My fellow members of ROAR,

We are preparing for another RI Convention and the Annual General Meeting, this year in Thailand.

Unfortunately there are some serious problems with activating our planned ham radio station, HS85RI. In spite of the early preparation for the station by Tim JH1NVZ, the recent flooding has presented us with new challenges. The club station of the local Amateur Radio Union was completely destroyed. The members of ROAR-J have donated equipment, but importing any kind of such equipment is subject to licensing and that takes time. Also, right now it is not possible to install aerials at the convention site. Tim and his team are now researching the possibility of operating a remote-control station. But that means accepting the very high rental cost of an Internet connection. Another high cost is the registration fee to make the installation and maintain it in the House of Friendship.

I personally cannot avoid thinking that an international event like ours is utilized by the organizers to maximum economic result.

Our location for the Annual General Meeting is the Sapphire Room #111, on Monday, May 7th at 12:30 pm local time. Please make a note in your schedule book and participate! The agenda for the meeting follows on page 2. Also, if you can attend our booth—even for a while—please let Tim know! His email address is nvz@myad.jp.

Because this will be my last opportunity to address our members as ROAR president, I want to thank you all for giving me this opportunity to grow. It was an honor to be asked and it was a challenge to serve you well. I have had a helping hand from many of you. You did respond when I asked and it has made my task much easier. I particularly will thank Bill VK4ZD for actively expressing his opinions on various matters; Richard TI7/AA2UP for a very good Communicator and for understanding my “Finglees” and translating my scribbles into proper English. Also I thank all the Netmasters who have kept our radio-activity alive. Great job by Andy AE5EA, Bob WB7RQG, and Bill VK4ZD in organizing our roster and getting the directory in our web page. This has enabled the Communicator to be published digitally and distributed electronically, thereby saving the fellowship mailing costs.

Thank you everybody and CU on QRG’s!

To those who go to the convention: Enjoy Bangkok Rotary! And to the rest: Listen for the station!

YIRS — Pertti Kause EA7GSU, President 2009-2012

Welcome to our spring issue.

It is almost time for the 2012 RI Convention in Thailand. So we have the latest news about the activities ROAR is planning. Also, there were many favorable comments about the member profiles in our last issue. We have a few more this time—including one by Bill Main, our incoming ROAR president. Rotary and ham radio make a great combination. This will become more and more apparent as you read these pages. Enjoy!

—Richard Spingarn TI7/AA2UP
Many of you probably know that in an effort to promote the Rotary polio campaign, large illuminated signs have been projected on landmark buildings around the world in the past few months. One of these was displayed in Granada, Spain, on February 23, the 107th birthday of Rotary. The famous Alhambra Castle was grandly lit with a message publicizing Rotary’s efforts to eliminate polio from the world.

A question arose: Can something be added to this message through the use of amateur radio? The result was an interesting initiative by my district governor and my club colleague Ramiro EA7EGS (District 2203, Spain). They asked me to call “CQ POLIO” the whole day on various ROAR frequencies and thereby “tell the world” what Rotary’s polio effort was all about.

The idea was so contagious that Dan KB6NU adopted it as well, spending time on the promotion at his own station in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Is this an idea we can use to promote other projects that Rotary International is undertaking? The occasion could be the RI birthday or anything else.

Our special-event station could be advertised through ham radio magazines, websites and bulletins. A QSL card from the station would then serve as a further reminder of the message. ROAR could print QSLs and/or certificates for the station participants to fill in. Surely, there are takers for this kind of special QSL—think of the special-event stations and their QSL-card collectors!

Any more ideas around this spark (so to speak)? Let me know and we shall see if something can be made of the idea. Email me at pikause@yahoo.co.uk.

— Pertti Kause EA7GSU

An illuminated sign at the Alhambra Castle.
ROAR Annual Report 2011-12

— submitted by Pertti Kause EA7GSU

For ROAR members who experienced some sluggish development in the past few years, this Rotary year has been marked with a sudden improvement in radio propagation. The sun spots have finally decided to show, and this has resulted in good communication and an increasing number of members appearing on the frequencies!

Sunday nets:

The ANZO net has gained more members, particularly in Australia where Peter VK3KCD has been active in promoting ROAR during local conventions. The 40-meter ANZO net has been audible also in Europe, so there are sometimes check-ins from here. The path for the 20-meter ANZO/EU net has mainly been open, permitting communications between many stations on both sides.

Very soon ROAR-J will celebrate a milestone: holding 10,000 nets since it was established in 1987. The 10,000th net will occur on May 15, 2012. We are planning a ceremony around that date. Otherwise, the ROAR-J net on the 40-meter band has been active. About ten stations participate, depending upon their availability. The net operates Monday through Saturday from 7:30 am to 8:15 am JST at 7.077.50 MHz.

The Cross-atlantic net has had occasional QRM problems caused by strong contest stations and by third-harmonic interference from a Tajikistan broadcast station. Our net controllers Jim W1QUO (SK) and Bill G4YZE have, however, done a great job in connecting the continents. (As I was writing this I got the sad news from Jim’s son that the cornerstone of our Cross-atlantic net, James “Jim” Moran, has left us. We are mourning the loss of a great member and good friend. Jim’s silent key tribute is on p 6.)

The UK Sunday morning and afternoon nets have been conducted regularly and enjoyed a good half-dozen participants, with some signals coming from Spain as well.

The Trans-continental US net has also been growing. The signals have not been very strong in Europe, but three or four stations have managed to get through well. Most of the time I was able to check in via Jim W1QUO.

The Tuesday morning European 40-meter net has been seeking more check-ins. Efforts are continuing to make it a “family net” for the Europeans.

My efforts to create a South American Spanish-speaking net have not been successful partly because of poor propagation between the continents. But several ROAR hams in various countries in the region have indicated their willingness to participate once circumstances permit. I will continue trying to get it going.

Other activities

Our membership directory has been brought up-to-date and is now available online at http://ifroar.org/members.html. The process of refining it continues. You are encouraged to check your information and report any discrepancies to our secretary, “Andy” AE5EA, at ae5ea@rgunwired.net.

As I mentioned in my president’s message for this issue, efforts to set up an operational station at the Bangkok RI Convention are continuing, despite obstacles that seem horrendous as I write this. But, Tim JH1NVZ is leading a giant effort to make it happen! We all are hoping to hear the convention special-event call HS85RI on the air.

Another activity (reported on p. 2) was the special-event station operated by myself and by Dan KB6NU in the US on the RI birthday, February 23, 2012, to promote the “End Polio Now” campaign on the air. We shall see if this kind of activity can be one of ROAR’s raisons d’être.

This year ROAR awarded its first Byron C. Sharpe Distinguished Service Awards to three persons who have performed exceptional service to the fellowship and its members. (See the January 2012 issue of Communicator.)

The Communicator has been published twice so far in 2012. Rich TI7/AA2UP has done good work in getting short biographies from our members, so that we can introduce ourselves and give a “face” to the voices we hear every Sunday on the radio. We may never really meet face-to-face but these profiles bring us closer to one another.

In Genalguacil (MA), Spain, 29 March 2012,

Pertti Kause EA7GSU, ROAR President 2009-2012
I guess that most of you may already know me as the Webmaster for the ROAR website, ifroar.org. Last year, President Pertti told me that I was his choice for the next president of ROAR. I dutifully raised all the objections I could think of and Pertti calmly knocked them down, one at a time. So here I am, ROAR President Elect to serve from 2012 to 2015. Doubtless I will make mistakes and I hope that we all also have some resounding successes.

In simple terms I really have just two goals.

1. **To increase the membership and awareness** (in the amateur and Rotary communities) of the International Fellowship for Rotarians of Amateur Radio.

2. **To put in place a fully web-based database of members and their information** (totally protected by all the security that we can muster) that will allow our hard-working treasurer and secretary to maintain the fellowship’s records with great ease. In addition to that, all members will be able to update their own information simply by logging in to their very own place on the website. Your data will not be visible to anyone else except for those officers of ROAR who are authorised to access it.

Now that you all know what I have in mind, let me tell you a little about myself and my family. I was born to youngish parents (Dad was 26 and Mum was 21) in November 1946. I lived in Adelaide, South Australia (VK5 area). At the age of 12, I was introduced to amateur radio. A friend of mine already had his Limited License. At the time here in Australia that meant that he could use the 6-meter band and higher and with a power of 400 watts PEP, the maximum allowed at that time. He was only 13 years old. All he needed to get his unrestricted license was to pass ten words a minute of Morse Code.

I already had a budding interest in radio and so my first effort was to build a crystal set to listen to the local broadcast stations. I tired of listening with headphones after a while, so I then obtained the circuit for a valve amplifier. The parts were inexpensive and readily available from army surplus stores. The rectifier used a 5Y3 and the audio amplifier used a 6V6 fed by a triode (can't remember which one). I was in heaven. I didn't have to use headphones any more. The antenna was a long wire strung up between the house and the garage.

The next step was short-wave listening. I was reminded often by my grandmother that I borrowed 10 shillings (the equivalent of $1.00 AUS at the time) from my grandfather (which I never paid back) to buy an old console radio that had been traded in by a local electrical store. The radio was marked as “not working”. I got power to it and had a listen. The volume-control potentiometer was crackly so I took a chance and bought the radio for 10 shillings.

When I got it home I replaced the potentiometer and it worked. That radio gave me many hours of very satisfying listening. The strongest stations I could hear were Radio Australia, HCJB from Quito Ecuador, Radio Netherlands and Deutsche Welle.

At the age of 15, I left home and whilst staying with a caring foster family, I built another audio amplifier and, more importantly, my first transceiver. Once again the rectifier was a 5Y3 and the audio modulator and audio-out shared...
Meet Bill Main, continued from p. 5

a 6V6. The RF stage employed an acorn tube. The frequency being used was 288 MHz which was a ham band at that time; it was later relinquished to the armed forces for their use. The antenna was a rotatable folded dipole fed with 300-ohm ribbon. Of course I was unlicensed at the time, but I did succeed in contacting another pirate about 15 miles away. I was promptly shut down by my new ‘foster parents’ but I had made my first contact and was hooked.

Over the back fence the neighbour had a huge tower with a 20-meter yagi on it. It was 1962 and SSB was happening. I befriended him and from time to time I visited him in his shack. I recall that he had a rack-mounted home-made transmitter and a Lafayette receiver modified to resolve SSB. On one occasion while he was in QSO with a Japanese station, he had to leave the shack briefly and he instructed me on how to respond to the Japanese station if it was put back to us before he got back. I had my first exciting HF QSO.

At the age of 21 I moved to Kalgoorlie in Western Australia (VK6). I looked out for ham antennas of course, and found the home of father and son Doug and Lewis Pannell. Doug was VK6OI and Lewis was VK6ZGQ. Doug has now passed on and Lewis now has his Dad’s call, VK6OI. Lewis is still a close friend all these years later.

I was 29 when I married the love of my life, Diane. She quickly got sick of hearing me say, “One day I will get my ham license.” The Novice license had just been introduced in Australia. Novices were allowed SSB and CW privileges with 30 watts PEP of power on limited sections of 10, 15 and 80 meters. The Morse Code speed requirement was 5 wpm. Diane, without my knowledge, booked me into a class at the local technology college to study for my Novice license. She mysteriously told me to drive to a certain place and then walked me into the office to complete my registration. Then, just to be sure that I finished what I started, she registered herself to do the course as well.

Well, shortly after the birth of our first child we received our call signs. I was VK6NDZ and Diane was VK6NGQ (Never Goes Quiet). Within a couple of years we had both upgraded our theory and I had also upgraded my Morse to 10 wpm. My call became VK6ZX and Diane eventually received VK6KYL (Keeps Yelling Loudly).

In 1996 Diane and I were invited to Somalia to view a Rotary project (see the article about the Galkayo Project in the January 2011 Communicator.) Whilst there we were privileged to be given the calls 6OØYL and 6OØX for life.

In 2004, we moved to Gatton, Queensland (VK4). Diane and I received the calls VK4KYL and VK4ZD which we currently hold.

We are both members and past presidents of the Rotary Club of Gatton and Lockyer in District 9630. My previous club (in Kalgoorlie-Boulder) was the Rotary Club of Boulder in District 9470, and I am a past president of that club also. In the three years from 2008 to 2011, I was an assistant governor for District 9630.

We have two daughters, both married. Our elder daughter, Rivkah, has two children, Archer and Tabitha. Our younger daughter, Alizah, also is a ham and holds the Foundation License call VK4FOXE.

Hope to hear you all on air soon! — Bill Main VK4ZD

First in the Log!

ROAR’s RIBI Chairman, Brian Whittaker G3LUW, had the honor of being the very first station in the log of the recent PS5F DXpedition at Santana de Fora Island. Below is a link to a brief video that shows much of the excitement. It was emailed to Brian by DXpeditioner Fábio PP5BZ, in honor of that first log entry.

Congratulations Brian!!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXbDQxiPGNQ
Silent Key
A tribute to James “Jim” Moran W1QUO
— from the obituary submitted by Jim’s son, James Moran, Jr. K1AKE

James M. Moran, engineer, businessman, and longtime resident of Leominster, Massachusetts, died of natural causes on March 27, 2012, at his home. He was 95.

He was born in Silverwood, Indiana, on September 25, 1916, son of Alice Lorene and Michael Joseph Moran. He graduated from high school at the age of 16 but was not able to afford to go to college right away. He worked and studied at night school and graduated from Rutgers University in 1940 with a degree in electrical engineering. In 1942 he married Martha (Mary) June Algernissen of Montgomery City, Missouri, whom he had known since childhood. They had four children.

Jim was recruited by the Harvard University Radio Research Laboratory during World War II, where he worked on radar countermeasures. After the war he joined Barkeley and Dexter Company (B&D), an engineering firm in Boston, Massachusetts, where he held several positions and remained active in senior management until his retirement in 1989. Under his leadership B&D pioneered the development of food inspection equipment. In 1953, a distraught baker called to say that he had just baked 500 pies and lost a knife blade in one of them. Jim set up and developed equipment to X-ray the whole lot and found the blade. This was the start of a long business venture in the field of metal detection in food-processing lines. He was the holder of six US, Canadian and European patents on food inspection systems.

Jim was a life member of the Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers. In 1981 his alma mater, Rutgers University, gave him its Outstanding Achievement Award in Engineering for his work on metal detectors. He was also a member of the Explorer’s Club, headquartered in New York City. With the support of the Explorer’s Club and the Wallace Foundation, he developed techniques for measuring clear air turbulence in support of air travel safety. He also developed instrumentation for charting anomalies in the earth’s gravitational field and made many measurements in Greenland and other locations. He served as a geophysical consultant with the US scientific delegation in Helsinki, Finland, before and during the International Geophysical Year in 1951.

Jim was active in many civic and business organizations in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. He was president of the Fitchburg Rotary Club and attended weekly meetings until shortly before his death. He enjoyed many Rotary International conventions. He was regional vice president of the Eastern North American section of the International Fellowship for Rotarians of Amateur Radio.

He had a zest for life and enthusiastically embraced many avocations. He was an instrument-rated private pilot and also flew sail planes and balloons. He played the violin and the piano. He was a landscape painter and a gardener, and he travelled worldwide for work and pleasure. A humorous public speaker and writer, he published Cuisine Après Dentist, a lighthearted cookbook specializing in recipes for the “dentally impaired.” He continued to live life courageously and ambitiously even after losing his eyesight in 2004. He applied his engineering talents to finding clever ways to maintain his active lifestyle.

Jim was an avid amateur radio operator for 75 years, holding the calls signs W2IVI and W1QUO. He maintained a state-of-the-art “ham shack” at his residence. His final radio contacts, just weeks before his death, were with his fellow Rotarian hams.

Will it ever be the same again? Will I ever be able to switch on ten minutes before the net and hear someone with the comforting yet stimulating tones of Jim Moran having a preliminary chat with a few early enthusiasts?

On May 6, 1999, we were struggling to keep the ROAR International Net going, trying various frequencies and times. At 2000z Joe WØTBC, Jack KF5BD, and a few others were fighting their way through the QRN and poor propagation on 21.405. Then Jim arrived with a fine signal, and he stayed and after an interesting year of trying, he steadied the ship and we settled on 14.293 at 1200z. He continued to guide our International Net for the next thirteen years.

What a wonderful, agreeable, accomplished and clever man! It was a great privilege to be associated with him, even if only on the radio. We shall miss him.

—Bill Learmonth G4YZE
Member Profile

Ed Tyler  N4EDT
Rotary Club of Pell City, Alabama

This past year Rotary has really challenged me in many areas. One the most interesting aspects of my Rotary activity is that it seems to touch all aspects of my life—including amateur radio and ROAR.

Let me introduce myself. I am Ed Tyler and I make my home in Pell City, Alabama. The Rotary Club in Pell City is part of District 6860 which covers the northern half of Alabama.

I am a member of the board of directors for the Pell City Rotary Club and chairman of the Community Services Committee. The budget for community-service activities is never able to meet the needs, demands, and opportunities that are presented to the committee. This past year, in addition to the normal requests for assistance that we receive from local groups and organizations, we have been confronted with a series of storms that passed through our county. Not only were the storms deadly, killing 16 people in our county; they destroyed and damaged many homes and structures.

The Community Service Committee recommended that our club take on two additional significant activities to support storm restoration in the community. The first project selected was to restore the antenna and supporting tower used by the local high school amateur radio program.

The second project was to furnish new appliances for the Alpha Ranch, a facility for troubled young men. Two homes and several shop buildings on the Alpha Ranch had been destroyed and their insurance was not able to cover the cost of restoration.

These two projects required our club to add $12,500 dollars to an already stretched budget. We wrote two grant requests to 6860 District Rotary Foundations and made an additional grant request through our local state legislative representative. A special Rotary Storm Restoration Fund and the state grant provided a total of $5,000 for the school project, and $7,500 dollars was funded through a district grant and our local club foundation.

Part of the inspiration for these activities has come from the encouragement provided by ROAR members I have had an opportunity to meet on the air. I would encourage all ROAR members to expend the time and effort to really get to know their fellow ROAR members. The fellowship truly represents an inspirational group of individuals who possess unique skill sets. It is amazing to understand that one small, somewhat informal association can host such a unique and accomplished group of individuals.
ANZOO Region Report 2011-2012

— submitted by Peter Lowe VK3KCD, Regional Vice President

The past Rotary year has been quite an active time for ROAR ANZOO. Our 40-meter net on 7.118 MHz has been well patronised and the following stations have been regular attendees: Noel VK2IWT, Phil VK2MCB, Peter VK3FP5R, Diane VK4KYL, Bill VK4ZD, Reg VK7KK, Doug ZL1BFS, and myself. We have on quite a number of occasions had Pertti EA7GSU call in, and less frequently John EA/G4HMG. This net is held during the 45 minutes prior to the ANZOO Europe net (on 14.293 MHz) and any members hearing us are very welcome to join in.

During the year, Phil VK2MCB upgraded his licence and shed his Foundation call of VK2FPDB. He did this during his term as president of the Rotary Club of Canberra, so it is quite an achievement. Bill VK4ZD has also spent a year as president of the Rotary Club of Gatton Lockyer, as well as becoming president elect of ROAR. We wish him well during his term of office. He should certainly be very well informed, as he is also the ROAR webmaster. Reg VK7KK, has been president of the Rotary Club of Howrah near Hobart.

In November we conducted an email AGM with success and the minutes of that meeting were published in the last issue of the Communicator. Our next AGM will be an eyeball affair in Canberra at the Australian Rotary Conference, the dates being July 20–22, 2012. We plan to have a small booth, and Phil VK2MCB is exploring the possibility of being “on air” from the conference. Details of the conference are available on the Rotary Down Under website and Rotarians from anywhere are welcome.

Our most recent activity was for Phil VK2MCB and I to attend the District 9690 Conference in Penrith in the Blue Mountains near Sydney. We had a booth at the Expo which was open to the public on the afternoon prior to the conference opening. We were on air on 7.118 MHz and 2 meters via the VK2RBM repeater. We had a few contacts on 40 meters but Friday afternoon activity was very poor. We did have an IRLP contact via the 2-meter repeater with a mobile in Houston, Texas, USA. This was a good demonstration of some new amateur radio technology. We were also able to show off our new pull-up banner.

Diane VK4KYL, Bill VK4ZD, and I will be in Bangkok for the RI Convention and we look forward to meeting other ROAR members there.

Above: Phil VK2MCB with our new banner.
Left: Peter VK3KCD extols the virtues of amateur radio.
Why Your ROAR Contribution Is Important

The difficult process of setting up a station in Bangkok is a clear indication of how costs can quickly add up.

The Thailand operation is especially challenging because we have no members in Thailand and also because local laws have created barriers to realizing our plans for an event station. Exhibition costs are higher than they have ever been. And this does not count the tireless efforts and personal expenses of Tim JH1NVZ. It also excludes the fact that our members in Japan have donated equipment for the station.

I hope you all agree that without being visible during the RI conventions, our ROAR fellowship has practically no other means to attract more Rotarians to join us. However, the costs of participation are ever increasing. Our booth at the Thailand convention may run as high as $3,000. Thereafter, we have Lisbon, where we have only one member. The following year is Sydney, where we fortunately have many members to help out. But then come Sao Paulo and Seoul, where we have no members at all.

It is only fair that we all pay our share to keep our fellowship afloat. To this end, we are about to get a bit more aggressive in reminding our members to pay their dues. I am asking that our regional vice presidents take a more active role as liaisons with our members to instill the sentiment of “belonging,” encouraging everyone to contribute on an equal level.

We have enough money to safely cover the cost of Bangkok—this year. But what of the future? To safeguard it, we must work for it!

According to the statistics from our treasurer, Bob WB7RQG, the most active contributors per capita are from ROAR-J.

A huge congratulations and thank you to our wonderful ROAR-J members!

Treasurer’s Reminder

If you have not yet paid your dues, now is the time! You can find out how to pay with Paypal by going to our website: www.ifroar.org.

—Bob Butler WB7RQG, Treasurer
The exact date escapes me but sometime in April five or six years ago, a dear friend invited me to have lunch with her at the local Cynthiana, Kentucky, Rotary Club. I later learned that the club was having a contest of sorts to enlist new members. She was somewhat surprised that I accepted her invitation, and even more surprised when I two weeks later asked for a membership application. But in short, joining Rotary was one of the best decisions I ever made! I have found myself in the midst of 50 of the finest people I have had the pleasure of knowing during my lifetime.

During my first year of Rotary membership, I noticed in a Google search that something known as ROAR exists. I finally found the organization’s correct web address and the time and frequency of the international net (I am all about long distance contacts), and I checked in one Sunday. I have only missed one session in the three or four years I’ve been checking in (more about that later). Each week, I speak with fellow Rotarian amateur radio operators in Spain, England, Switzerland, Belgium, Newfoundland, Australia, the Netherlands, and yes, even in the United States. I consider them to be close friends, not unlike the folks I meet in person in Cynthiana every week.

When I joined Rotary I was totally unaware of its extensive work over the years toward eradicating polio. When I did learn about it, this effort stuck a very personal chord. I doubt if any of my fellow Cynthiana Rotarians were aware of the fact that I was stricken by polio at the tender age of two. I remember little about the disease or its potential for devastation, for I am one of the lucky ones who fully recovered. Not so much as a limp was left behind. Nevertheless, I am smart enough to realize my good fortune and want to give back something in return for the grace that God has shown me. I wanted in. I was also very happy to write a check to the Paul Harris Foundation and I wear my pin proudly.

Time passed, and meetings transpired. I have enjoyed each and every one. I own a small business, so in the beginning, I was willing to let Rotary take a back seat to my work schedule. Now, unless I am on an emergency call, my work is scheduled around the weekly club meeting. On prominent display in my company’s showroom and advertising is an explanation of the Four-Way Test.

At one of our meetings, our president announced an upcoming session of the Rotary Leadership Institute. If you haven’t attended all three of these sessions, what are you waiting for? I am a proud graduate, and I want to tell you that I not only learned about the inner workings of Rotary clubs, Rotary International, and how it all fits together, but also reviewed quite a few of life’s lessons in those sessions.

It wasn’t long until I was elected club secretary. During that time, I decided I wanted to find an even more effective way to serve. I let it be known that I was open to the club presidency. One thing about being a Rotarian, when you volunteer for a position, few people object!

*cont. on p. 11*

**More illuminated signs commemorating Rotary’s End Polio Now campaign.**
*From top: The Tower of London; City Hall, San Juan, Puerto Rico; City Government Building, Taipei, Taiwan; Frere Hall, Karachi, Pakistan*
So, I am now president elect 2012-2013 for the Cynthiana Rotary Club, and I just returned from the Mid-South PETS training session in Nashville, Tennessee. Because I was driving back from Nashville during the time the international ROAR net meets, it was the first day I have ever missed checking into that net! But since I was on Rotary business, I was granted an excused absence!

And what a training session! I exchanged ideas with more than 400 other Rotarians, and I learned from people like Bill Boyd from Rotary International, many different district governors, and even more assistant governors. I sat at a dinner table with my district governor and my district governor elect, and several other folks that I consider to be dignitaries (read “heros”).

If you are reading this, you too, have made the decision to become a Rotarian, and you may even be an amateur radio operator who should be checking into a ROAR net. I urge you to take the next step. Chair a committee. Become an officer, Take on the presidency. Only you and your club will benefit from your assertiveness and generosity. And don't overlook the opportunity to attend the Rotary Leadership Institute. My district governor elect for 2013-2014 promises me they are formulating graduate classes right now. I will be one of the first to enroll!

Join us on the ROAR Nets

The current schedule for all ROAR nets is maintained by our webmaster Bill VK4ZD.

You can access the information from our website:

http://www.ifroar.org/hfnets.html

About ROAR

Rotarians of Amateur Radio is one of the oldest fellowships of Rotary International. It was established in 1966 by Byron Sharpe W9BE, a Rotarian from Illinois, USA. In 1989 one of our ROAR members, Hugh Archer W8JA, served as president of Rotary International. ROAR members are perhaps the most active fellowship in communicating with each other regularly.

Purpose: ROAR provides a forum for the exchange of views among members who share an interest in amateur radio, either as licensed radio amateurs or as shortwave listeners. We wish to promote international understanding and fellowship.

Eligibility: To become a member of ROAR, you must be an active Rotarian, a Rotaractor or a former Rotarian, and you must be a licensed amateur operator or have a genuine interest in shortwave radio. Spouses of ROAR members may also join.

Dues: The fellowship collects annual dues that cover the cost of maintaining our member directory and producing our ROAR Communicator newsletter.

Currently our dues are $20 US for one year or $90 US for five years and can be paid by visiting the website:

http://ifroar.org

ROAR Officers 2009-2012

President Pertti Kause EA7GSU
Imm. Past President John Maier W8AUV
Secretary Elwood Anderson AE5EA
Treasurer Robert Butler WB7RQG
Webmaster Bill Main VK4ZD
Editor Richard Spingarn TI7/AA2UP

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Africa Max Raicha 5Z4MR
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CENAEM Malcolm Campbell PA3AHC
RIBI Brian Whittaker G3LUW
SACAMA ***
USCB East Jim Moran W1QUO (SK)
USCB West Ken Demaray W8SOO

*** If you are interested in this position, please contact Pertti at president@ifroar.org.

ROAR Communicator is published by President Rotarian Pertti (Pete) Kause EA7GSU/OH15H (RC Benahavis-Costa del Sol, Spain) for and on behalf of the International Fellowship for Rotarians of Amateur Radio. Editor: Rotarian Richard Spingarn TI7/AA2UP (RC Ithaca, NY, USA).