

The Repeater Rag

Volume 29 Number 1



NEWSLETTER OF
THE DENVER RADIO LEAGUE

**A CLUB DEVOTED TO
QUALITY AMATEUR RADIO**

Published in the Denver South Suburban area, Colorado

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DRL BOARD MEMBERS

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Mike Manes, W5VSI, Member at Large

Daniel Krohn, ABØZY, Member at Large

George Stoll, WAØKBT, Repeater Trustee

REPEATER LOCATIONS:

146.880 Lockheed Martin Company

146.640 Centennial Mountain

449.600 Lockheed Martin Company

145.050 Digi - Lockheed Martin Company

Repeater Identifier: WAØKBT

DRL website: www.denverradioleague.org
or www.eoss.org/drl

*The Denver Radio League is open to all licensed
amateur radio operators. Repeater usage is
limited to properly licensed hams.*

Membership dues and renewals

**~ Please make checks (\$15) payable to
Denver Radio League or DRL ~**

Remit to: Al Cooley, NØAUS

6199 South Broadway

Littleton, Colorado 80121-8016

For information, contact Al at:

303-794-6511 or on the 146.880 Repeater

DRL Membership Meeting

Wednesday ~ February 15, 2006

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Bemis Public Library

**Please note:
We Must Be Out
Before or By 9:00 P.M.**

As always, take the time to
remember those you love ...
This day is especially for you and them!

**Valentine's Day -
February 14, 2006**

In this edition:

- ★ DRL Website Location and how to get there
- ★ How To Use the 449.600 DRL IRLP Node
- ★ Bummer, Dood! ... always a surprise that gets ya!
- ★ HamCon 2006 Highlights
- ★ A Bit of Work ...
- ★ HamCon 2006 Crossword Puzzle
- ★ A Chris Kregel bit of humor ...
- ★ Note: Longmont Amateur Radio Club LARCFest is Saturday, April 1st, 2006. Visit our website:
www.larclub.org or
e-mail mail@larclub.org for details

DRL WEBSITE LOCATION/INFORMATION

By Rick Von Glahn, NØKKZ

The DRL website can be reached at:

www.denverradioleague.org

Or you can go to its real location: www.eoss.org/drl

If you are a very involved user of the website, the www.eoss.org/drl address is preferred because each time you click on a link, the browser displays a different URL for whatever page you are visiting and you can bookmark that page. For instance, if I wanted to direct you to the page on the website that talks about meetings I can give you the following URL:

www.eoss.org/drl/meetings.htm

You can append the meetings.htm onto the end of the www.denverradioleague.org URL like below:

www.denverradioleague.org/meetings.htm

When you go to the website and click on other pages, you will note that the URL in the address bar isn't changing. For instance, if you go to the repeaters page and look at the address bar it will still say:

www.denverradioleague.org/meetings.htm

This makes it difficult to bookmark the repeaters page because the website URL is being masked so that the entry URL always appears in the address bar. This ensures minimal confusion. If you went to www.n0kkz.com ... you will find that you aren't at n0kkz.com, but at <http://www.vonglahn.com/amateur/>. I didn't mask my callsign domain because I believe most folks will figure out what's happening. I took that risk because I figured I would not be getting much "stranger" traffic (I send most folks there). Most folks who go to www.n0kkz.com know what they are about to get into and won't be bothered by a switch in the domain name.

Both denverradioleague.org and n0kkz.com are registered domain names, but they are actually place holders on the net. When someone types them into a web browser, they come to a domain registrar that has information I provided which forwards the request to another location on the net.

The capitalization makes it easier to read and uppercase/ lowercase has no effect on domain name servers, for example:

www.DenverRadioLeague.org

DRL_Hams@yahoo.com is active and I administer it although there is not much traffic. I hope that you will find this information useful and check the web-site frequently.

Both www.denverradioleague.org and www.eoss.org/drl are now part of the newsletter masthead so you can find the addresses there as well. Ye Ed.

I hope everyone is enjoying the use of the IRLP node on the 449.600 DRL repeater! I have heard Benjie, WØCBH, calling from wherever he is (Florida?) and keeping up with the haps here in Colorado, plus the balloon flight from Arizona! What fun! Many thanks go to Billy, WØUNX!

Here are the instructions on how to use the node, reprinted from the post card everyone received previously:

How To Use the 449.600 DRL IRLP Node

The access code is Ø36...this code enables and disables the link

To find the various nodes throughout the world, go to the internet address : <http://status.irlp.net/statuspage.html>
There you will find a listing of all the nodes available throughout the world.

For example, from that page we will select [5147](#), GB3YR, in Maltby, England. To access that node, enter Ø365147 on the touch pad of your radio...wait approximately 3 seconds for the remote station to connect (this lag time is for the repeater to activate and enter the IRLP mode). You will then hear the remote station ID, after which you make your call.

When you finish with your call and conversation, simply enter Ø36 to end the session.

To summarize,

Key Ø365147, wait 3 seconds for the remote station's welcome, make your call, complete your conversation, sign off and key Ø36 to close the link.

Remember to use good identification practices per the FCC. Again per the FCC, the repeater will ID every 10 minutes during your conversation, at which time you will not hear audio from the internet, when the ID is complete the audio will again be enabled.

73!

Tim, WBØTUB

Bummer, Dood!

Last week (Feb. 1st or so) the 449.600 repeater disappeared from ear shot! It was just el-gone-o...nothing was heard and it was thought, perhaps, that the main fuse had blown.

After some discussion, it was decided that a quick trip to the hill ahead of the incoming storm would afford the best bet of getting up there and resolving the problem, so Tim, WBØTUB, and Chris, KBØYRZ, got together and 'headed for the hill'.

There was more snow on the road than we expected, but others had gone to the site earlier than us and knocked down the snow, which made our trip much more comfortable!

We found the repeater to be working, but still couldn't hear it from anywhere other than with a good beam (Dave, WØDRM, could hear it weakly from his place, with his beam), and then just barely. Chris and I checked and checked and found nothing out of the ordinary, so we decided that the only recourse was to bring the entire repeater down to town for further troubleshooting. In the process of disassembly, we noticed that a fuse that was in the amplifier line looked like it had gotten quite hot (see the picture)...we then stopped taking things apart (we were one screw away from total removal), grabbed a meter and made a continuity test of the fuse...it was *open!* What the heck! How was the repeater running with a blown fuse??

We replaced the fuse, put the repeater back together and lo! Everything came on line and worked fine! In retrospect, we figured out that the power supply has separate fuses and a feed for the smaller items, i.e., the controller, the exciter, etc., and one big *separate* fuse for the power supply! WHEW!

The amplifier draws in the area of 12 to 13 amps when running, and if a ten amp fuse is used, it will act as a high resistance, get hot and *melt*, not *blow!* It'll look strange to those that are trouble shooting. While checking out the picture, note that as well as looking burnt, the fuse is crooked and the end caps are not straight, like the ends are offset...another sign things are amiss!



Another job well done and another lesson learned...keep in mind that even though things look good, there is another feed for the amp and the rest of the repeater!

73, Tim, WBØTUB

2006 ARRL ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION CONVENTION "AMATEUR RADIO – FACING THE FUTURE" June 9, 10 and 11, 2006 LOCATED IN THE BEAUTIFUL ROCKY MOUNTAINS AT Estes Park, Colorado

Many *high profile* personalities will attend this convention, including the following:

~ FRIDAY NIGHT KEYNOTE ADDRESS
~ 7 TO 8 P.M. ~

BRIAN MILESHOSKY, N5ZGT
VICE DIRECTOR, ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION, ARRL

~ FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIAL EVENTS:

- ★ *War Stories* with Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH
~ 5 to 6 p.m.
- ★ *ARRL Co-founder Clarence Tuska Memories:*
Doctor Evelyn Patterson ~ 8 to 9 p.m.

~ SATURDAY LADIES LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER ~
ANN TRUDEAU, KAØZFI
TREASURER, COLORADO YLS

~ SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET GUEST SPEAKER ~
RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH, K4ZDH
FCC SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR ENFORCEMENT

~ SUNDAY MORNING
ARRL BADGE BREAKFAST GUEST SPEAKER ~
HAROLD KRAMER, WJ1B
ARRL CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, & QST PUBLISHER

The "ARRL Badge" breakfast is a breakfast to recognize ARRL volunteers - anyone entitled to wear an "ARRL Badge". I will be talking about ARRL volunteer positions and recognizing volunteers. I expect our speaker will express his gratitude to the volunteers as well.

Everyone is welcome to attend. In fact, I would encourage non appointees to attend in an effort have the word spread about the volunteer opportunities, and to see the camaraderie that exists within the 'ARRL Family'.

73,
Jeff Ryan, KØRM

Visit our web site at: www.hamconcolorado.org
for additional information!

Get involved! Register today to get in on the Early Bird special and reduced rates! This is going to be another spectacular event that everyone should attend. *Ye Ed.*

A BIT OF WORK ON THE .64 REPEATER SITE

Check out these pictures ... it's Daniel, ABØZY, the DRL climber, George, WAØKBT, and Mike, W5VSI, looking up at him ... enjoy! Tim, WBØTUB



Hamcon 2006 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
June 9-11, 2006 ~ Estes Park, Colorado
www.hamconcolorado.org

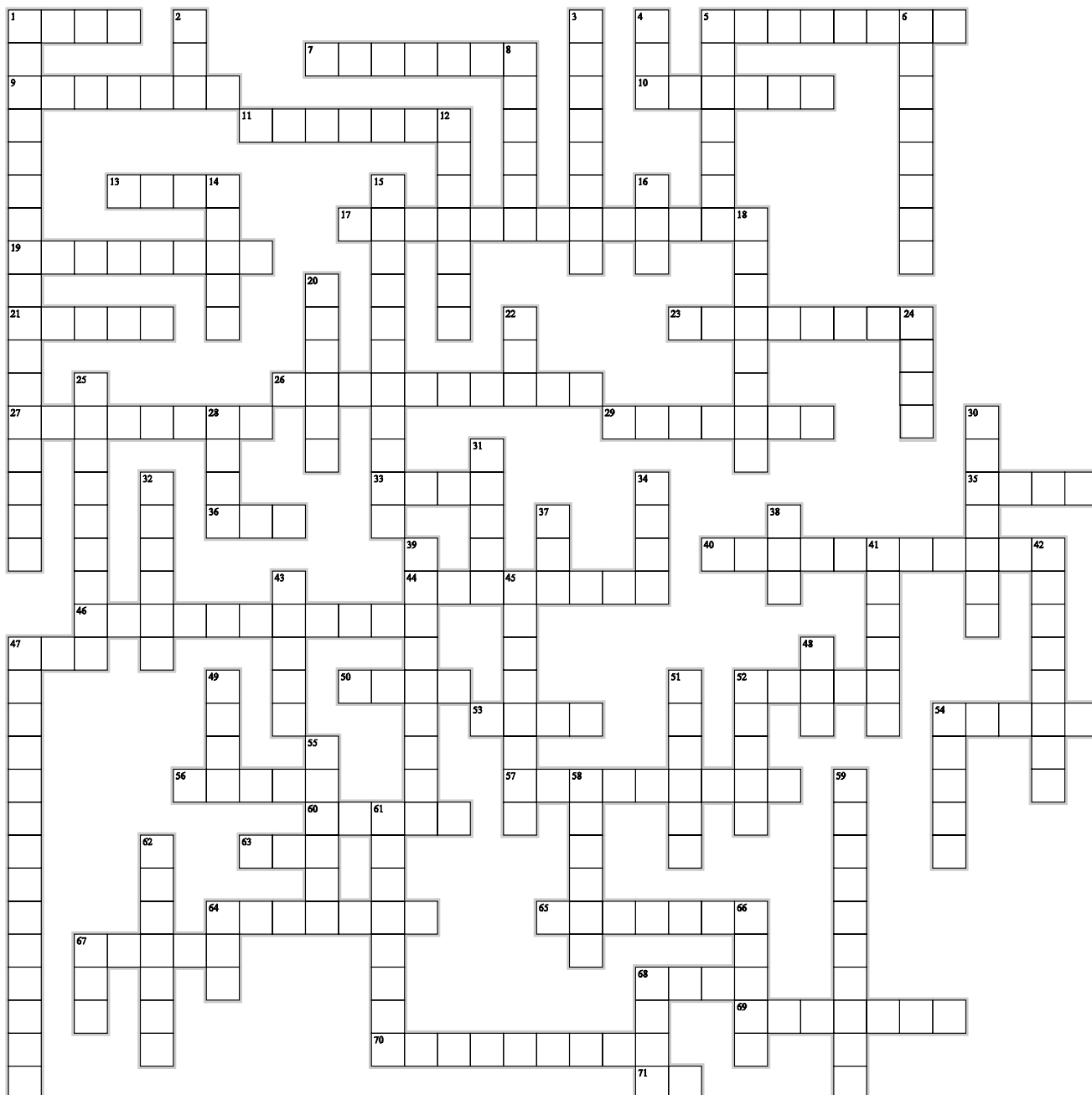
Have fun, learn cool stuff about the convention and other things, and maybe win a prize!!!

Visit www.hamconcolorado.org for the clues, do your best, then turn in your completed crossword puzzle to the registration desk at the convention no later than Saturday, June 10, 2006 at Noon. All crossword puzzles submitted will be eligible for a **special prize drawing** beginning on Sunday, June 11 at Noon. Winner must be present to win! Email Steve Williams, k0srw@arrl.net with any questions.

(From the Denver Radio League *Repeater Rag*)

Name (please print clearly): _____ Call sign (if any): _____

Phone number _____
(include area code): _____ Email address: _____



HamCon Crossword Puzzle Clues

Across

1. First name of the ARRL Colorado Section Manager
5. Lots of technical and operating _____ will be conducted
7. Besides Colorado, another state in the ARRL Rocky Mountain Division
9. Fred MacMurray TV show, also our T-shirt and coffee mug vendor's company name (leave out the spaces)
10. Drawings for these will be held at every technical session and forum
11. National _____ System
13. What is The Sign Man of Baton Rouge's first name?
17. Last name of FCC Special Counsel and Convention Banquet speaker
19. In what city does the Denver Radio Club meet?
21. Call sign of the man in charge of the convention talk-in station
23. The Loveland Repeater Association meets monthly in this town
26. N5ZGT's last name
27. If you sign up for it, who can attend the Sunday Morning breakfast at the convention?
29. One of the major radio manufacturers to attend the convention
33. Call sign of the convention chairman
35. The major prize drawings are at _____ on Sunday!
36. If you register by March 1st, you can attend the convention for only _____ dollars!
40. If you operate W1AW/0 at the convention, you'll receive a beautiful Operator's _____
44. A technology that allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using voice-over-IP (VoIP) technology
46. AMSAT is the Amateur Radio Satellite _____
47. John, N5EHP will be attending with which company?
50. Besides Colorado, another state in the ARRL Rocky Mountain Division
52. Last name of ARRL co-founder with Hiram Percy Maxim
53. W1AW normally resides in this grid square
54. DTRS stands for Digital _____ Radio Service
56. Where Clarence Tuska's granddaughter is a physics professor
57. Dick _____ is professionally producing our convention program book
60. NCG Company is the maker of _____ antennas
63. Large animals that can often be seen wandering around in and near Estes Park
64. A hot car, or the town where Clear Signal Products, Inc. is located
65. Looking for a small animal or a hidden transmitter
67. Rob Roller, N7LV represents this organization on the Hamcon committee
68. ARRL COO's Call sign
69. Estes Park, our 2006 convention site, is located in this Colorado county
70. What position does Ann Trudeau hold with the Colorado YLs?
71. Long distance

Down

1. What company does KB6WHT own? (leave out the spaces)
2. The Estes Park Holiday _____ is the site of Hamcon 2006
3. Hamcity.com's slogan is "_____ communications warehouse"
4. Low power
5. A new, very unconventional, amateur radio satellite
6. Rocky Mountain _____ Park is just outside Estes Park
8. The only casino to donate a prize to Hamcon 2006
12. What company manufactured the 75S-3 receiver?
14. HamTestOnline's slogan is "The Software that _____ you."
15. Rocky Mountain National Park straddles this divide
16. First name of ARRL Technical Coordinator for the Colorado Section
18. Last name of the ARRL's 14th president
20. You can register for the convention by mail or _____
22. Can individuals donate new prizes or money to the convention?
24. W1AW/0 will operate from this grid square, June 9-11, 2006
25. Besides Colorado, another state in the ARRL Rocky Mountain Division (leave out the space)
28. Call sign of the Pikes Peak Amateur Radio Association president
30. Country from which the longest distance convention prize was donated
31. Early-bird registration is just \$10 if received before _____ (month) 1st
32. Alpha Radio Products is a sponsor of the 2006 DXpedition to _____ (no spaces) Island
34. _____ is the Call sign of the Boulder Amateur Radio Club
37. Internet technology that often causes significant interference on the amateur bands
38. Atmospheric noise
39. What company makes the T8 antenna?
41. The day you should arrive at Hamcon 2006 to avoid missing spectacular speakers and excellent fun and fellowship
42. Volunteer _____ Session for license tests
43. Last name of the ARRL's 1st president
45. Musically, Heil Sound's Bob Heil K9EID is an accomplished _____
47. Where on the internet can you find out all the latest convention details? www._____.org
48. Harold Kramer is the publisher of _____ Magazine
49. Amateur Radio Emergency Service
51. Estes Park is a great place for a _____ vacation
52. Number of speakers on Friday night
54. Tucson Amateur Packet Radio is headquartered in this state
55. One method of transmitting and receiving voice, video or other information which can be expressed in digital form, using radio frequency communications equipment
58. What word is represented by the "X" in this URL? www.hamconcolorado.org/2006_X_registration.pdf
59. What hotel is offering us VERY special convention rates?
61. What time is the Wouff Hong ceremony on Saturday?
62. ARES District 6 in Colorado includes Park, _____ and Lake Counties
64. The last date to reserve special room rates at the Holiday in is _____ (month) 19, 2006
66. Your club can have an exhibit _____ at the convention
67. Early-bird registrants get one of these FREE
68. First name of the author of "Ham Radio for Dummies"

CKRENGEL



The Thrill Of Victory AND The Agony Of Defeat.