May 2019

From the President:

Greetings to the Members of the International Fellowship of Rotarians of Amateur Radio.

In the process of looking back on the last year and contemplating the coming year just a few words continued to dominate my thinking, “Challenge, Challenged, Challenging.”

The International Fellowship of Rotarians Of Amateur Radio, ROAR, faces a number of challenges. We exist to share information about our common interests, amateur radio and the activities of Rotary international. Through net activities and special event stations we pursue these goals and develop friendships among our members that prove to be unique and enduring.

We face the challenges an aging membership and of poor HF propagation. Our response to these challenges is to adapt and innovate with a constant focus on enhancing the benefit of membership in ROAR.

Our most prominent response to the challenge of communicating during periods of poor propagation is to use Digital Technology to enhance our communications between members. Dr John Moriarty initiated the formal use of digital modes to communication with ROAR members and he has continued to work toward expanding the functionality of the available digital technology.

Conflicting digital protocols always become a problem when dealing with new applications. Dr John, working with Phil Garside (ZL2RO), has overcome that problem with the development of a “Transcoding Application” that provides the ability for different digital modes to talk to each other. This development provides our members a multi-mode access ability in the digital world. If you have questions about access and use of these facilities, post them on the Facebook Page, ROAR International Fellowship of Rotarians of Amateur Radio.

Poor HF propagation problems can be overcome thru the use of emerging and developing HF remote technologies. There are a number of ROAR members in the US that are experimenting with the use of remote access to and from their stations to expand the ability to communicate with ROAR members in North America. Many software defined radios support remote access for listening and transmission. Using this technology allows a net presence in areas that poor propagation would normally preclude. A web-based logging program was used for a year to determine the viability and benefit of the technology. The web logging brings a significant benefit but some technological issues were encountered limiting the long term use of the program. Look for a more functional and updated online logging program for ROAR use this coming year.

We continue to face challenges in the membership area. We need to reach new members and recognize and address the realities of serving our existing members. Our senior members face challenges in just maintaining their stations. For some, responding to life’s changing needs places them in locations where it is impossible for a senior ROAR member to maintain an HF station. The difficulty of learning how to implement and operate digital radio access becomes a limiting factor. The use of reflector based digital radios can offer the
members an antenna free method of participating in our ROAR net activities. Some of our Senior members need assistance to assemble and configure their stations to access the digital reflector.

Keeping our membership records up to date has always been a challenge. Dr John, during his time as ROAR President, developed a data base to track our members information. Over the past year, David Lejeune has expanded the data base functionality to add a number of enhancements. Our members will be able to access their data online thru a password protected portal on the ifroar.org web site. The officers of ROAR will be able to pull a number of reports that will improve their ability to communicate with the ROAR members in their region. An important function of the member data is the ability for members to update their contact information. For additional information on the use of the database, visit the ROAR web site or our Facebook page.

Each year a number of ROAR members pass from this life and become a silent key. Because we have lost contact with the members, many of whom have contributed greatly to our organization, they pass without notice or recognition. One of the new data fields is a field for telephone numbers. It is hoped that the availability of these phone numbers will allow us to maintain contact with our members even when they are not able to be on the air.

As ROAR members, we depend on our weekly nets to stay in touch but, radio is available 24 hours a day seven days a week. See how many of our ROAR members you can contact on the air and outside of the net activities. Put in a little more time in than just a signal report exchange. Get to know your fellow ROAR members, they are a very interesting and accomplished group of people. Contact me by email and I will be glad to set up a scheduled contact. (ehtyler@icloud.com)

Our Fellowship, just as most fellowships, is just a bit of a Rotary secret. It is up to our individual members to share information about fellowships with members of their local Rotary Club. Ask for the opportunity to share the Fellowship, ROAR, story with your club. We have purchased a small supply of ROAR lapel pins for our members. They will be available in our booth at the upcoming RI annual convention in Hamburg. Following the convention, contact your ROAR regional Vice President. These pins are just one way you can make others aware of our fellowship.

We are facing a number of challenges this coming year and our response to those challenges will define or redefine our fellowship. The officers and leadership of ROAR need the assistance of the membership to meet these challenges. We have resources to resolve problems. Our membership represents a reservoir of knowledge that will allow us to respond to the challenges we face. Share your thoughts with the leadership of ROAR. Share those thoughts by mail, telephone, radio, or Facebook posts but, please share your thoughts.

One last thought. Two important officers in our organization are the Secretary, Phil and the Treasurer, Ingo. Your opportunity to read this message comes thru the courtesy and effort of Diane, Editor of the Communicator. Our Web site is provided by Bill Main. These individuals are the glue that holds our organization together. Thank them for what they do.

Follow our Facebook page for more information on these and many other issues of concern to our members.

73,

Ed - N4EDT
IFROAR President

New Online ROAR Membership Database:

The new ROAR database can be accessed with the following URL www.lejeune.net

It will be moved to the ROAR website in the near future.

For those who have accessed it and changed their password, that password is still valid. If you've forgotten it, drop Dave WN5V an e-mail (lejeuned@centurytel.net) and he will reset it to the original password (xyzzy).
For those who have not yet attempted to access the database, your password is **xyzzy**. When you log on with this password, you will be given the opportunity to change it. Please do.

Once logged in, you'll get a menu based on your access privilege - member or admin. It's pretty self-explanatory. I have one additional field to add to the database - one that will allow or deny access to personal data based on the member's desire. I'll have that in shortly.

You can list members based on regions. Clicking on the Call Sign in the list will bring up the data as presented by [QRZ.COM](http://www.qrz.com). We have no way of changing this info. You'll have to logon to [QRZ.com](http://www.qrz.com) to change that.

Please also note that we are in the process of updating the database. Please be patient. You can edit your own data, with the exception of financial data. Please do.

Any questions? Please direct to Dave, WN5V at the email address above. I also can get text messages (1-337-734-4556) and will also accept calls. I'm on 80/75, 40 and 20 on SSB or cw. I'll even get on AM if you'd like! Just drop me an email or text with a proposed schedule.

Please note that WN5V's internet service is terrible, and my upload speeds are especially slow, especially between the hours of 2100UTC to 0200UTC. Plan your db access accordingly.

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**Dave WN5V**

**ANZO Report**

Well, it has been a difficult time for us in the Antipodes over the past 12 months. As we approached solar minimum, our contact via HF to Europe dried up. The only decent contact between Europe and the South Pacific was by our ZL friends, Douglas ZL1BFS and sometimes by John ZL2JPM. It seemed that the opening from Europe and ZL was much better than Australia. Good luck to them; it was great to see someone get through. However, contact was usually only made to Vernon G0EGW and sometimes to Nick G4HCK.

The solar minimum issue was identified over a year by John ZL2JPM who worked hard to stimulate interest by the ROAR community in digital modes via the internet and mostly using Dstar. He got me interested and I invested in an Icom ID51 and a Pi Star modem. The combination worked well.

John must be congratulated for his enthusiasm and for making contact with Phil ZL2RO. Phil is a digital mode wizard and hosts a digital reflector at his home. He made available one module of his reflector (XLX 299R) for ROAR use and a number of us are now participating in a weekly Dstar net using XLX 299R. Many thanks to Phil for his assistance to ROAR by allowing us to use his digital hardware and for his work setting up and maintaining it.

This has been really helped by the development of a computer app called Peanut which was developed by a Dutch ham, David PA7LIM. Peanut allows you to connect via the internet to digital reflectors (such as XLX 299R) without the need for a radio. It really emulates a Dstar radio on either a Windows computer or Android mobile (cell) phone. Most important, it is free. Check it out on [http://www.pa7lim.nl/](http://www.pa7lim.nl/).

That's all from me for the moment. If I don’t hear from you on HF, please give Dstar or Peanut a try; it works.

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*Phil VK2MCB*
*ANZO VP*

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**Congratulations to Phil VK2MCB on being awarded The Order of Australia Medal (OAM)**

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*Phil is shown here with his OAM: The gold medal with blue & gold ribbon*
Air Commodore Philip Darcy BYRNE (Retd),
Googong NSW 2620

For service to the community through a range of organisations.

**Rotary Club of Canberra**
- Co-ordinator, Foodbank (NSW and ACT) Program, since 2017.
- Chair, Rotary Adventure in Citizenship Program, 2017.
- International Director, 2015-2016.
- President, 2011-2012.
- Board Member, since 2005.
- Paul Harris Fellow.

**Defence Health Limited**
- Director, 2005-2016.
- Chairman, Nomination and Remuneration Committee, 8 years.
- Past Member, Business Strategy Committee.
- Director, Defence Health Foundation, 2011-2016.

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**New ROAR Membership Pins**

We now have ROAR Membership lapel pins: These are available to Financial Members: If your dues are current then you are entitled to one of these pins:

We have sent small amounts to ROAR-RIBI, VK and ZL, Japan and Secretary Phil will be taking a supply of pins to the RI Convention. If you pay your dues at the Booth you will be able to receive your pin.

**ROAR on TGIF Network (TG 7185)**

*Dev, 9Y4DG*

The net start time will be at 0000Z on Wednesday on Talk Group 7185 on the TGIF Network.

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**Just to be sure this time is:**
7:00 PM EST (DST) on Tuesday in the USA or 0600 AM on Wednesday in Bangkok, 0900 AM on Wednesday in Japan or 1100 AM on Wednesday in Sydney Australia

If anyone needs any information in setting up for DMR please send your query on our Facebook page or I may be contacted directly via QRZ.

Please see the configuration for the TGIF Network on Pi-Star

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**Thank you**

*Dev, 9Y4DG*

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**VK ROAR members visit Japan for the Asia Pacific DX Conference.**

*Diane VK4DI / AG5JI*

Every 2 years Osaka Japan hosts the APDX conference. This year the biggest contingent from VK attended. Lee VK3GK / NE3M, Bill VK4ZD / KG5SDI & Diane VK4DI / AG5JI as well as a VK6 Ham travelled to Osaka to attend. The APDXC is organised by Mac JA3USA with Icom being the major sponsor. A tour of the 2 Icom factories was eye opening. In typical Japanese style the factories were well laid out, the production lines were very well organised with each work station laid out identically. The technicians were extremely efficient obviousy proud of their work.

The Founder of Icom, Tokuzo Inoue JA3FA addressed us all and introduced the design team behind the new IC-9700. We were given a pre-
release demonstration of this SDR and everyone was impressed with it’s capabilities.

*Icom IC-9700 SDR*

The conference itself comprised a number of very interesting guest speakers with technical talks along with a dinner on the last night.

*Lee VK3GK and the Icom Factory Tower*

The Osaka & Kyoto ROAR -J members organised a Saturday lunch for Lee, Bill & Diane. It happened to be Bill’s birthday so a beautiful cake was presented to him. Bill then presented the first of the new lapel Pins to ROAR-J president Teruo Muro and then the remaining attending members.

Sincere thanks to Kenichi Noguchi (JH3LHL) & Tim Masuda (JH1NVZ) for arranging the luncheon and the cruise on the river afterwards.

Following the APDXC Bill & Diane then flew to Niigata to visit incoming JA VP Chihiro Kawai (JA0CBU) his lovely wife Yumiko. Chihiro is Chairman (president) of the Rotary Club of Niigata-Chuo and the club held a special dinner for us to meet them.

Bill was asked to give a short speech in Japanese:

> どうもありがとうございました

Chihiro and Yumiko made us feel at home during our trip to Niigata.

どうもありがとうございました

Dōmo arigatōgozaimashita
Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock
Rtn Nicholas Wilkinson G4HCK.

During my life time I have always been involved with the organisation of youth activities. When I joined the Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock 17 years ago there was little interest in the Rotary youth activities programme. However that has all changed!

For the past seven years I have headed up the Youth Services team (I call them a team as against committee as team suggests action). Over this period of time we have slowly introduced more of the youth activities that Rotary GB offer to the students of Thurrock.

Just to paint a picture, the borough of Thurrock is located around 25 miles East of London is a low skills area. Historically the Tilbury Dock was a major provider of labour. Most jobs involved manual labour, moving bags of fruit or cement. Then we had the manufacturing companies all low skill. As time passed technology has slowly moved in and we now have Dubai Port cargo terminal at the East end of the borough. Although this organisation incorporated a lot of the latest technology many tasks require a human just to wave a bar code reader in front of a bar code. One of the latest companies to move into the borough was Amazon. They have a massive warehouse with the latest technology but you don’t need high skilled people to operate the machinery. Our radio club had a visit there recently and it was fascinating to watch the robots whizzing around. However we do have London 25 miles away and the steam trains have been replaced with air conditioned electric trains and a 35 minute train ride takes you to somewhere where things are quite different, high tech and for those with the right qualifications big wages!!!

When I left school many years ago my father wanted me to go to university but I had different ideas and left school totally unqualified. However it did not take me long to realise qualifications were important. Many years later I now have three degrees all in the social sciences and I still write papers on business development. I think this late awakening to training is what has driven me to promote the Rotary youth activities all aimed at raising young people’s aspirations.

So what does the Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock offer students in Thurrock? It includes the Youth Speaks, Young Photographer, Young Writer, RYLA (junior management training) Technology Tournament, Young Musician and Young chef and it’s the young chef I will now focus on.

This year we have had the privilege of working with a very talented student Sasha who represented a local secondary school, in the young chef competition. In Thurrock we (Rotary Club) work in partnership with a Further and Higher Education college (SEC) who supply the judges and catering facilities (at the college). The structure of the competition is that you have local heats, which we ran in Thurrock, then move onto District, Region and finally the Great Britain and Northern Ireland National competition. Sasha’s one goal was to win the national competition and in April that’s just what she did! I received the following from one of the officials on site in Leeds (central England) where the finals took place:

She was amazingly very calm and professional. All the judges said her dishes and skill set are incredible and she was defiantly the deserved winner in all their judgements.
To top it all off she also won ‘dish of the day’ for her starter.
Her prize is a trip to Tuscany for a two day workshop at Filippo Berio, a leading brand of olive oil for over 150 years.
Leeds college have also invited her to come back for a chocolate workshop.

At the start of this article I painted a picture of a low skill area but 2 generations later (assume a generation is 25 years) the borough is producing some highly educated students and the Young Chef highlights this. Talking to students attending the other competitions I am quite often surprised at their comments far more advanced than previous years.
Via the Rotary competitions we are hoping we are supporting the students in Thurrock as they look to the future
The following picture shows Sasha in Leeds with the meal she prepared.

Special Event callsign for the Convention

**DL19RIC**

Activity time of the special call is from January 1 until June 5 2019.

Please switch to Clublog to complete your QSL request: [https://clublog.org/logsearch/dl19ric](https://clublog.org/logsearch/dl19ric)

We appreciate your donation for ShelterBox about EUR 5.00 (or more) via PayPal:

[https://paypal.me/dl19ric](https://paypal.me/dl19ric)

For each QSL card we like to ask for a donation to support the Global Rotary Club Project of AGM Sunday June 2nd 1330-1500 Local time Osaka 1 Room Messe building

Join the AGM Remotely via ZOOM

The Zoom link will be active from 12:00 until 16:00 PM local time Hamburg. We can accommodate 100 participants.

Here is the meeting web link:
[https://zoom.us/j/7848247670](https://zoom.us/j/7848247670)
ROAR-Japan AGM
Tim Masuda JH1NVZ

ROAR-Japan AGM was held at Izumo Area (JA4 zone) on 21st July 2018. This Izumo Area is known as the place where "The gods" and "People" gather. Izumo city is in Shimane prefecture and can be reached three hours by Limited express train from Hiroshima. It faces to the Sea of Japan and has many Japanese myths from ancient Japan.

Shinto religion believes there are 8.8 million gods live in Japan. In every November all of 8.8 million gods believed to be gathered in Izumo Shrine where AGM was held.

We ROAR Japan members gathered in this place in July before Gods gathered. HI!

ROAR-Japan members are consisting of 80 Rotarian Amateur Radio operators which started 1978, the year of world convention was held in Tokyo, Japan.

ROAR-J AGM of 2019 will be held at Lake Biwa (JA3 Area) on 20th~21st July.

Excursion to IZUMO Shrine (The biggest Shinto Shrine in Japan)
ROAR Member Stan Grigsby WA6AAI teaching young hams about the science of radio

ROAR member Bill Perkins KC4D, and Phil Fleming, N9HWO, ROAR Secretary, discuss the finer points of CW operation

Bob Heil, founder of Heil audio is not a Rotarian or a ROAR member but, is very vocal about the impact Rotary had on his early life

Another ROAR member who attended Hamvention but is not pictured: Carl Davis, W8WZ. I am sure there were more that I missed.

What a wonderful opportunity to meet the people that are involved in our hobby, our passion.

Edward “Ed” Tyler - N4EDT
ROAR President
Our sincere Thanks to Darius Tatarski VE3BR who kindly offered to apply for the Special Event Callsign VE3R on our behalf.
Chris Bigelow VA3ECO, who without hesitation offered his remotely controlled station for ROAR to use during the RI Convention in Toronto.

**Please Note:** Chris is located some 1500 kms to the west of Toronto in Kenora.
Chris has taken the time to train Bill VK4ZD / KG5SDI and Diane VK4DI / AG5JI in the use of the remote station.
We appreciate the help of these 2 Gentlemen Hams
Neither are Rotarians but have shown true *Service Above Self.*


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*Major expense items included $997 for ROAR lapel pins
$500 gratuity to defray the development expense associated the digital reflector.
$385 for Booth rental fees associated with the 2019 RI Convention.

Currently we have 226 Financial Members: Please check your financial status by logging into the database as per the instructions printed in this newsletter.

*Ed Tyler N4EDT*

*President*

*IFROAR*
ROAR Officers 2018 -2019

President    Ed Tyler N4EDT
President Elect  TBA
Imm. PP        John Moriarty ZL2JPM
Secretary      Phil Fleming N9HWO
Treasurer      Ingo Werk KK6EWB
Webmaster      Bill Main VK4ZD / KG5SDI
Editor         Diane Main VK4DI / AG5JI

Regional Vice Presidents
Africa           Max Raicha 5Z4MR

Australia-New Zealand-Oceania
ANZO            Phillip Byrne VK2MCB
Asia            Chihiro Kawai JA0CBU

Central Europe-North Africa-Eastern Mediterranean
CENAEM          Malcolm Campbell PA3AHC
RIBI            Great Britain  Brian Whittaker G3LUW

South America-Central America
SACAMA          * open position *

United States-Canada-Bermuda
USCB East       Joe Spears AF1E
USCB West       Steve Bloom KL7SB