



The Hilltopper

HAZARD, KY.

April 2009

Kentucky Mountains Amateur Radio Club

Mitchell Meade, KI4FGF, Pres.
Matthew Hollins, KR4WI, VP
John Farler, K4AVX, Sec.-
Treasurer, Editor

<http://www.k4avx.net>

SATURDAY'S MEETING:

The club will meet this Saturday, April 11th., at the Civil Air Patrol building at the Hazard Airport. **The meeting will start at 11:00 AM** to give members time to stop at the main airport building to participate in the CAP's FLY IN-DRIVE IN BREAKFAST, which starts at 7:30 that morning.

Kel Adams sent the invitation: "*Civil Air Patrol is having a Fly in Drive In Breakfast Saturday, April 11th., 2009, starting a 7:30 am and ending around 12:30 PM at the Wendell Ford Airport Main Terminal.*

We will have an all you can eat country breakfast for \$5. There will also be Airplane Rides for \$20 each. I think this is the same day as the Ham Radio Meeting and I would really love for everyone to stop by.

When you get done eating you can stop by the U S Army booth, and the Life Net Helicopter will be on static display. We are also having a model airplane and paper airplane contest for everyone under 18 years old, Cadet Ken will be there for the kids, as well as face painting, a bake sale and other activities."

Kel has invited the club to have an amateur radio display, and I hope we can get something together for that. If you have any ideas, let me know. We hope all members can support the CAP. Send Kel an e-mail at kycap4@hotmail.com

MARCH MEETING:

The March meeting was held with about 14 members present. The SKYWARN basic training was presented by Shawn Harley, KF4NIH, from the weather station. Shawn presented a very good audio-visual presentation to those present, and had comments on how SKYWARN can assist the weather station on getting the actual weather conditions on the ground which the radar and other remote instruments may not show. He pointed out that the NWS is always



interested in winds over 40 mph, high levels of rain, in an hour, and icy precipitation.

HARLAN CLUB:

The Harlan Club is having good turnouts at their club meetings. They have changed their regular meeting date to the first Sunday of the month.

They will be giving exams as needed after each club meeting to keep caught up with demand. The 147.21 K4TDO

Harlan repeater has a new antenna and feedline, and has much expanded coverage.

There are plans to start a net on the repeater soon.

JANUARY ICE STORM:

At the end of January, Kentucky suffered one of the worst, and certainly most widespread disaster situations the state has faced. In my memory, only the severe winter conditions of the late 70's might equal the ice storms and flooding which began on January 26th., and continued for a week or more. There were more than half a million people without power during this time, and some few homes in western Kentucky rural areas were still without power at the time of the Cave City Hamfest on March 7th.

All in all, more than 90 counties out of the 120 in Kentucky were declared Federal Disaster areas. Generally, the storm swept into all of far western Kentucky, and moved somewhat north of the Tennessee line as it went farther east. Some few counties from around Glasgow to Somerset and farther east to Letcher hit areas.

In the capital city, Frankfort, there was much damage and the state EOC ARES station, KY4EOC, was put on

the air, along with the MARS station at Boone Center. KY4EOC made contact with stations on 3960 Khz., to handle some of the emergency traffic. The EOC crew also monitored the Brooks, Ky. 146.70 repeater, as well as the Frankfort, Ky. repeater on 147.105.

In addition to the ice and flooding, parts of the state suffered from high winds just after the ice storm period. High winds put a crook in the tower at the Red Cross building in Lexington on February 11th. As you can see from the photo, a lot of damage was done, but the antennas themselves were reusable.

HAMFEST SCHEDULE:

APRIL 25, 2009 - The Ashland Tailgate hamfest sponsored by the RCARA will again be held at the National City Bank Parking Lot, 1000 Carter Avenue in Ashland. For more information, visit the RCARA web site.

MAY 2, 2009 - The Louisa Hamfest, sponsored by The Big Sandy ARC, at the Louisa Senior Citizen Center, 101 West Pike Street in Louisa. Info: Fred Jones, WA4SWF, (606) 483-1109, wa4swf@arrl.net, or visit the club web site, www.bsarc.org.

MAY 15-17 Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH.

JUNE 6 Little Sandy Hamfest, Grayson, KY.

JUNE 13 Knoxville, Hamfest, Kerbel Temple, Knoxville, Tn.

SEE YOU AT THE CLUB MEETING THIS COMING SATURDAY...73, JOHN, K4AVX

Below: The Bluegrass ARS tower in Lexington, after the February windstorm. The tower has been straightened and antennas were not significantly damaged. (from N4DIT)
Right: Ice storm scene in extreme Eastern KY. We are very lucky that the storm missed most of KMARC area. (from WA4SWF)



JOIN THE KENTUCKY MOUNTAINS ARC
Membership dues for the 2008 year are payable as follows:
Full Membership.....\$12.00
Family Membership..all in one household.. \$18
Student (any level).....\$8
Associate Memberships - \$8
Pay at the Club Meetings or mail to John Farler, K4AVX,
1264 Hall Mountain Rd., Vi;er, KY 41774
.....
(email k4avx@k4avx.net, make checks to KMARC)