tuesdays, 8:30 PM on the 147.255 repeater

VE Testing: Testing sessions are held by appointment only on the 2nd Monday of each month, prior to the NKARC membership meeting. Testing begins at 6:00 pm. To make an appointment, contact Lyle Hamilton at ab8sh@arrl.net or tel. 513-315-4032

NKARC Web Site: <http://www.k4co.org>

NKARC Membership Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Hilltop Church of Christ, 5300 Taylor Mill Rd (Ky. 16), Taylor Mill, KY. Visitors are always welcome!

The Feedline is published monthly by and for the members of the Northern Kentucky Amateur Radio Club. It is distributed via direct email to current NKARC members. **If you are a member but are not receiving your copy, please notify the Feedline editor.** Permission is hereby granted to any non-profit amateur radio group to quote or reprint from this publication provided appropriate source credit is given. Submissions for the Novem-

ber Feedline must be received no later than October 31. Submissions, address or call changes and circulation problems may be sent to the Feedline editor:

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Top of the Tower

Hello everyone,

First off I would like to bring up the nominating committee; we did not get a chance to get volunteers at September's meeting, so we will need to do it first thing at October's meeting. This will enable us to get things squared away for November. The nominating committee will need to get everyone's name who is interested in running for an office by the end of October. So if you are interested in running for an office, or know of someone who is, get their name to the nominating committee as soon as possible.

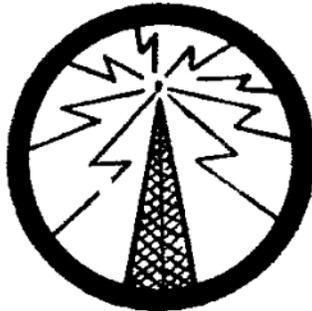
Saturday October 10th at 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm will be the Emergency Preparedness Fair at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, located at 144 Buttermilk Pike, Lakeside Park. We will be setting up a table to meet the public and demonstrate amateur radio. It is expected that 150 to 200 people will visit, if you are interest in participating please let me know at dfox03@fuse.net.

October's meeting will have a show-and-do-not-tell unless no one can figure out what you have. The object is to bring something that is unusual and radio related that may not be common to the club members. I am curious to see if the new stuff or the old stuff stumps more people. I had hoped to bring a pot of chili to this meeting but I will not be able to do so this time, it will be pizza as usual.

There are some interesting events coming up in October and November you might want to participate in:

October 24th is our first ever Halloween Haunt Sprint, hosted by Robert Kluck N4IJS. This should be a fun contest to take part in, as well as practice for emergency communications in the event that the repeaters are down. There is more detailed information on this event in this Feed line and on the Website.

This year is the 50th anniversary of NKARC, and we are planning a special event station at Dixie Heights High School from 10 am to 6 pm Saturday November 25th hosted by Mike Wagoner KB4VKS. Check the K4CO web site for upcoming details, don't miss out on this. Some of our members have been waiting 50 years to work this event.



Let's give these fellows some thanks for their efforts on making our club more interesting, and try to participate in their activities that they worked hard on getting together for us.

Let's also thank some fellows that have been doing some work with the repeaters: Tony White AI4IP, Harold Blocher W4YWH, and Brian De Young K4BRI, were able to visit the repeater sites and do an inventory of the equipment. This has not been done for many years, Harold and Rob N8JMV and Brian have also been keeping the repeaters up and running.

That's all for now!

73,

Dann Fox KI4AVO



Congratulations to our very own **Mike Wagoner, KB4VKS**, who was presented with the **George S. Wilson, III, W4OYI, Award** at the ARRL Great Lakes Division convention in Findlay on September 12. The Wilson recipient is an all-round Amateur whose life-time achievement record merits recognition for outstanding contribution to the Amateur Radio Service. Well done Mike!

Kolbe, cont'd from Cover

in Rome, where he earned doctorates in philosophy and theology. In 1918 he was ordained a priest, and the following year he returned to the newly independent Poland. By this time, he was suffering from incurable tuberculosis. Nevertheless, he founded a monastery, a seminary, a radio station and several religious publications.

In December 1938, Father Maximilian opened radio station SP3RN. The exact nature of this station is unclear. Various websites describe it as a shortwave station, an amateur radio operation, or a broadcast station. There is evidence that SP3RN broadcast a sermon by Father Maximilian, as well as musical

programs from the Friary's own orchestra. Thus, the station was probably a shortwave broadcast station. However, we can reasonably assume two facts: 1) Father Maximilian, with his technical background, was instrumental in the design and operation of the station, and 2) there probably was one (or more) amateur radio stations at the Friary.

During the Second World War he provided shelter to refugees from Greater Poland, including 2,000 Jews whom he hid from Nazi persecution.

The Nazis accused him of abetting the enemy, and on February 17, 1941, he was arrested by the German Gestapo. On May 28 he was transferred to Auschwitz as prisoner #16670. In July a man

from Kolbe's barracks vanished, prompting the deputy camp commander to pick 10 men from the same barracks to be starved to death in order to deter further escape attempts. One of the selected men cried out, lamenting his family, and Kolbe volunteered to take his place.

During the time in the cell he led the men in songs and prayer. After three weeks of dehydration and starvation, only Kolbe and three others were still alive. He was killed with an injection of carbolic acid.

Maximilian Kolbe was canonized by Pope John Paul II on October 10, 1982, in the presence of Franciszek Gajowniczek, the man whose life Fr. Kolbe saved at Auschwitz.

September Net Report

If you are interested in helping the club out and expanding your Amateur Radio skill set, please take a turn at running one of our weekly nets! This is a great way to hone your radio, net control, and message handling skills in a friendly environment. If you are interested, please contact Robert Kluck, N4IJS, at (859) 426-5588 or n4ijs@k4co.org

DATE	NCS	CHECKINS	TIME (MINS)	TRAFFIC
9/1/09	AJ4DK (Don)	14	35	0
9/8/09	AJ4DK (Don)	17	49	0
9/15/09	N4IJS (Robert)	13	28	0
9/22/09	KG4SBG (Dennis)	10	34	0
9/29/09	N4IJS (Robert)	11	28	0
TOTALS:		65	174	0

September Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2009 MEETING OF THE NORTHERN KENTUCKY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by President Dann Fox KI4AVO.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by Introductions, 16 members present.

Old Business

President Dann Fox KI4AVO read an extensive Treasurer's Report, which included an annual income/expense statement for the last four years. Expenses have been exceeding income for the last three years. The proposal was made to eliminate the telephone line for Autopatch on the 147.255 repeater to save approximately \$470 per year. There was a discussion about the need for an alternative to over-the-air control of the repeater by the club's control operators and the impact that elimination of the phone line would have on that requirement, and several suggestions for alternative to phone line control. Dann also stated that new ideas were welcome and needed. The report was approved on a motion made by Robert Kluck N4IJS and seconded by Mike Wagoner KB4VKS.

The repeater committee met with

Brian DeYoung K4BRI at the Edgewood repeater site. Equipment was inventoried and photographs taken.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved on a motion by Don King AI4DK and seconded by Brian DeYoung K4BRI.

New Business

Feedline Editor Mark Volstad AI4BJ raised the question of member advertising in the Feedline and asked the membership to decide if fees should be charged. The general consensus is yes, and amounts in the range of \$5 for members, \$15 for non-members, and various rates for half page, back page, etc.

Ft. Wright Presbyterian Church will hold an Emergency Preparedness Fair on October 10th from 2-5 pm. Ham participation has been requested. There was also discussion regarding a club station at Madonna Manor. A sign up sheet was circulated.

Mike Wagoner KB4VKS won the ARRL Award for Lifetime Excellence as a Model for Radio Amateurs.

Robert Kluck N4IJS made the

suggestion that for emergency preparedness the club should establish simplex frequencies for communications in the event of prolonged widespread power outages or damage to the repeaters. The suggested frequencies are 144.255 and 442.350; these were chosen because they are easy to remember since they are similar to the 147.255 and 444.350 repeater output frequencies. To prove out the concept a Halloween Sprint Contest will be held on October 24th & 25th. These two frequencies will be used for FM Simplex contacts during the contest. A handout detailing the specifics of the contest was distributed to all present.

Mike Wagoner KB4VKS noted that the Fiftieth Anniversary of the club was approaching and introduced the possibility of a Special Event Station. On a motion by Dave Schmidt KI4QH seconded by Robert Kluck N4IJS, the club will investigate a 50th Anniversary Special Event Station.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM on a motion by Dave Schmidt KI4QH seconded by Robert Kluck N4IJS.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Hamilton, AB8SH.



Announcing the NKARC

Halloween Haunt Sprint



Objective:

To prepare for and test our abilities to communicate when the NKARC repeaters are unavailable (I.E. emergency preparations) and to establish the new **NKARC simplex frequencies** of 144.255mhz and 422.350mhz.

When:

Starting Saturday, October 24, 2009 20:00 hours (local) and ending on Sunday, October 25, 2009 19:59 hours (local)

Frequency:

Any 2 meter or 70 centimeter simplex frequencies (repeater contacts are NOT accepted), and all modes acceptable. (See special frequencies below)

Exchange:

call, signal report, location, radio (make/model), and **favorite movie**

Points:

- I. Each contact is worth 1 point for non-members and 2 points for members of NKARC.
- II. Contact with any named member of NKARC (see Contacts/Officers section on web site or the NKARC directory page on any Feedline) is worth 5 additional points each (but only one contact per named member).
- III. Contacts with HTs (barefoot) are worth 2 additional points.
- IV. Contacts on the new NKARC simplex frequencies are worth 3 additional points each.
- V. If you contact the "ghost" station (randomly chosen Club member), you will receive an extra 5 points.

Log submissions:

Logs must be received no later than Friday, November 20th 2009. You can submit your entries either by email to contests@K4co.org or by mail to N4TJS 3869 Tracy Jean Lane, Erlanger, KY 41018. Please make sure your log contains all the information required under Exchange above and includes your contact information as well (especially your call sign). ***ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE ABOVE DATE TO BE VALID!!!***

Awards:

Awards will be given out at the NKARC Annual Christmas Party.



Have a Hauntingly Ghoul Time



Weaver's Words

Jim Weaver, K8JE
Great Lakes Division Director, ARRL
E-mail: k8je@arrl.org; Tel.: 513-459-0142

Commercialization of Amateur Radio

As promised, the Board of Directors has issued a guidelines statement concerning the proper and improper uses of Amateur Radio to support not-for-profit or profit-making organizations. As you read this statement, please understand that it says absolutely nothing new. The reason for this is there is absolutely nothing new to say. It merely helps puts FCC regulations into perspective relative to new requests and demands being made of Amateur Radio.

The basic fact is that the FCC has issued no new rules regarding pecuniary interest since it issued the "pizza rule" years ago. What the pizza rule says is it is OK for an amateur to use Amateur Radio to order pizza or other materials from a dealer. The logic is that the ham has no pecuniary interest in this type of deal. In sharp contrast, it remains a violation of FCC rules for the pizza parlor clerk to use Amateur Radio to take orders.

The philosophy remains unchanged and applies as much to hospitals, the Red Cross, etc. as it applies to a pizza parlor, a railroad and other business operations.

The result of all this is it is up to us as amateurs to know FCC rules and to apply them to situations we face. My suggestion is, "If it doesn't feel right, it probably isn't."

The old "If it looks like a duck, waddles like a duck and quacks like a duck, it's probably a duck" admonition works most of the time.

What can also be said is that trinkets (T-shirts, car signs, caps) given gratuitously by event sponsors that identify the event are not pay. They publicize the event and identify the event worker. Similarly, reimbursement for gasoline or other expenses incurred while serving an event is just this — reimbursement, not pay. It's OK to accept reimbursement.

It also is OK for an amateur organization to accept donations. This is provided the donations are true donations — freely given and not solicited. For example, if a served organization wants to give a ham club a gift, take it. On the other hand, it isn't OK to ask the served organization for a donation. By no means should we negotiate how much a donation should be.

When is a donation not a donation? If we have to play mental games to justify it as a donation and not as pay, it isn't a donation.

Division Award Winners

Major awards are presented to deserving members in the Great Lakes Division on alternate years. The growing tradition of presenting these awards at the GLD conventions was continued in Findlay on September 12. The awards and winning nominations are:



The George S. Wilson, III, W4OYI, Award — Presented to James "Mike" Wagoner, KB4VKS of Covington, KY for continued lifetime excellence as a radio amateur as a role model and helper for other amateurs. In his service to other amateurs and the public he exemplified the spirit of former GLD Director and ARRL President George Wilson, III, W4OYI.

The Amateur of the Year Award — Presented to James J. Aylward, KC8PD of Ravenna, OH for outstanding contribution to Amateur Radio.

DX Achievement Award — Presented to Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW of Strongsville, OH for his exemplary record of lifetime achievement in promoting DX operations, and for dedicating his time, talents and service to the art and science of Amateur Radio.

The Young Radio Amateur of the Year Award: Presented to Joseph J. Lipa, N8OY of Saline, MI. The award was in recognition demonstrating the spirit of Amateur Radio through guiding other young people into

Amateur Radio and through his accomplishments in academic, extracurricular and community life. Joe comes from a ham family.

A Director's award for Outstanding Achievement was presented to Thomas J. Mansfield, Jr., KG4TND of Lexington Kentucky for outstanding achievement in managing an ARES unit in the face of external difficulties. A Vice Director's award was presented to Bill Kelsey, N8ET for his effort in organizing the Symposium.

Congratulations to the award recipients. Thanks to Scott Yonally, N8SY for his fine job of designing and printing the award certificates.

My thanks to Vice Director Gary Johnston, KI4LA for his job as Symposium chairman.

Who was that Invisible Ham?

There appeared to be a ghostly recipient in last month's listing of scholarships awarded to Division amateurs through the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR). The scholarship was listed, but the name of the recipient somehow was lost in the rare ethers around my laptop.

Who was the mysterious winner? It was none other than Christina Check, W8HBI. Tina won a QCWA SK \$1000 scholarship. And yes, it was her daughter, Kayla, N8KAY who won the QCWA Myerson scholarship. And, yes again, this all made Bob Check, W8GC a proud father and grandfather.

Congratulations Tina.

Now, you know the rest of the story — thanks to Susie Scott, N8CGM for calling the missing name to my attention. This proves she is a better editor (the Buckeye Burr of the Buckeye Belles and also the Q-Fiver of the OH-KY-IN ARS) than me.

WRC 11 (or 12!)

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU)

will hold World Radio Conference 2011 in 2012, as it appears at this time. Regardless of when WRC 11 will occur, one of ARRL's aims is to work with other member societies of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) to get representative agencies at the WRC to agree to a new 500 kHz ham band.

ARRL recently filed comments with the FCC, asking the Commission to support the 500 kHz band. The US is represented at WRC treaty conferences by the US Department of State. The US delegation will include Federal workers from several departments and experts from non-governmental groups such as IEEE and ARRL.

Survey Results: NCJ, QEX, QST

Thanks to you who participated in our most recent Great Lakes Division survey. You may recall, the survey asked if you would prefer receiving the National Contest Journal (NCJ), QEX (focused on experimentation) or QST as your membership-benefit journal. The results are that 273 members identified QST as their preferred journal, 13 identified QEX and 11 identified NCJ.

I was somewhat surprised to see that only 297 members expressed their opinions in this survey. This makes it the Division survey that has attracted the least participation since I've been taking member surveys.

We Got Sponsors, We Got Sponsors

The number of US Representatives signed-on to co-sponsor HR-2160 continues to grow. As Division Legislative Action Chair (DLAC) John Meyers, NB4K announced, "There are two new co-sponsors from the great Lakes Division." These are Geoff Davis, KY-4 and Michael Turner, OH-3. This brings the total of co-sponsors to 23.

This bill is the first step toward overcoming Codes, Covenants & Restrictions (CC&Rs) in private contracts that ban effective amateur antennas.

Why shouldn't it be OK for sellers to put antenna struc-



ture restrictions into purchase contracts? Isn't it the seller's privilege to put restrictions into contracts and the buyer's privilege to decide either to buy or not to buy?

From a philosophic standpoint, freedom of choice sounds very good in this country. The problem with CC&Rs in modern life is that nearly every piece of privately-owned land in even modestly populated areas is covered by CC&Rs. The buyer is functionally denied the freedom of choice — the right — to find unrestricted property to purchase.

Overcoming CC&Rs would restore the freedom of choice to amateurs who want to install antenna structures.

Keep in mind that the FCC concluded CC&R bans of TV antennas were so improper that it issued a rule requiring TV antennas to be allowed in spite of the contractual restrictions. In addition, some states (Ohio included) have passed laws that nullify contract restrictions that had existed against flagpoles!

John continues to work diligently to assist GLD amateurs write their US Representatives urging them to support HR-2160. Watch for him at a hamfest near you (see travel schedule, below).

John also reports one can keep track as new co-sponsors come on board, by going to <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h111-2160>. At the web page, click on show co-sponsors.

Hamfest Sales of Illegal CB Equipment

I've received a few complaints about the sale of illegal CB gear at Division hamfests/swaps. This is new, CB gear that has not been type-accepted by the FCC and, therefore, is illegal to import into the US. I will appreciate your help in placing this problem in perspective.

First, I do not wish anyone to become a renta-cop and try to throw this gear or its vendors out of flea markets or indoor space. Although, it might not be a bad idea for hamfest committees to put a note on applications

for space that illegal CB equipment is not to be sold.

What I would like to know is where and when non-certified CB equipment has been seen. If you have noticed new, uncertified CB gear offered for sale at a hamfest, please send me an e-mail. If possible, please include the places (hamfests) and dates. If you know the name of the seller, please include it.

I will not distribute your identity, but please include your name and call so I can ask additional questions if this becomes desirable. Thanks.

Town Meetings

Town meetings either in person or via telephone have become rather popular this year. Both DLAC Meyers and I have participated in the telephone variety. These meetings may provide excellent opportunities to encourage US Representatives to support HR-2160 when public questions and comments are invited.

The very beginning of these meetings may be your only chance to get in a plug for the bill. Invitations to give your 2-cents worth to your Congressman may come only when one enters the room for in-person meetings or answers the telephone invitation to participate in a phone meeting.

What should you say if asked for your comment? The key points are to remember that the number of the bill is HR-2160, that the bill would instruct the Department of Homeland Security to study and report on any inappropriate legal constraints that prevent Amateur Radio from serving the country even better in time of emergency. Ask the Congressman to support HR-2160.

Brief comments about specific examples of ham radio assistance to the public in previous emergencies would be appropriate.

Does this work? All I can say is that letters from amateurs in his District and my brief conversation with Rep. Michael Turner (above) brought his co-

sponsorship of the bill.

Please review information at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/05/12/10818>. Please notice the recommended route of sending letters to your Representative.

Travel Schedule

The following is the travel schedule for Division staff during coming weeks. In addition to Vice Director Gary Johnson, KI4LA and me, Division Legislative Action Chair John Meyers, NB4K and 8th Area QSL Bureau Manager Jay Slough, K4ZLE will visit the events shown below.

With regret, I have had to cancel the planned visit to the Massillon Hamfest for this year.

Date.....	Event.....	Division Representative(s)
5 Oct:	Lexington, KY, Bluegrass ARC Meeting --	Jim
6 Oct:	Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN ARRL Nite --	Jim
7 Oct:	Cincinnati, Cinti FM Club ARRL Nite --	Jim
17 Oct:	Holland, MI Hamfest, Holland ARC --	Gary, Jay
18 Oct:	Kalamazoo, MI Hamfest, Kalamazoo ARC & SMART --	Gary, Jay
31 Oct:	Hazard KY Hamfest, Kentucky Mountains ARC --	Gary
7 Nov:	Georgetown OH Hamfest, Grant ARC --	Gary

Help Needed for Dixie Heights VE Session

The next Dixie Heights High School VE session will be held on Thursday, November 5 at 1:00 PM. We need as many registered VEs and non-VE volunteers as possible. If you can help, please contact Robert Kluck N4IJS at n4ijs@insightbb.com or (859) 426-5588.

KB4VKS Leading in Net Participation Contest

Robert Kluck, N4IJS, reports that the current leaders in the Members in the Net Contest are:

1. Mike Wagoner, KB4VKS (18 check-ins)
2. Dennis Leach, KG4SBG (15 check-ins)
3. Joe Stern, KI4QG (10 check-ins)

Robert also states that there are several people whose names could be on the list if they were club members.

FOR SALE

Various Hamstick-like mobile antennas: 75m, 40m, 20m, 17m, 15m, 12m. \$10 each

Contact Lyle Hamilton, AB8SH
ab8sh@arrl.net, tel. 513-315-4032

Return to:
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Covington, Ky. 41012

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