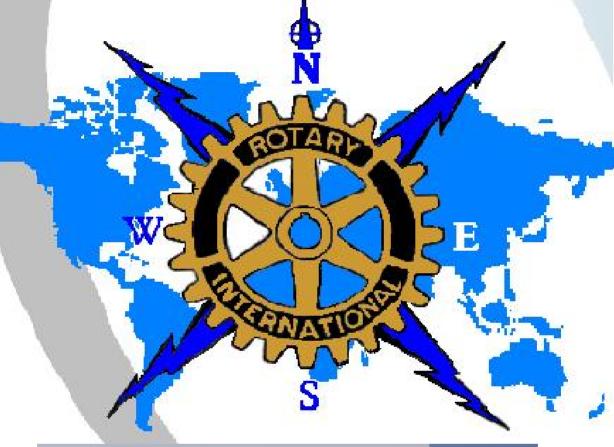
# The ROAR Communicator







### PRESIDENTIAL COMMENTS

In Rotary we often speak of Avenues of Service. We are Rotarians because we have a desire to serve others. The foundations of our license/permit to operate radio transmitters are found in the need for us to provide a service to our fellow citizens in the time of an emergency. Once said,



then we can find recreation in the pursuit of the hobby of amateur radio. In that pursuit we find fellowship and an avenue of service. In this respect we are much different than many other Rotary

Fellowships.

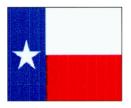
Amateur Radio has flourished for many years because of this recreational desire but lately, with many international and national disasters (tsunamis, hurricanes, etc.), our service can and should be a desire to assist those in need. Communications during emergencies are always initially inadequate. In some cases it is weeks, often months, before communications return to normal. Advanced technology aside, when equipment is destroyed and there is no power available, the most sophisticated commercial system also fails.

My message to the ROAR membership, as I embark on my term of office, is to become active in Fellowship activities (on the air nets) in order to enjoy our hobby and fellowship among fellow Rotarians worldwide. While our sunspot cycle finally (albeit slowly) begins to show favorable propagations (Jim Moran, W1QUO says that patience and perseverance will keep the spark alive), let us also keep our equipment tuned and antennae up to be responsive to emergency needs. Whenever you provide a service via amateur radio, be sure to let all parties know you are a Rotarian as well as a radio operator.

President Boyd in his July message in *The Rotarian* mentioned that Rotarians are "not afraid to adapt and respond" and "to stay aware of needs – in our own organizations and in the communities we serve." So as we enjoy our Fellowship and our hobby, let us also remember our Rotarian motto, "Service above Self," and this year's theme, "Lead the Way."

I wish to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Chairman/President Laszlo Racz, AD6XX/CT1, for his dedicated service to our Fellowship during his term of office. Thank you, Laszlo, for being a great Rotarian and may you return to good health soon. God bless you.

Yours in Rotary, John E. Maier, W8AUV President, 2006-2009





Directory Correction: The ROAR web site is **no**t <a href="http://www.ifroar.net">http://www.ifroar.net</a> However our web master, Bill VK4ZD has provided a link to the correct address which is: <a href="http://www.ifroar.org">http://www.ifroar.org</a>

# **Three Happy Years**

## Greetings dear ROAR Friends,

As the president of the immediate past first of all I wish to express my thanks to our XYL-s for their understanding. Didn't we experience "the food is getting cold" and... just one more rare QSO? They deserve recognition for their understanding and tolerance. Thank you Ladies. We had some major changes during the last three years. Eliminated RI's "brain storm" on the insurance/indemnity issue. Created a superb ROAR Web. Thank you Bill (VK4ZD). I emailed all Fellowship Presidents about that and most of them changing over to this method. (Finances). Our Bulletin "Magician" Don G0JWE put his work on the Web as well. Don you set an example with the superb quality of your bulletin for the rest of the Fellowships. Gold Medallion.

For the ROAR contribution a new method has been given with Pay-pal. Thanks to Bob (WB7RQG) to our "money man". It will work because Bob and Henk (VK2GWK) make it work. Bob and Henk accept our thanks for your achievement. Fellows keep it in mind that your contribution is imperative to and essential for our existence.

ROAR had a superbly operating stations at all RI Conventions. Thank's to Tim (JH1NVZ) in Osaka, John (W8AUV) Chicago with Per (OZ5PD) and Peter (VK3KCD) in Copenhagen.

And many thank's to our Net Controllers Jim (W1QUO) and Bill (G4YZE). They have ample chances to experience the hardly existing propagation resulting in a lot of relaying. The contest toreros challenged them strongly a number of times as well. Here we should say thank you for our controller "helpers",

Klaus (HB9CQS), Brian (G3LUW), John (G4HMG) just to mention some. The net would fall a part many times without their help.

Our new President John (W8AUV) is an old Ham and long time Rotarian. John I congratulate you for your position. I am certain that you will have - with Kay behind you - an enjoyable time. You will direct the best Fellowship of RI. We will all back you up.

As for me I served in many positions during my years (25 years perfect attendance) in Rotary but to serve as ROAR President was the most satisfying. It never became a job to me it was an enjoyment without idleness because in idleness there is perpetual despair and we Rotarians can not afford that.

I am expressing my gratitude to all of you who supported me in more than one way bearing in mind that it is your fellowship you just elected me to lead it for a while.

So this is my "swan song"

Wish you all the best and good health. Stay vertical.



73/88 Laszlo AD6XX de CT

**John (G4HMG) and Diana's (G4MVV)** trip was a little different from previous escapades as they avoided cold weather in France in early March.

John reports: "We visited Merida and other small and most attractive towns on the Spanish plain. Without doubt our visit to Pertti (EA7GSU), high up in the mountains was one of the high spots of our time in Southern Spain. After Ronda we moved up the coast eventually reaching David (EA5ALK) and Valerie at Calpe. A young villain tried to snatch the laptop however Diana grabbed it and screamed at him. He dropped it but took a handbag, which fortunately had little of value in it.

During our return through France we spent time with a couple

who have moved from Wirksworth. Kevin was heavily involved in their Aquabox project (see photograph and report on page 10)

On our return we picked up Laszlo and Helga at Bristol Airport and took them to the ROAR UK AGM at Matlock Bath. We have taken Laszlo and Helga to some of our favourite places in North Devon and Cornwall and to Dartmouth, along with various local visits. I also took Laszlo to our Rotary Club meeting. Finally after a two week stay, we took them to Bristol Airport at 5.00am."