

Hiram's Hams Amateur Radio Society

Founded September 5994 A.L.



NEWSLETTER

The Fraternity within The Fraternity

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Volume X, No. 6

Toledo, Ohio

June A.L. 6004

811 Proposed as a Nationwide Call-Before-Digging Number

The FCC is asking for comments on a proposal to adopt "811" as a nationwide call-before-digging number. The regulatory agency believes that this will give excavators one simple number to call to avoid cutting buried cables, gas lines and other important infrastructure.

Currently there are 70 nationwide "One Call" centers that serve different geographic areas. They are generally accessed by dialing toll-free or local telephone numbers. The FCC however believes that having one simple number to call like 811 should promote safety and lead to fewer utility outages.

Tnx Amateur Radio Newsline

Historic Transmitter site has been shut down

The CGC Communicator reports the passing of a different sort. This was the announcement that on May 24th a historic AM broadcast transmitting site was turned off after 80 years of service.

In 1924, radio station KGFJ started broadcasting from the Odd Fellows Lodge Building on Oak Street near downtown Los Angeles. In more recent years, the station call sign changed its call letters to KYPA.

Shortly after 4 PM on May 24th, Marvin Collins, W6OQL, turned on the new 1230 kHz transmitter. Its signal is diplexed into a tower at the KBLA 1580 kHz transmitter site.

Collins says that the old KGFJ "flat top" antenna had been in continuous use by since 1924. He adds that the old antenna may well have been the last full-time use of a flat top antenna anywhere in the country.

Marvin took photos of the old KGFJ site and the new diplexed setup at KBLA. Visit Marvin's web page at <http://earthsignals.com/Collins/> and scroll to "KGFJ 1230."

Tnx Amateur Radio Newsline

California ARES/RACES Team helps with Reagan Funeral Cortege

California's Ventura County ARES/RACES group assisted June 11 in the funeral activities for former President Ronald Reagan. Due to the large number of people wanting to view the Reagan funeral procession when the former president's body was returned to California for burial, law enforcement agencies asked the Amateur Radio volunteers to serve as additional eyes and ears along the 18-mile procession route.

"Operators were stationed on freeway overpasses, road intersections and other key locations on the route," said David Gilmore, AA6VH, who's Ventura County's ARES District Emergency Coordinator and RACES Radio Officer. He says some 50 radio amateurs participated.

"We in Ventura County have always felt a connection to President Reagan," said Gilmore. The county is home to the Reagan Presidential Library as well as Point Mugu Naval Air Weapons Station, where Air Force One often landed when Reagan visited his ranch in neighboring Santa Barbara County. Gilmore said the ARES/RACES members "were grateful to be able to participate in this historic occasion, and to uniquely serve and honor President Reagan for the last time."

He also noted that Ventura County ARES/RACES members had undergone law enforcement background checks during the past year. "This was fortuitous, as the United States Secret Service—responsible for overall security—felt comfortable in having our participation," he said. The ARES/RACES team members worked side by side not only with the Secret Service but the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Aviation Administration, the US Coast Guard, the California Highway Patrol and various local law enforcement agencies.

"At the end of the day we received compliments from a number of persons in various capacities to the effect that our reports of the position of the motorcade were invaluable," Gilmore concluded. One especially gratifying comment came from an FAA representative who complimented the team on its skill and professionalism.

Tnx ARRL Letter

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and make your donations payable to:
THE HIRAM'S HAMS NEWSLETTER
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WORDS OF WISDOM FROM KING SOLOMON The Level

In Freemasonry, the Level is a symbol of equality; not of that social quality which would destroy all distinctions of ranks and position, and beget confusion, insubordination, and anarchy; but of that fraternal equality which, recognizing the fatherhood of God, admits as a necessary corollary the brotherhood of man. It, therefore, teaches us that, in sight of the Grand Architect of the Universe, his creatures, who are at an insurmountable distance from him, move upon the same plane; as the far-moving stars, which through millions of miles apart, yet seem to shine upon the same canopy of the sky. In this view, the level teaches us all that all men are equal, subject to the same infirmities, hastening to the same goal, and preparing to be judged by the same immutable law.

The level is deemed, like the square and the plumb, of so much importance as a symbol, that it is repeated in many different relations. First, it is one of the jewels of the Lodge; in the English system a movable, in the American an immovable one. This leads to its being adopted as the proper official emblem of Senior Warden, because the Craft when at labor, at which time he presides over them, are on a common level of subordination. And then it is one of the working tools of a Fellowcraft, still retaining its symbolism of equality.

Tnx Masonry Defined

by

Dr. Albert G. Mackey 33°

Reprinted with permission

What are "High Twelve" and "Low Twelve?"

Noon and midnight. These expressions are but two of Freemasonry's many emphasis in time, which thus becomes an important symbol, if one seldom considered by ritualists.

The Entered Apprentice divides his *time* with the twenty-four inch gauge; both Apprentice and Fellowcraft wait for a certain *time* before further advancement; geometry enables the astronomer to "fix the duration of *time* and seasons, years and cycles." Ecclesiastes XII begins with "*days* of thy youth." Job and the adaption of his words form the Master's prayer in which is "man that is born of woman is of few *days*." His "*days* are determined"; "the number of his *months* is with thee"; "turn from him that he may rest till he shall accomplish his *day*" the *time* of the construction of the Temple of Solomon is taught in the Master Mason degree; the Master's carpet has three steps, which, signifying youth, manhood and old age, are themselves symbols of *time*. The hour-glass and scythe are instruments for the measure of *time* and the bringing of human life and its *time* to a close. As in all life, *time* in Masonry is important; whether it is a symbol of life, of immortality, or the unsolved puzzles of the universe, let each brother decide for himself.

Tnx One Hundred and One Questions About Freemasonry
The Masonic Service Association

TAPS

Here is something EVERY AMERICAN should know. We in the United States have all heard the haunting song, "Taps." It's the song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. But, do you know the story behind the song? If not, I think you will be interested to find out about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted.

The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. The haunting melody, we now know as "Taps" ... used at military funerals was born.

Day is done...Gone the sun...From the lakes.
From the hills...From the sky...All is well.
Safely rest ...God is nigh.
Fading light...Dims the sight... And a star.
Gems the sky...Gleaming bright...From afar.
Drawing nigh...Falls the night...Thanks and praise.
For our days...Neath the sun...Neath the stars...Neath the sky.
As we go...This we know...God is nigh.

I, too, have felt the chills while listening to "Taps" but I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song, and I didn't know if you had either, so I thought I'd pass it along.

"No arsenal of the world is more formidable than the will and courage of free men and women."

Submitted By: W.B. Thomas E. Hawley, KC8RPA

Ringling Brothers Lodge Artifacts Return Home

Baraboo, Wisconsin

On January 21, 1891, all seven of the Ringling Brothers (of circus fame) were in Lodge here. The six elder brothers occupied the top chairs in the lodge as they raised, Henry, their youngest brother who had just gotten old enough to join. Their father, August, joined them in the lodge before the year was out.

Each wore an apron of white lambskin, with blue velvet trim and embroidery and tassels of silver thread. Each bore the emblem of the officer's chair the Ringling occupied. No one is quite sure what happened to those aprons over the years, but all six recently showed up on eBay. One hundred and eleven years later, they all turned up in their original boxes with the original wrapping tissue.

Five members of the lodge made donations and ransomed the piece of their history. Perhaps it is best that the aprons disappeared for these long years. Had they stayed in the lodge, they likely would have been lost in the fire that destroyed the lodge building in 1957.

Tnx Baraboo Republic by way of the Indiana Freemason
and The North Carolina Mason

Never Underestimate the Value of CB Radio

Never underestimate the value of an 11 meter Class D CB radio set in catching a bad guy. Even when the alleged perpetrator happens to be the CB operator at the controls.

According to the *CGC Communicator*, complaints about interference from a citizens band radio led police to the home of one Vernando Malone of South Bend, Indiana. When they searched the premises they found more than \$20,000 worth of Nextel cellular telephones and another \$20,000 in Motorola phones. Also located was a computer that Malone allegedly used to activate the phones.

Malone has now been charged with forgery and theft. This, in connection with what police claim was a scheme to fraudulently order large numbers of cell phones, activate them with a home computer, and then sell them on the street at discounted prices.

Tnx Amateur Radio Newslite

New Hiram's Hams Sweetheart

Sister Deborah K. Nale, P.M., N3GPL

Mifflintown, Pennsylvania

Past Matron of Mifflin Chapter No. 260
Mifflintown, Pennsylvania



Nominated by hubby, Dr. Bro. Jeffery L. Nale, N3AGI

THE LETTER "G"

He entered the Lodge and filled each chair,
Was sent to the East and presided there,
He could give the lecture of each degree,
But fell down on the letter "G".

Though he said each head must "in honor bow,"
Yet out of the Lodge he forgot, somehow,
For from his careless and prayerless lip,
The name of Jehovah would oft time slip.

He recited the lecture with solemn tone,
When the letter "G" to the Lodge was shown,
But we knew at once why the world did scoff
When he heard this man with his apron off.
The Fellowcraft, too, when the Lodge was through
Listed as you and I would do.
But the work though finely exemplified
Was spoiled by his talk in the room outside.

For no one did as the Mason said,
Not a "humble bow" from a single head.
So the Fellowcraft thought as he said goodnight,
"I will talk as before and 'twill be all right."

If Masonry does what we claim for it
We should guard our tongues lest we forget
To use that great high Name with care
While employed work or engaged in prayer.
For the world is watching both you and me,
To see if we honor the letter "G."
And our lives and teachings they compare,
To see if we're plumb and on the Square.

Tnx Wor. Bro. Thomas E. Hawley, KC8RPA
Past Master of Nelson Lodge No. 30, Louisville, Ohio

Reprinted from OHIO MASONIC HOME WEEKLY BULLETEN

Hiram's Hams Caps!

..... *Fund raising drive for the Society*

This is a fun cap! A beautiful black cap (fits all sizes) with "*Hiram's Ham*," plus your *handle and call* on the front in embroidered GOLD lettering.

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Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068



Thanks to Brother Ben Driver, N8JUD, for his efforts in making these Hiram's Hams Caps possible!

Broadband over Power Line video available

A video that clearly and concisely explains and depicts the threat of Broadband over Power Line (BPL) to Amateur Radio now is available for downloading free of charge from the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/06/18/8/BPL-and-HF-web.mpg>>. The video, "*BPL and HF: A Primer*," runs approximately three and one-half minutes (including credits). It's suitable for Amateur Radio club presentations as well as for non-ham audiences, such as the news media, civic clubs, local governments and emergency response agencies. A suitable "companion piece" for the video presentation is the ARRL brochure "Broadband over Power Line: Why Amateur Radio is Concerned about Its Deployment," <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/bpl-deployment.html>> which makes an ideal informational handout. Members of the North Carolina BPL Action Team—Frank Lynch, W4FAL; Tom Brown, N4TAB; and Gary Pearce, KN4AQ—with assistance from Cyndi Pearce, KD4ACW; Danny Musten, KD4RAA; and SoundTrax Studios in Raleigh, North Carolina, shot and narrated the video. It was produced and edited by Flint.Ridge Productions. The file is approximately 18 MB. A high-speed Internet connection is strongly advised for those wishing to download "*BPL and HF: A Primer*."

Tnx ARRL Letter

What Sign?

A young entered apprentice was being examined on his proficiency. After going over the signs and passwords, he looked at his instructor and asked, "I noticed several of the older members sticking their fingers in their ears and whistling. What does that sign mean?"

"Oh, that's not a sign," his instructor said, "Those are past masters adjusting their hearing aids."

Tnx The North Carolina Mason
Ric Carter Editor

2B1 ASK1

New Hiram's Hams Sweetheart



Sister Joy E. Lampert, VE3YUK
Richmond Hill, Ontario Canada
Richmond Hill Chapter



Nominated by hubby, Right Worshipful Murray Lampert, VE3HI,
D.D.G.M. of Toronto District No. 7, Grand Lodge of Canada, A.F. & A.M.

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Click on HIRAM'S HAMS

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Links to the Ohio Grand Lodge and HIRAM'S HAMS.

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<http://geocities.com/lancastermasoniclodge/>

HAM "OH" RAMA

Voice of Aladdin Radio Club

Voice of Aladdin Shrine Complex
Columbus, Ohio



August 7, 2004
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Commercial Exhibits, Flea Market, Free Seminars,
Refreshments, Prizes and VE Sessions

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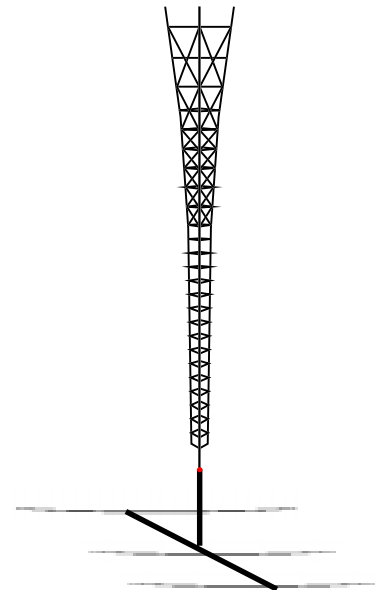
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HAMFESTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS 2004

- July 10 Tidelands Amateur Radio Society <www.tidelands.org> Texas City, Texas
- July 17 Cary Amateur Radio Club<www.qsl.net/n4nc/> Cary, North Carolina
- July 19-20 ARRL Northwestern Division Convention <www.seapac.org> Seaside, Oregon
Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club
- July 23-24 Milton Amateur Radio Club <http://home.att.net/~k4ozl/marc.htm> Milton, Florida
- July 24 OH-KY-IN-ARS Hamfest Cincinnati, Ohio
- July 31 Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club <www.w4ca.host4www.com> Vinton, Virginia
- August 6-7 Texas ARRL State Convention <www.austinsummerfest.org> Austin, Texas
- August 7 Voice of Aladdin Amateur Radio Club <www.qsl.net/w8fez> Columbus, Ohio
Aladdin Shrine Complex, Columbus, Ohio
- August 8 North Hills Amateur Radio Club <aa3ta@verizon.net> Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- August 8 Kokomo, Grant County and Miami County Amateur Radio Clubs Greentown, Indiana
<www.greentownhamfest.com>

Tnx ARRL and the Southeastern Repeater Association

The Fraternity within The Fraternity



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