From the President

On the Road to Lisbon

In heading to the Lisbon Conference, Diane and I decided to take advantage of being in Europe and make a few extra ports of call.

First stop was Helsinki, Finland, to visit our past exchange student of some 20 years ago, Tiina and her partner Kimmo. They have a one-year-old daughter named Lilli. They made us extremely welcome.

While in Finland, we were also invited to operate the station of Miika OH2BAD. So, on Sunday Miika invited us to have breakfast with him at his shack and then I enjoyed the opportunity to act as net control from the European side of the 0600-0700 zulu Europe/ANZO Net on 14,293—long path.

Next we went to London to visit our Polish past exchange student from seven years ago. Aga was unhappy to see us leave.

On to Lisbon. The preparation done by ROAR IPP Pertti EA7GSU, fellow ROAR member Vitor CT1BJZ, and the Portuguese Amateur Radio Organization, REP (Rede dos Emissores Portugueses) was nothing short of excellent.

REP arranged for us to be able to use the special Portuguese callsign CR6RI.

Vitor met my wife Diane VK4KYL and me at the airport and took us to the Amadora Hotel, a delightful place where many of us stayed. Then, on to pick up Pertti from the FIL (Feira Internacional de Lisboa) Convention Centre.

Next stop, a magnificent lunch arranged by Vitor at his friend’s restaurant. We had local cheeses, olives, sardines, and much more, including platters of meat balls. Ice cream, cake and fruit finished off the meal. Of course the wines, beers and aguardente were present in copious quantities.

From the Editor

Welcome to our newest issue of ROAR Communicator, which is packed with a wide range of interesting articles. First and foremost, President Bill tells us all about the goings-on at 2013 RI Convention in Lisbon, Portugal. Then it is on to the IARU Convention in Estonia, where a very promising group of Romanian youngsters showed off their skills and their mettle in the Youngsters on the Air Competition.

On the technical side, Jean-Pierre F1CFA explains how his experiments with a “Skywire” antenna have helped him get some nice DX from a very difficult QTH. Also, Dan KB6NU lets us know how he keeps his equipment in tip-top shape. And then, Pertti EA7GSU tells us all about his summer car trek back to his home country of Finland. Enjoy!

—Richard Spingarn TI7/AA2UP
President’s Report —cont. from page 1

That afternoon the remote controlled station was tested by Manuel CT1EWT and Carlos CT1END. The actual station was located at the headquarters for REP. The work that REP had done to ensure that we (ROAR) would have a great working station had paid off.

Although we had paid for a (slow) internet connection, the actual control of the station was facilitated using Vitor’s 4G wireless dongle.

Throughout the conference the station was active as much as possible. REP also activated CR6RI from other REP members’ stations to ensure that many additional contacts were made. In fact, 1,043 QSOs were logged up through 26th of June 2013 at 2228Z.

In order to keep our schedule with the 0600-0700 zulu Europe/ANZO Net on 14.293, Carlos opened up the REP HQ building at 7 am local time. Teru JM2HBO, Malcolm PA3AHC, and Diane and I successfully made contact with Rotarians both in Europe and in Oceania.

We had numerous hams drop by the ROAR booth. On one occasion Russian Rotarian Victor UA3IBK, who had very limited English, asked to operate the station and he succeeded in working a solid Russian pile-up.

Steve KL7SB also came by and attracted a huge pile-up on more than one occasion. As North American propagation was much later (after convention hours) we invited Steve to join us at our hotel room one evening and he then proceeded to work remotely a good number of North American stations in spite of a major fibre-optic cable being cut in Lisbon. (This did create extra delays when switching between transmit and receive.)

The AGM attracted a good number of ROAR members and the items under discussion received a lot of input from many members. [See following pages 4-6 for the official minutes of the AGM.]

Of particular note was the newly formed Rotarian Action Group (RAG) for Disaster Management, which includes two members of ROAR. Communications will be a vital part of this RAG’s commitment to assist in times of disaster, and who better than ROAR members to respond when needed?

The evening after the AGM saw a good-sized group descend on Vitor’s friend’s restaurant once again. A substantial REP contingent was also present. As expected, the company and the meal were very enjoyable indeed. A highlight of the evening was that REP presented the three ladies present with Portuguese hand-painted china.

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Tres amigos: Vitor CT1BJZ, Manuel CT1EWT, and Carlos CT1END

ifroar.org
President’s Report — cont. from page 2

On a separate note, ROAR had a very successful event this year promoting Rotary’s commitment to eradicate polio. But I believe that we can do even better this coming year.

VI4POLIO made 818 contacts with 66 countries. In addition, there were more than 3,500 lookups on the QRZ.com web page—all in just 48 hours.

To celebrate Rotary’s 109th birthday in 2014, I propose that ROAR members worldwide activate special-event stations (where possible with special callsigns) highlighting Rotary’s commitment to eradicate polio.

All ROAR members who intend to activate such a station would provide their station details to me. I could then make a list of stations, which could be published in advance.

Ham radio stations worldwide would then be encouraged to look for as many special event “POLIO” stations as possible. Each station could place information about Rotary and polio on its QRZ.com page, including a listing of other “POLIO” stations.

I invite ROAR members to submit further ideas so this event will become an even bigger success than last year.

Looking ahead, plans for the special event station at the RI Convention in Sydney next year are well advanced. We look forward to seeing you all in Sydney.
Minutes for the Annual General Meeting of Rotarians of Amateur Radio in Lisbon on June 24th 2013 at 1600 hrs in Room 5 (Pavilion 3)

1. **Call to order** by Bill Main VK4ZD

2. **Confirmation of the Chairperson.** Members confirmed that Bill Main chair the meeting

3. **Election of the Secretary** – Pertti proposed Diane VK4KYL. Diane accepted. All agreed

4. **Registration** and introduction of the attendees

   - Diane Main VK4KYL
   - Raffaele Caltabiano IZ1EZJ
   - Terunobo Hashimoto JM2HBO
   - Klaus Dwinger HB9CQS
   - John Thompson G3OKT
   - Phil Fleming N9HWO
   - Vitor Manuel Silva CT1BJZ
   - Poul Schjødt-Gjerding OZ9LM
   - Malcolm Campbell PA3AHC
   - Pertti Kause EA7GSU
   - Bill Main VK4ZD
   - Stephen Bloom KL7SB

5. **Tribute to Silent Keys**

   Bill G4YZE. Bill was a stalwart of ROAR. President Bill first heard him about 14 years ago and he was always a gentleman.

   Bill gently encouraged people to participate.

   His passing was unexpected and he did all the reports for many years. He is sorely missed.

   President Bill would like to acknowledge John G3OKT for picking up the job of preparing the weekly reports after Bill’s passing.

6. **Minutes of the last meeting in Bangkok 2012**

   Proposed by Phil N9HWO
   Seconded by Teru JM2HBO

7. **Report of annual activities** as per the latest Communicator

8. **Treasurer’s report** as distributed via the Communicator

   Seconded John G3OKT
9. Discussion of:

(1) On-air promotion of Rotary’s birthday and the goal to eliminate polio worldwide:
   - Two years ago Pertti was asked by DG to do something to commemorate Rotary’s polio eradication program. He decided to call “CQ Polio”
   - Since then Rotarians in North America held their own event to showcase the polio program
   - In VK President Bill Main applied for a special event call: VI4POLIO. He made phone calls to the authorities and at the last minute the callsign was granted and allowed to operate for 48 hours.
   - On Rotary’s 108th birthday a total of 818 contacts in 66 countries was made with over 3500 hits on the VI4POLIO QRZ page.
   - Everyone is encouraged to try to obtain a special event callsign and to put the info on QRZ.com
   - Steve KL7SB will try as well.
   - Malcolm suggested we send a letter to RI to advise of the activity as well.

(2) History of Galkayo radio project:
   - Bill gave a short history of his involvement with Sam and Abdi and how his old Rotary club became involved.
   - The station has now gone from AM to FM
   - The goods sent by ROAR were last known to be in Dubai
   - No contact since Oct.
   - Sam & another Somali following up and will let us know
   - This is not a “Project” of ROAR, but individuals contributed.

(3) Promotional materials for use at Rotary and ham radio functions:
   - Thanks to REP for their support as their activities on air and online assisted with recognition of ROAR to the general ham community
   - Members have asked for banners, pins and decals. (to be followed up)

(4) Purchasing equipment for remote controlling of exhibition stations:
   - Pertti suggested the station be hardware controlled, using “Black Boxes” to minimise delay over the internet
   - Utilising VOX and on SSB
   - Proposal to be looked at for the two conferences after Sydney which will be held in Brasil and Seoul. Two black boxes, modem and the ability to have transceivers wherever we need them
   - Remote antenna control as well.
   - Bill knows of an Australian distributor who has a product that is pre-configured, can be configured to work on any radio that has a removable front panel.
   - The TS480 is 250-300 Euros. For less than 1500 Euros we can have a complete station.
   - Steve KL7SB: We are a large radio club and membership should be able to support us.
   - Pertti proposed we should follow up.
   - Sydney is in hand: Henk VK2GWK has offered his superb station for us to utilise.

(5) ROAR activities in Japan
   - There will be a vote for the new president for ROAR-Japan after the International Convention
   - Tim wants to relinquish his ROAR representative position due to age
   - Teru said that Shun is active on 14.293

(6) How to commence ROAR activities in India, Korea and South America:
   - Fellowships not well known in Rotary.
   - DG’s being advised to use fellowships.
This issue of the Communicator will contain my last report as ROAR Treasurer. I began my voyage as a ROAR member when I attended my first RI Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1985. Past RI President, Hugh Archer W8JA (SK), was President of ROAR at the time and he convinced me to take the job of ROAR Secretary. I accepted with a bit of trepidation. In 1994, I became ROAR President.

Over the years I have attended eleven RI conventions and helped set up the ROAR stations. What a wonderful experience, meeting old friends and gaining new ones.

I have just completed seven years as ROAR Treasurer and it is time to step aside and turn the job over to Ed Tyler N4EDT. Ed is very capable and eager to work for ROAR. I shall continue as net manager for the Sunday USA transcontinental net on 14.287.0 Mhz at 1900 zulu. I want you to know that it was a great pleasure to serve each of you. Thank you very much.

73, Bob Butler WB7RQG
In the January issue of the Communicator, I reported that the Ploiesti Rotary Club had decided to sponsor the young members of the Ploiesti Amateur Radio Club YO9KAG and help them with technical matters. Now, I am very happy to report that they have won a very challenging competition.

This group of approximately 30 youngsters, all under the age of 18, is so enthusiastic and has achieved such good results that the official Romanian Radio Amateurs Association decided to appoint them as representatives of Romania in international meetings and competitions.

This year, from August 5 through 12, select members of our group represented Romania at the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) meeting at Tartu, Estonia, where they entered the “Youngsters on the Air” competition.

There are fifteen countries that participate in this competition, which is limited to operating two hours per day for five days in a row. Participants may choose the mode they prefer to use, either SSB or CW.

I am very proud to report that the Romanian team, Alex YO9JOK, Razvan YO9HPJ, Elena YO9-766/PH and Mihai YO9HQW, won the competition. They had more than 200 QSOs in each two-hour period.

Guess why! They all used CW and they have become extremely good at it.

Under the expertise and great management of Mihai Malanca YO9BPX, the meeting in Tartu was a great success for all the parties concerned. You can read more about the Youngsters on the Air at this IARU link.

The Rotary Club of Ploiesti, Romania, has two ROAR members, George YO9BGR and yours truly. We, as ROAR members, are very proud to have contributed to some extent to the success of the young Romanian hams.

Right: Duque YO9BC and Mihai YO9BPX
Bottom left: Team 1
Bottom right: Team 2
Constructing a Skywire Loop

—submitted by
Jean-Pierre Aubanton F1CFA

1) - Some Preliminaries: The geographic location of a transmitting station is sometimes a difficulty. A narrow valley like the one in which I live, is an example. So, it's necessary to find some solutions. A vertical antenna is pretty good. But it is just too noisy. A magnetic loop antenna greatly improves the noise situation but has a too sharp adjustment. [Ed: see the January 2013 Communicator.] What should I try next? I suddenly had the thought that I should try a “Skywire” loop.

This antenna has been described in the ARRL Amateur Radio Handbook since 1990 and many hams in North America are now using it. The Skywire is can be operated on several bands. It can be very large and so very sensitive, with a surprising low noise figure. It's a crazy antenna and easy to construct. Let's go!

2) – Description: Before you get started you have to make some choices. Running the antenna on 3.5 MHz requires an 80-meter (262.5 feet) perimeter. With this size you can operate on 3.5, 7, 10, 14, 18, 21, 24 MHz. If you build a smaller perimeter of about 40 meters in length (131 feet) you will only get 7, 14, 21, 28 MHz. With an 80-meter length I have found that running on 3.5, 7, 14, 18 MHz is satisfactory. With a 40-meter length, everything is good from 40 meters up, but you only have four bands.

The Skywire is a flat antenna running all around the garden, and in my situation is best placed at least six meters (about 20 feet) high. This is so that the transmissions are sent both to the sky (thus, the name) and to the earth! You can make the antenna fit your garden. It does not have to be square and can have three, four or more sides. I just made contact with an OM who built his in a vertical position using two towers. You can feed the antenna with either open wire/ladderline or coaxial cable. You can have a lot of fun with this antenna.

3) - Technical Aspects: As explained in the ARRL Handbook, the impedance is variable depending on where the feed point is. A quarter wavelength of one side seems to be a good solution, having 200 ohms impedance. This I checked with an antenna tester. In my case, I chose a balun and a coaxial feeder at that point. Also, impedance will vary depending on frequency. I used a 4:1 balun and that seems to work well for me. I made the balun from an FT240-43 ferrite toroid with three or five turns of wire. Very easy to construct.

4) - Adjustments: I used rigid copper wire for the antenna construction. The length of the wire is critical. You have to tune the antenna to the frequency used with a minimum SWR. For example, I get a minimum SWR at 7,080 MHz and 14,160 MHz. But with a good antenna tuner the transmitter is very happy almost anywhere. For attaching the antenna to masts and trees, a good-quality polypropylene rope works well. At the feeding point, I used a PVC pipe and drilled two holes for the antenna wires. I installed that assembly with the toroid balun and a SO 239 socket in a PVC electrical box. Your coax can be any length. To avoid stray RF running back on the coax, I used a choke balun, a Batima CB3000, made in France. This protects the equipment (and the operator!).

5) - Results: I am so happy with that antenna! Very low noise and colossal sensitivity. As with all antennas, the results can vary depending on the season and the weather. By the way, some OMs use a 160-meter Skywire (almost 525 feet in length)! I will continue to experiment if God grants me some extra life to do some other tests . . . HI!

Besides, climbing the trees can be dangerous for old men . . . or so says my wife!

Jean-Pierre can be reached at f1cfa@ref-union.org

ifroar.org
Taking a Dose of My Own Medicine

—submitted by Dan Romanchik KB6NU

Last week, I wrote a blog post on preventive maintenance for one of my clients. Afterwards, I decided to take a dose of my own medicine and do a little preventive maintenance around the shack. I started with the Astron RS-35M, which provides the DC power that runs both my HF transceiver and my VHF/UHF transceiver in the shack. I had started noticing a few little things that I wanted to correct before the supply failed—such as the voltage adjustment being a little fussy.

After removing the cover, I vacuumed all the dust out of the supply. The RS-35M wasn't very dirty, but even so, getting the dirt out of a piece of equipment is probably the first thing you'll want to do when performing preventive maintenance. Dirt impedes air flow. That can lead to higher operating temperatures, and as the lab manager that I interviewed for my blog post said, “Heat kills.” Not only should you vacuum any dust out of a cabinet, you should also clean the fan filters if your gear has them. Dusty filters prevent air from flowing smoothly through equipment and that means the fans don't cool as well as they should.

Once that dust removal was done, I did a visual inspection. One thing that you want to look for is components that look like they're getting too hot. Another thing to look for is evidence of arcing. Whatever is causing the overheating or arcing will eventually cause a unit to fail. Fortunately, I found neither.

Next, I checked to see that the components mounted to the enclosure were securely screwed down. In the RS-35M, the transformer, the bridge rectifier, and an electrolytic capacitor are mounted to the enclosure. Oddly enough, the bridge rectifier was quite loose, so I tightened it down. The output terminals were also loose; I tightened those as well.

Finally, I squirted a little cleaner and lube into the voltage adjustment pot and worked it back and forth. That seemed to do the job. That pot now works smoothly and cleanly.

I put the cover back on, reconnected the power cable, and got back to making QSOs. It should be good for another couple of years.

IFROAR Discussion Group Now Open on New RI Website

—submitted by Dan Romanchik KB6NU

As you may be aware, RI recently upgraded its website. One of the new features is called Discussion Groups. Discussion groups can be used for any number of purposes, such as talking over Rotary projects, offering ideas about increasing membership, or just keeping in touch with other members.

I recently created the IFROAR discussion group and would like to invite you all to join. You’ll find the group at http://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/node/65826. I took the liberty of entering the first discussion. Let’s use that discussion to introduce ourselves.

I hope you all will check out the group and that we can all share with one another there.

When he's not keeping the gear in his shack in tip-top shape, Dan KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands and teaching ham radio classes. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to KB6NU.com or e-mail cwgeek@kb6nu.com.
President Bill Meets with PRIP D.K. Lee

—submitted by Bill Main VK4ZD

At a special Rotary Foundation dinner in Brisbane on August 20, 2013, President Bill met with former RI President D.K. Lee to seek his assistance in identifying Korean Rotarians who are also hams. He presented Mr. Lee with a letter detailing ROAR’s mission and requesting his assistance.

He met with Mr. Lee “with a view to involving the hams in ROAR and ROAR activities, particularly the International Convention in Seoul in 2016,” Bill said, adding that ROAR-Japan is also continuing to pursue contacts with potential ROAR members.

“D.K. Lee knew about ham radio and actually knew a ham who was not a Rotarian, so we await the results of his efforts,” Bill said.

Here are some excerpts from the letter:

Rotarians of Amateur Radio is one of the oldest Rotary fellowships. Amateur radio is alive and well worldwide with many thousands of “hams” in Asia, Europe, North America, South America and Oceania communicating with each other by radio on a daily basis across the world.

**ROAR’s Special Event Amateur Radio Station at the Annual RI Convention:** Each year ROAR successfully activates a special amateur radio station in the country in which the RI Convention is held. In Lisbon our stand in the Hall of Friendship attracted many Rotarians who thought amateur radio was a dying hobby and were astounded to discover that the hobby is in fact growing, and in many countries hams are being utilised as a valued resource in disasters (most recently in India). Some of our members are involved in developing the new Rotary Action Group for Disaster Management.

As Seoul is the destination for Rotarians to focus on for 2016, it is very important that Korean Rotarians who are also ham radio operators are identified so that we can include them in worldwide ROAR activities and gain their assistance both in Seoul and elsewhere in the world.

I would like to request your assistance to locate these special Korean Rotarians.

**ROAR’s Role in the Rotary “End Polio Now” Program:** In the last two years ROAR members worldwide have celebrated Rotary’s birthday by publicising Rotary’s goal to eliminate polio worldwide. This year it was achieved in Australia by obtaining the special radio callsign VI4POLIO and using it to make contacts with radio amateurs worldwide during the 48 hours of the weekend closest to Rotary International’s birthday. A total of 818 contacts were made in 66 countries and there were some 3,500 plus lookups on the special website prepared for this event at http://www.qrz.com/db/VI4POLIO. This was a truly effective publicity campaign for Rotary.

As world president of ROAR, I am keen to see Korean ROAR members participate in this event also.

**ROAR in Korea.** Currently we have no Korean members of ROAR. I am certain that is is extremely unlikely that there are no Korean Rotarians who are also ham radio operators, as I have spoken with many Korean hams over the years.

At the moment ROAR-Japan, which has a large membership, is taking responsibility for initiating ROAR activity in Korea.

I am sure that with your personal assistance we can encourage substantial Korean participation in the ROAR Rotary fellowship.
ROAR-Japan AGM Minutes

—submitted by Tim Masuda JH1NVZ

ROAR - JAPAN
KANONJI 34th General Meeting

At the ROAR-Japan 34th Annual General Meeting, the following officers for 2013-2014 were duly elected:

- President: Ken Yamamoto JRØNQU, Niigata, Japan
- Vice Presidents: Hideki Ohno JG2TYQ, Gifu, Japan; Junji Shimada JA5DLV, Kagawa, Japan

The ROAR Vice President for East Asia, Tim Masuda JH1NVZ, will be succeeded after his 15 years of service by Shunichi Fujii 7N4DMM of Tokyo, Japan. This will take effect at the next ROAR AGM in Sydney, Australia, in 2014.

The next ROAR-J General meeting (35th) will be held on Saturday, July 12, 2014, in Niigata-City, Japan.

We voted to review the payment of the ROAR annual fee more strictly and expel from membership those who have not paid it for two years. We strongly ask ROAR headquarters to require ROAR members to pay the annual fee each year. This is especially important so that we can support our stations at the annual RI conventions.

All the things above are confirmed by: President of ROAR-J Mr. Ken Yamamoto JRØNQU

2012-13
President JA5DLV
The General Assembly
2013-14
President JRØNQU
ROAR-Japan AGM—cont. from page 11

Sightseeing the next day

Reception venue

Attraction

Curtain

Suspension bridge

Shikoku riturin-park

JF1ZZZ
How I Spent My Summer Vacation  
—submitted by Pertti Kause EA7GSU

For many years it has been a part of my summer to spend some time on the road. Mainly my travels have taken place on the Iberian Peninsula, studying Spain and Portugal. I have tried to follow the principle of “no motorways” because when you're not speeding along on the big highways you can see the real countryside and you can learn much more about the way of life of ordinary people.

A couple of times a longer road trip to Finland has been in the program. After several “Spanish summers” I felt it necessary to go and see my home country again to see if it is still like it used to be.

To travel by car makes sense to me. During my years of the working life, I had to fly a lot. I hated the mass herding and crowds of the airports.

Also, you cannot take very much with you on an airplane, and trying to carry things on the plane is not convenient. And finally—and perhaps most important—you lose the opportunity to test your radio in the many other countries you pass, HI!

Over the years, I have tried many different antennas for both mobile and stationary portable stations. Last year I tested an idea which I found in the QRZ.com page of Dave G4AKC (unfortunately now deleted!). He connected the frame of his rig to the braid of his feeder using it as counterpoise for his whip antenna.

Dave was standing in sea water with his radio in a backpack and succeeded in running a pile-up of Ws. With a similar but primitive set-up, I got mostly good results last year and worked ANZO stations with my 100 watts.

This year the construction was more refined as seen in the picture (although the station was not in the Jeep). The antenna was bolted to the “backbone” girder of my Mercedes 180 next to the battery on the back of the car. The antenna is made of six telescopic aluminum rods and depending on the number of rods and their length, it will cover all bands between 20 meters and 10 meters. Final adjustments are made with the serial tuning circuit in the gray plastic box which is matching the “counterpoise” of car chassis to the braid of the coaxial cable. My rig is an ICOM IC 735.

The distance to Finland is more than 4,000 kilometers and to drive it alone can become dangerous. I decided to make my holiday following the simple principle: Stay in a village if I like it or leave right away if I don't. Also, my rule was to take no big highways after the Spanish border. All this worked fine.

France has beautiful countryside, good restaurants and acceptable hotels. I made no reservations or traveling plans in advance! And no GPS either! It did make the journey exciting; it took some time to figure out where you were after you realized that you are somewhere that is no longer on your map! And then you have the task to reroute yourself back to the recognizable area of the Michelin.

My routing was via Barcelona to France, from Perpignan up the valley towards Clermont, passing Vichy and Dijon and crossing to Germany at Strasbourg. It took a good week and I ate many good dinners in the heart of the best French wine-producing area.
Getting close to your target makes you want to hurry and I took Denmark and Sweden in two days, crossing then from Stockholm to Finland on the ferry overnight. The ferries are colossal floating buildings with half-a-dozen restaurants, shopping malls, night clubs, gambling, etc. They take thousands of passengers and hundreds of cars.

Finland was as it used to be, family and friends in good shape, food familiar and times good. It was a speedy visit with no more than two or three nights per location. Pity! But there will be the next time, God willing!

I could have come back using very much the same route but I decided to go a different way. From Saarbrücken in Germany I crossed France from the west, taking me south of Paris where I saw the waters of Biscay Bay north of Bordeaux. This also introduced me to Metz, Nantes, Orleans and Troyes. Weather was good and roads in France have good signs. You just must make sure that you are where you think you are.

One morning I thought I was already in Troyes but I was 40 km east of it. I asked a hotel patron for directions to the main road, but in following them I got lost. However I didn't even realize I was lost until I drove around for several hours.

The journey started on July 5th and I was back home again on the 20th of August. Total mileage was nearly 11,000 km and the longest daily run was 1,300 km.

I was happy with my results with the radio. It was not always the best QTH. There was local QRM or the position was on too-dry land. In North Germany there was a large area of the PLC kind of QRM—possibly because of the plentiful windmills. And the third harmonic of the Tadzikistan broadcast station got stronger and more disturbing the further north I went. ANZO propagation was good but not so great to North America. However, I made QSOs with Mike N4PF and with Ed N4EDT as well.

The comfortable Nordic temperature changed to Andalucian heat and near Sevilla the outside thermometer indicated 43°C!

But it was good to be back to my own shack!
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 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 Treasurer’s Report
2012–2013

Beginning Balance July 1, 2012 $ 4,137.44

Income:
Membership Contributions
Dues Europe $ 110.00
Dues USA 785.00
Dues ROAR UK 660.00
Dues ROAR Japan 800.00
Dues ANZO 40.00
Donations -
Refund (Impact) 1,499.59

Total Income $ 3,894.59

$ 8,032.03

Expenses:
PayPal 41.02
Bank service charges 37.00
Lisbon Convention 597.74
Postage for shirts 50.75

Total Expenses $ 726.51

Balance as of July 16, 2013 $ 7,305.52

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Butler WB7RQG, Treasurer

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

ROAR Officers 2012-2015

President Bill Main VK4ZD
Imm. Past President Pertti Kause EA7GSU / OH1SH
Secretary Elwood Anderson AE5EA
Treasurer Ed Tyler N4EDT
Webmaster Bill Main VK4ZD
Editor Richard Spingarn TI7/AA2UP

Regional Vice Presidents

Africa Max Raicha 5Z4MR
ANZO Peter Lowe VK3KCD
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CENAEM Malcolm Campbell PA3AHC
RIBI Brian Whittaker G3LUW
SACAMA Contact EA7GSU
USCB East Joe Spears AF1E
USCB West Ken Demaray W8SOO

ROAR Communicator is published by President Bill Main VK4ZD (RC Gatton and Lockyer, District 9630, Australia) for and on behalf of the International Fellowship for Rotarians of Amateur Radio. Editor: Richard Spingarn TI7/AA2UP (former member, RC Ithaca, New York USA).