RF

ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

VOL. L NO. 01 P.O. BOX 3454, TUSTIN, CA 92781-3454 January 2009

The Prez Sez.....

by Nicholas AF6CF

Greetings to All!

I would like to wish everyone and their families a happy and prosperous 2009. Our club has been one of the fortunate few to keep growing with increased membership and to maintain an overall interest in the art of Amateur Radio. It is my goal to continue in the footsteps of my predecessors and to steer the Club in a positive direction.

This coming year, with the help of the Board of Directors, I would like to see some old club traditions revived as well as maybe start a few of our own. It is my belief that the strong traditions of our club i.e. the "not-so-DX-peditions", B2V, field day, etc are the foundation that our club is built on. However, it is because of the expertise from within that we are able to continue. I would like to thank all those who have advised me, given me direction, and have shown their confidence in me by electing me the Club's President.

73 DE AF6CF

OCARC 2009 Dues

It's Dues Time:

It is 2009, and that means it is time to renew your club dues. You have through March 2009 to pay your dues without falling in arrears. Don't miss out on the events planned by our new Board. Have you paid already? Visit our Membership webpage to check. If something seems incorrect, please email the 2009 Treasurer and Membership Chairman and we will investigate!

January Program

Chip K7JA will present a Russian-made video

"The Lost Islands,"

a documentary about a DX-pedition to several remote islands in the frozen Russian Arctic.

Using calls like **RIØB** and **RSØB/P**, this intrepid group of Russian DXers set up stations in some of the most foreboding terrain on the planet. It's a unique look at the human side of our Russian contemporaries, and this is surely a unique and interesting program to kick off the new year!

The next general meeting will be:

Friday, January 16th @ 7:00 PM

We will be meeting in Room 208
In the east Red Cross Building

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Monthly Events:

General Meeting:
Third Friday of the month
at 7:00 PM
American Red Cross
601 N. Golden Circle Dr.
(Near Tustin Ave. & 4th St.)
Santa Ana, CA

Club Breakfast:
First Saturday of the month
at 8:00 AM
Jagerhaus Restaurant
2525 E. Ball Road
(Ball exit off 57-Freeway)
Anaheim, CA

Club Nets (Listen for W6ZE):

7.086 ± MHz CW **OCWN**
Sun- 9:00 AM – 10 AM
John WA6RND, Net Control

28.375 ± MHz SSB
Wed- 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Bob AF6C, Net Control

146.55 MHz Simplex FM
Wed- 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM
Bob, WB6IXN, Net Control

VISIT OUR WEB SITE

http://www.w6ze.org

for up-to-the-minute club information, the latest membership rosters, special activities, back issues of RF, links to ham-related sites, vendors and manufacturers, pictures of club events and much much more.

Club Dues:

Regular Members ...$20
Family Members* ...$10
Teenage Members ..$10
Club Badge** $3

Dues run from January thru Dec and are prorated for new members.

*Additional members in the family of a regular member pay the family rate up to $30 per family.

**There is a $1.50 charge if you'd like to have your badge mailed to you.

OCARC 2008 Christmas Dinner Photos

OCARC had 45 members and spouses and visitors attend this year's Christmas Party. We had a great turn-out, we had great prizes and we had great fun!! Dan-N6PEQ was able to gather a huge amount of prizes to be used for the club's raffle. We also had Kenan-KR6J (aka N6CCE) announce his recent engagement (see PIX below)!! Finally, the Kei Yamachika Trust Fund made a $250 donation to the club.

There was a nice turnout of members including Dale-KB7UB (left bottom) who traveled from Arkansas.
Photo by Ken-W6HHC

Long-time club members Fried-WA6WZO and Sandi-WA6WZN certainly dressed for Christmas.
Photo by Jim-N6DHZ

People hovered over the raffle table are appraising prizes and getting tickets.

Photo by Jim-N6DHZ

Kenan-KR6J announced his recent engagement to Poay, from Thailand,
Photo by Jim-N6DHZ

The prizes for Ladies were selected and nicely wrapped by Bev-KI6APH
Photo by Ken-W6HHC

Just one of the tables of ham radio prizes to be won at the party.
Photo by Ken-W6HHC

Dan-N6PEQ performed another outstanding year of gathering prizes for the OCARC's yearly raffle in December.

Photo by Jim-N6DHZ

VP Nicholas-AF6CF announced that the OCARC "2008 W6NGO-For-the-Good-of-the-Club Award" winner was Larry Mallek – K6YUI

Photo by Ken-W6HHC

The club VP, Nicholas-AF6CF, displayed the plaque that will be mailed to our out-going President, Willie-N8WP, for a job "Well Done".

Photo by Ken-W6HHC

OCARC Activities Chair, Kristin-K6PEQ (L), chose Sandi-WA6WZN's ticket for the first Ladies raffle prize.

Photo by Ken-W6HHC

One of the first of many ham radio raffle prizes was a beam antenna won by Hank-W6HTW.

Photo by Ken-W6HHC

The restaurant owner chose the ticket of Dan-N6PEQ for the grand prize, a new ICOM IC-7200 HF/VHF mobile rig. (Dan is holding the "IOU picture" of rig.)

Photo by Ken-W6HHC

The "Russian Woodpecker"

Long-Ago Source of Ham Radio QRM

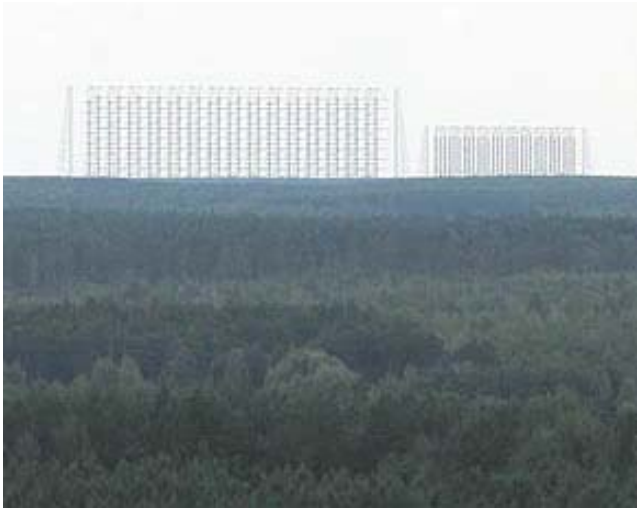
By Ken W6HHC

The "Russian Woodpecker" was a notorious Soviet signal that could be heard on the shortwave radio bands worldwide between July 1976 and December 1989. This radio station (aimed at the US) was used as over-the-horizon radar, looking to provide early-warning of the launch of a "cold war" ICBM missile, by detecting the missile's plume. The Russian Woodpecker could operate anywhere from 7 MHz to 25 MHz. It sounded like a sharp, repetitive tapping noise, at 10 taps/sec, giving rise to the "Woodpecker" name.

Starting in 1976, the new and powerful radio signal was detected worldwide, and quickly dubbed the Woodpecker by amateur radio operators. Transmission power on some woodpecker transmitters was estimated to be as high as 10 MW EIRP. As well as disrupting ham radio and shortwave broadcasting it could sometimes be heard over telephone circuits due to the strength of the signals.

The random frequency disrupted legitimate broadcast, amateur radio, and utility transmissions and resulted in thousands of complaints by many countries worldwide.

The pictures in this article are of the third-generation transmitter, called Duga-3 by the Soviets. Duga-3 was actually located in the Ukraine, in the forests near a small city called Prypiat (sometimes spelled as Pripyat in English). Prypiat was unfortunately located near the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant and home to its workers. The city of 50,000 was abandoned in 1986 following the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.



The picture below gives the best view of the individual dipoles. The entire Guga-3 array must have had at least 300 dipoles (an HF 300-element beam!!) constructed in an array that appears to be at least 200 feet high and 800 feet wide.

As I remember, the woodpecker signals on 15M seemed to cover the entire phone band at one time and could be very very strong. It did jump around the frequency spectrum over a several hour period, so the next day it might be away from 15M causing QRM on 20M or the commercial shortwave bands.

For more info: see Wikipedia (search for "Russian Woodpecker") at www.wikipedia.org, also try http://www.artificialowl.net (select link for Ukraine) and www.pripyat.com (in Russian or Ukrainian??) on the internet.

Heathkit of the Month

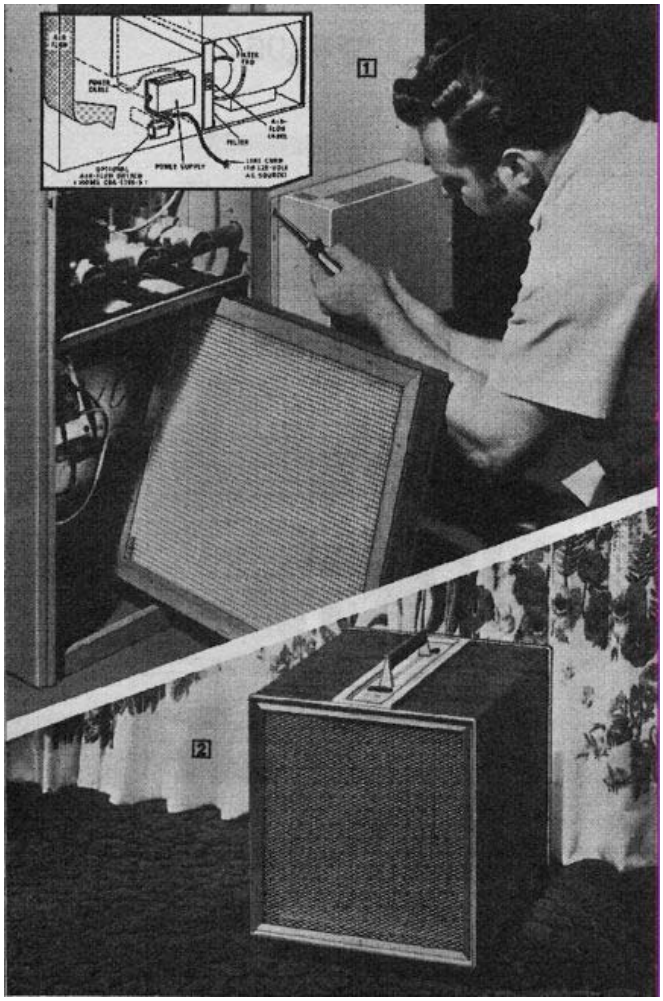
GD-1003 Electronic Air Purifier
by Bob, AF6C

This month we're going to review one of the more unusual products from Heathkit, its first Electronic Air Purifier, the GD-1003. Heathkit offered several air purifier models from the mid-seventies until the late eighties in three different styles: office, in-furnace and portable.

Heath's Family of Air Purifiers:
The first air purifier produced by Heathkit was the portable GD-1003. It was introduced near the end of 1973 and received a full-page description in the 1973 Christmas catalog (#800/78). Originally it cost $139.95. Sometime in the late 1970s the GD-1003 was replaced by the fancier GD-1247 which sold for $189.95. By Christmas of 1981 the GD-1247 was itself replaced by the GD-1297, which was continued until 1988. It was introduced at $229.95 and rose to $289.95 by the spring of 1984. In 1985 the price dropped back to $249.95.

Heathkit produced two air purifier kits that integrated into the home furnace. These came in two pieces, an electrostatic filter unit that replaced the regular furnace filter and a separate power supply and control unit. The GD-1196 integrated air purifier first appeared in the fall of 1976. Originally the GD-1196 sold for $179.95. The filter unit came in four sizes, and replacement electrostatic filters were available for $99.95 in case you moved or changed to a different size furnace. Sometime in 1981 the GD-1196 was discontinued. No in-furnace filter was mentioned in the 1981 Christmas catalog. A new model, the GD-2196 appeared in the spring of 1982. It sold as two separate items; the $169.95 GD-2196 Power Supply and the GD-2196-x filter unit for $99.95. The dash number varied with the filter size.

Heathkit also dabbed in an office air purifier, the GD-1298. This smaller desk or shelf-top filter was introduced in the spring of 1984 for $199.95. This item evidently did not sell very well because in the fall of 1985 the price dropped to $99.95.



Top: The 1976 GD-1196 'In-furnace'.
Bottom: The original GD-1003 'Portable'

Electronic Filter Operation:
A two-stage electronic air filter operates using high voltage on the order of 6 to 8 kilovolts. Usually the fan draws air through a pre-filter or screen first to remove large particles. Then

the air passes into the first part of the electronic filter; here it passes between ionizing wires that are at a high positive voltage. Particles like dust and smoke acquire a strong positive charge as they pass through this stage. Next the air enters the second stage and passes through the collecting cell made up of numerous parallel metal plates. Alternate plates are at a positive voltage of about half the ionizing voltage, while the remaining plates are at ground potential. As the positively ionized particles pass between the collecting plates, they are repelled by the positive plates and attracted to the grounded plates where they are collected. The air is then often passed through an activated charcoal filter to remove any remaining odors.

Heathkit GD-1247 Portable

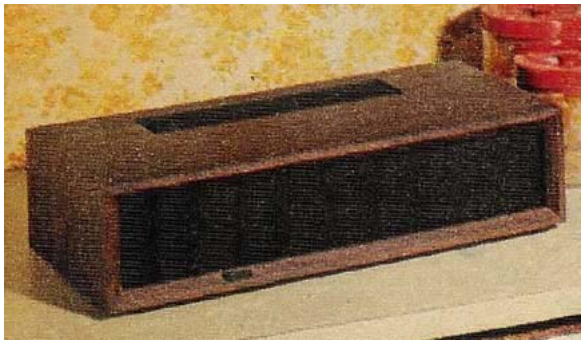
Quick Look - GD-1247 Portable Filter:
The original GD-1003 filter looks a lot like an air filter should – a low rectangular box with grills and a handle. The later GD-1247 looks more like a piece of furniture. It measures 26-1/2" H x 17-1/4 W x 13-1/2" D and weighs about 55 pounds. The cabinet is made of particle board covered with Southern Pecan vinyl wood finish. The filter is recommended for rooms up to 25' x 30', and has a variable speed fan that adjusts from around 100 to 250 cubic feet per minute (**CFM**). One feature of this kit mentioned in the catalog is that it requires no soldering. Instead, push-on terminals are used. Accessories for the GD-1247 were the deluxe caster set (GDA-1247-1 $8.95), and a replacement activated charcoal filter (GDA-1247-2 $5.95).


Heathkit GD-1297 Portable

Quick Look - GD-1297 Portable Filter:
There is little different between the GD-1297 and the earlier GD-1247 except for the style of the cabinet. The size is identical but the weight is higher at 58 pounds. The controls have been removed from the front and the front looks like a speaker. The new style still has the Southern Pecan vinyl finish. The fan is now a three-speed squirrel-cage type. This one-evening kit also requires no soldering; the power supply, filter and fan control are prebuilt. Accessories for the GD-1297 included the deluxe caster set (GDA-1297-1 $13.95) which was dropped shortly after the kit was released; the casters were incorporated into the kit at no extra cost. The replacement active charcoal filter (GDA-1297-2 – $6.95 to $9.95) also fit the earlier GD-1247.

Quick Look - GD-1298 Office Filter:
For use in the office, Heathkit made a smaller air purifier. The GD-1298 measures 5-1/8" H x

21-1/4 W x 10-5/8 and weighs about 19 pounds. It was designed for rooms up to 15' x 20'. The variable speed fan passes air through the filter at speeds up to 100 CFM. A washable foam pre-filter is used before the electrostatic filter, and an activated charcoal filter after it. The power supply produces 6,400 volts of ionizing voltage for the electrostatic filter. Following the tradition of the later portable units, no soldering was required for assembly.



Heathkit GD-1298 Office

Quick Look - GD-1196 In-Furnace Filter:
There were actually four GD-1196 models identified by a -1 to -4 suffix. The dash number signified the filter size: -1 is 20" x 25" (1000 CFM), -2 is 20" x 20" (800 CFM), -3 is 16" x 25" (800 CFM), and -4 is 16" x 20" (640 CFM). Each filter is 2" thick. The power supply for each model is identical and is included with each kit; it's size is 12" x 8" x 4", with a power requirement of 25 watts. Power for the filter is taken from the power to the furnace/air conditioner motor. Should the furnace motor run on 240 VAC, Heathkit also sold the accessory GDA-1196-5 Air Flow Switch that allows the filter to be controlled without being powered by the fan motor.

Quick Look - GD-2196 In-Furnace Filter:
The later GD-2196 air filter cleaner was designed to operate in furnaces and air-conditioners that use thinner 1" thick filters. These filter units were sold as separate items. The GD-2196 (originally $169.95, dropped after six months to $149.95) was only the power supply and controller unit. The separate filter sold for $99.95 Two sizes were available: The GDA-2196-1 is 20" x 25" (1000 CFM), and the GDA-2196-3 is 16" x 25" (800CFM)

Heathkit Ad of the GD-2196 In-Furnace

The GD-1003 Portable Electronic Air Purifier:
The first electronic air-cleaner by Heathkit was a portable model. It carried the designation of GD-1003 and was listed as a "two-evening kit", referring to the typical assembly time. Unlike the later models, you had to heat up the soldering iron to assemble this kit. The GD-1003 measures 13-1/2 W x 15" H x 17-3/4 D and weighs a hefty 46 pounds. The cabinet is metal with a vinyl wood finish. A gold anodized trim plate and end screens adorn the box. It has none of the stylish look of the later portable air purifiers, but does look very functional.

Inside the GD-1003 is a power supply that produces limited current voltages at 4000 and 8000 VDC. A heavy, well insulated transformer feeds a voltage doubler circuit producing the two voltages. The two HV diode rectifiers are selenium, and the HV bleeder resistor is 200 Meg-ohms. These components are long cylinders because of the high voltages they must handle. Two filter capacitors are in series to smooth the rectified voltages. One of the capacitors is a 0.15 µf 6.5 KV tubular ca-

pacitor. The other capacitor is the collecting cell itself; its large and multiple plates make up a good high-voltage capacitor.

The air is driven by an axial five-bladed fan. The fan motor has two speeds producing flows of 165 CFM on **High** and 110 CFM on **Low**. Speed is selected by a three position rocker switch, with the center position being **Off**. A neon power light indicates when the unit is running. The lower fan speed is achieved by switching a choke in series with the motor. Power consumption is specified as 55 watts on high speed and 40 watts on low speed.

If you've ever built a Heathkit you are familiar with their famous, well designed and standardized manuals. While they have evolved over the years, their quality has always excelled. While the GD-1003 manual still fits this image, it does vary in significant ways. First its size is a whopping 11" x 14". Second, the separate two color "exploded parts drawing" opens to 21" x 27". Also, there is no complete schematic drawing of the unit. Instead, the manual contains a wiring diagram as one might see on the back of a kitchen or laundry appliance. In the "Theory of Operation" section there are brief partial schematics that describe the operation of the power supply section of the unit. Figure one is a schematic that I put together of the GD-1003 Electronic Air Purifier. As you can see by it, there isn't much to this device.

The GD-1003 has a replaceable active charcoal filter as do the other units. Since Heath went out of the kit business, none of the active charcoal filters used in the Heath electronic air purifiers are known to be available anymore.

Ozone:

Ozone (O_3) is a byproduct of electrostatic air filters. It is produced by the corona discharge that occurs due to the high voltage in the filter. In small quantities ozone can create a refreshing atmosphere; think of the pleasant smell after a thunderstorm. However in concentrations of 0.01 parts per million (PPM) ozone can be smelled by most people. Concentrations of 0.1 to 1.0 PPM produces physiological human reactions such as respiratory and eye irritation, and headache. The GD-1003 specifications don't show any data for ozone production. However, some later models of the Heath filters were specified to produce less than 0.02 PPM of ozone. Ozone breaks down to oxygen over a period of thirty minutes. $2O_3 \rightarrow 3O_2$. It can also be corrosive.

Observations:

The GD-1002 kit was easy to assemble. While soldering was required, many of the connections were made using push-on connectors. Operation is quite simple. The center-off rocker switch is set to either high or low, which varies the fan speed. The occasional sound of an electrostatic discharge can be heard when a large particle enters the unit. Otherwise the unit is quiet except for the sound of the fan which is quiet on low speed and not excessive on high speed. The smell of ozone can be noticeable during operation, but never objectionable. Still, it is never used it in a small closed room, especially a bedroom overnight.

Maintenance:

After a few weeks of use, depending on how dusty a room is, the filter's collection cell needs to be removed and cleaned. The amount of dirt and grime on the collection plates will show that the filter is doing its job. The manual recommends cleaning the collecting cell by immersing it repeatedly in a solution of water and dishwashing detergent. Finding a sink

that can hold the filter is a challenge, You can use a spray bottle of dilute detergent spraying it on the plates of the collecting cell, then hosing it off outside. It is important to be sure the cell is dry before reinstalling it back in the cabinet.

For safety, the unit should be unplugged before opening it to remove the collecting cell. An interlock switch adds extra protection, The collection plate assembly slides out easily for cleaning. All electronic contacts are made through beryllium-copper spring contacts so nothing has to be disconnected.

The other item of maintenance is the replaceable activated charcoal filter. This is no longer available that I could find. However the charcoal can be re-activated or replaced. the unit is still quite effective even if the charcoal activated post filter has lost much of its effectiveness. The fan is specified as lifetime lubricated and doesn't require Maintenance

My GD-1003:

I purchased a GD-1003 in late April of 1977 for use in the ham shack. It is still working to this day. With the California winds and occasionally open windows when in the shack, dust and grime had a way of creeping into the house and being attracted to the electronic devices. The GD-1003 helps keep the dust down to a manageable level.

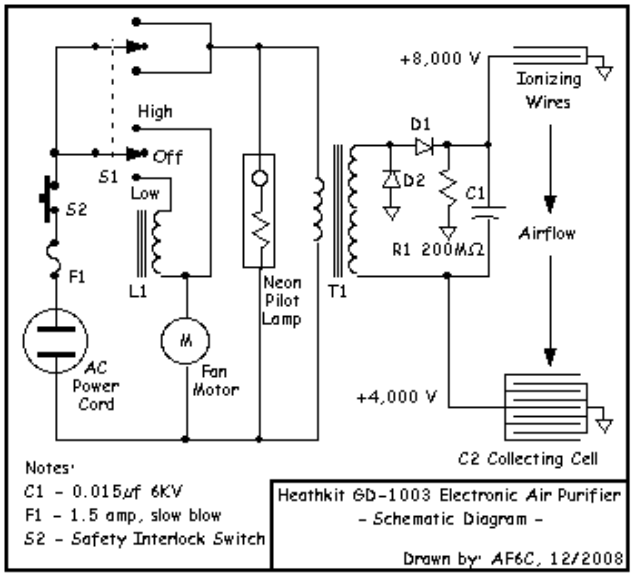


Figure one - GD1003 Schematic

In the late seventies and early eighties, the OCARC SSB net was held on Thursday nights on fifteen meters. Net control location usually rotated between the shacks of Kei - W6NGO, Ken - W6HHC, and mine. Usually the three of us would get together for the net because there were numerous others who checked in. When the net was held at my shack, the Heathkit GD-1003 also played a secondary role. Sitting there on the floor quietly cleaning the air near the visitors' chairs, it also acted as a small table to hold our drinks. Sometimes soda, often beer and occasionally scotch sat on the operating air purifier as the net was run. To my knowledge nothing was ever spilled into the unit to challenge the path of those 8000 volts of electrons. The GD-1003 produced no radio noise.

Over thirty years old, my Heathkit GD-1003 is still in use today.

de Bob - AF6C

Alerts to Clog Cell Sites?

by Ken Bourne, W6HK, Chief Radio Officer OC RACES

[excerpts from OC RACES newsletter, NetControl]

The FCC on April 9, 2008, adopted a First Report and Order that will support the ability of the nation's wireless carriers to transmit timely and accurate alerts, warnings, and critical information to the cell phones and other mobile devices of consumers during disasters or other emergencies. Will this clog cell sites during emergencies? We already expected cell sites to be overloaded during a major emergency, making RACES, ACS, and other amateur radio emergency communications a vital resource under such conditions. But now with the FCC's latest action that would generate a huge amount of text messaging to all cell phones during an emergency, could the potential failure of cellular systems be even more likely?

Wireless carriers that choose to participate in the Commercial Mobile Alert System will transmit text-based alerts to their subscribers. Consumers can expect to receive three types of messages via their cell phones and other mobile devices from participating wireless carriers, including:
Presidential Alerts—national emergency- related alerts delivered to the American public that would preempt any other pending alerts;
Imminent Threat Alerts—alerts with information on emergencies that may pose an imminent risk to people's lives or well-being; and
AMBER Alerts—alerts related to missing or endangered children due to an abduction or runaway situation.

Can You Imagine the Overload?

When I received a notice of the FCC's action, I posted the following statement on the Yahoo Groups RACES list: "Can you imagine how emergency text messaging from an agency to all cell subscribers will overload all participating cell systems during a major disaster? This places even greater emphasis on RACES and ACS units to be prepared for handling emergency communications, when all cell sites become overloaded with such text messages and the follow-up calls that subscribers try to make after receiving those messages."

There were several responses to my post, echoing my concern about cell-system overload and the need for RACES and ACS units to be prepared. However, one responder, Ryan Kelzenberg, NØYFE, said this is "not going to be a problem since text messages are done on data channels as space is available and are a lower priority than cell setup and completion data. It's a neat idea, though it will mean some more reorganization in the EAS (Emergency Alert System) and how to interface the multiple systems so that messages can pass between the NWS weather radios, EAS, and the cell phone emergency messages." I'm not sure if Ryan is fully correct about his "as space is available" and "lower priority" comments especially if a high priority is assigned to such text messaging because of a major terrorist attack or earthquake or other disaster exceeding the Katrina hurricane, which completely overloaded cellular systems in Louisiana and Mississippi. Text messaging on top of the other cellular traffic would only exacerbate the situation.

Jay Miller, WA5WHN, points out that there could be a large time delay for delivering the text messages due to the messages backing up in the system. If that's the case, RACES and ACS units might be requested to pass those text messages, perhaps by Winlink, to agency personnel. Even if Ryan is correct and the text messages themselves do not clog cellular systems, the voice traffic that they generate could be the "clogger." Jim Harrington, KB6JVF, stated that very well on the Yahoo RACES Group: He referred to this as the "bounce back effect" that could be crippling. As a result of thousands of text messages, tens of thousands of voice calls could be generated. "Take what happened in Minnesota," says Jim, "at the bridge collapse. So many generated calls caused the system to collapse." Jim says, "If a wide area is expected to be affected, the generated calls will overwhelm the system, like the people that kept pushing 'auto redial' at Katrina. If the system is over capacity, people panic and keep pushing redial, generating even more calls. Just look at the drop-call rate during rush time. As the person in Minnesota said to the person that wanted to know a more reliable system in an emergency, 'Get a ham license.'"

We Need to Enhance our EmComm Systems

As a result of the FCC's action and the pending failure of cellular systems due to overload, we need to

Clogged Cell Sites – cont'd on pg 12

Hams needed by City of Orange for Baker to Vegas 2009

The hams from the City of Orange Amateur Radio group (COAR) will once again assist the Orange Police Department running team at the 2009 Baker-to-Vegas Challenge Cup Race. You made have seen recently in QST there are several hundred hams involved in supporting this event. This is a 120-mile-long running relay race from Baker California to Las Vegas, NV (no they do not run down the middle of I-15, they use back roads). The event this year will start on Saturday afternoon, March 14, and end in Las Vegas on Sunday morning, March 15.

For this event COAR supports 4 base stations and several mobile efforts. We are always looking for help and even though we can not offer you any more of a reward than a challenge of your ham radio talents, we are asking you to help us out this year. You can work a small amount of time or the entire weekend. Let me know if you are interested and I can hook you up with the volunteer coordinator for the police department to start the process.

Hope to hear from you. Please contact:

Rich Helmick KE6WWK
714 343 4522

Clogged Cell Sites – from Pg 11

enhance our emergency communications systems, including our FM voice repeaters, ATV and SlowScan TV, Winlink and packet, Echolink, APRS, etc. We need to check our simplex coverage, in the event of repeater failure. We need to check our 75-meter and 40-meter coverage in canyons and “hidden” beach areas, by means of NVIS (Near Vertical Incident Skywave) propagation. We need to practice our formal traffic-handling skills, to help alleviate traffic loads when cellular systems fail.

You are Invited to go to the TRW Swapmeet

- Want to Find Great Deals on Ham Radio and Computer Gear?
- Don't Want to Spend BIG $$$ Finding GREAT gear for little bucks?

Then you need to go to the monthly TRW Swapmeet!

Where and when is the Swapmeet
The TRW Swapmeet is ALWAYS the LAST Saturday of every month RAIN or SHINE!!!! The next one is scheduled for January 31st, from 7 to 11 AM.

It is located at the corners of Aviation Blvd. and Marine Ave. in the city of Redondo Beach, Ca. at the Northrop Grumman Space Technology parking lot. A few friends of mine and I will be talking in on 147.555 simplex on the way up there.

Log onto **W6TRW.com** web site for more information or email to James Noll AF6DE at **AF6DE@socal.rr.com** for more information

TRW History
The W6TRW Swapmeet started in the '60's as a "Tail Gate" event and has evolved to the monthly event that it is today. The same basic objective is still around as it was long ago, usually for a ham to gather up his/her old stuff that they no longer need, or perhaps to find something better, or to clear out a garage or hamshack. Computers have become a necessity for many; you'll see lots of computers and parts for sale as well. It is one of the largest continuous running Amateur Swapmeets in the country.

OCARC

Board Meeting Minutes

2009-01-10

The OCARC Board meeting was held at the JagerHaus Restaurant in Anaheim, at 8:15 AM on Saturday, January 10th, 2009. There were a total of 11 members and visitors attending. There was a quorum of directors present, with the following two officers absent: Dan –N6PEQ and Bob- AF6C.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

- **PRESIDENT** – Nicolas AF6CF gave a brief introduction of the job descriptions for each of the board members. Job descriptions can be found in the by-laws.
- **VICE PRESIDENT** – Kristin K6PEQ discussed the January, February and March guest speakers
  - January – Chip - K6JA on Russian DXpediton
  - February – John Haslett - KI6MCB, based on his book "Voyage of the Manteno"
  - March – Jim Newcomb – on car-mount antennas

OLD BUSINESS:

- **RF Newsletter " Rotating" Editors**
  - January is Ken W6HHC
  - February is Kristin K6PEQ
  - March is Loran KD6LRD
  - April is Paul W6GMU
  - May is Nicolas AF6CF

- **QSL Printing and Mailing –** the QSL design contest for the club card needs to be completed at January meeting.

- **OCARC Christmas Party**
  - All feedback was that the party was a tremendous success
  - Raffle far exceeded expectations – with sincere thanks to Kristin K6PEQ and Dan N6PEQ for all their hard work. $300 profit from proceeds to the club
  - Many photos for the newsletter – Jim Shryne N6DHZ provided his great photos

- **Audit Committee** (Kristin K6PEQ, Dan N6PEQ and Kristine KC6TOD) will meet at 5:30PM prior to the February 20th club meeting to complete the audit.

- **Morse Code Class**
  Kristin K6PEQ and Larry K6YUI will hold the class on Saturday, March 7th, 1:00 PM at the QTH of N6PEQ/K6PEQ. Please register in advance.

- **Field Day June 26th-28th , 2009**
  - Field Day planning meetings to be held immediately following each month's board meetings (first Saturday of each month)
  - Discussed FD chuck wagon
  - Rich KE6WWK has name of person in charge of facilities to enable committee to work with that person one-on-one.
  - Rich KE6WWK asked that

one person is to dictate the raising and dismantling of antennas for complete coordination

NEW BUSINESS

- **2009 Strategies & Schedule** Nicolas AF6FC suggested more show and tell at the club General Mtgs.
- **September 2009 Food Proposal** – since the anniversary party was such a success, it was thought to have a similar meal in September. Suggestion to wait until after Field Day to review expenses – possibly just offer coffee and cake.
- **2009 Honorary Member List** – the decision was unanimous to leave the honorary member list as it is currently.
- **Holiday Baskets** – a thank you letter will be written by Paul W6GMU to Beverly KI6APH for her hard work on the beautiful baskets she created for the Christmas party.
- **Silent Key Auction at February 2nd WARA Meeting** - WARA will hold a Silent Key Auction for the equipment belonging to Mike Shahadi N6ME at their February 2nd meeting. The meeting will be held at the Sizzler Restaurant, 1401 N. Harbor Blvd. in Fullerton. The meeting starts at 7:30 PM, come about 6:30 PM and have dinner. A list of the items to be auctioned will be distributed to the OCARC via e-mail.

Respectfully submitted:
Kristine Jacob KC6TOD
Secretary

OCARC Morse Code Class – Saturday March 7th

Want to learn Morse Code??

Want to brush up on Morse Code??

Those interested in learning or brushing up on Morse Code are invited to an OCARC Morse Code Class on Saturday afternoon, March 7th, starting at 1 PM. No previous expertise of Morse Code is necessary to participate in this class. The class will be held at the QTH of Kristin-K6PEQ and Dan-N6PEQ in Tustin. If you would like to attend this Morse Code Class, please let the instructor Larry-K6YUI know by e-mail via **K6YUI@scdxc.org** , so we can have the correct set-up prepared for the class room.

W6ZE QSL Card Contest

W6ZE is holding a QSL card contest. We need new cards and it is up to you to design it and choose it! The members will vote on the designs at the OCARC General Meeting, January16th! We still will need the basic contact information on it but the rest is up to you. Please bring a sample to next meeting. I cannot wait to see all of the designs!

Ever See a 3-element 160 Meter Beam??

The OH8X station in Arkala, FINLAND completed building a 3-element 160 Meter YAGI beam, just before Christmas. If you can imagine, the boom for the 160M beam is 195 feet long and is made out of tower sections that are large enough to sit inside to work on element mountings.

It took a while for it to register in my mind that the 100 Meter tower is more than 325 feet high!!! There is a second 195-foot-long boom on the tower for a 5-element full-size 80 Meter beam!!!

I would like to recognize the "Daily DX News" site at **www.LY4A.com** as the source of these fantastic pictures of OH8X.

A HISTORY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Part 11

by Bob - WB6IXN, Club Historian

***** THE MODERN ERA – cont'd *****

1988

Ken Konechy, W6HHC, was wielding the president's gavel in 1988. FCC was taking up to 10 weeks to issue licenses. WB6IXN was handling the club's 15M Phone Net, and various OPs were NC for the 2M Net. Chris KA6IMP, Bob AF6C, Will Galusha WD1GDZ, Ken W6HHC, Frank WA6VKZ, and Mark Stanford N6QMW were all operating PACKET radio! Board Meetings were still being held in Le Grande Café in Santa Ana.

Lu Hurlbut, W1YZG, told members of his experiences in the 1957 solar peak, highest in history! John, NG7D, was awarded a very impressive 1000 miles/watt QRP certificate using a Heathkit HW-8 rig! Frank Smith WA6VKZ, Corky Corcorran W5BYG, Ron Toering KB6EZP, Ken Konechy W6HHC, and Karl Klos (teenage son of SK Don Klos W6OOH) all worked the Tustin Relays in April. A thank-you letter from Margaret Ramondetti, the Meet Director and Tustin HS Athletic Director, was sent to the Club!

Field Day was held on June 25-26 at Centennial Park in Santa Ana and OCARC managed to amass over 1500 contacts! Two "N6UC awards" were earned at FD; one by Frank WA6VKZ, who left a feedline off the now erected 40M dipole, and another by Chris KA6IMP, who left the rotor control cable lying on the ground after erection of the 20M beam!

The OCARC provided security duties for the 1988 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention at Disneyland, with 22 Club members and XYLs helping out! The Club received a total of $1,300 for its participation in the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention!

The 'RF' Newsletter editing was rotated among members. The following were editors of 'RF' during 1988: AF6C (2 issues), W6HHC (2), WA6VKZ (2), N6JSV (2), KA6IMP (2), and Mark Stanford KJ6JC (now W6MCS) (2). It turned out that KA6IMP couldn't do the April 'RF' edition because he was getting married!

*** An OCARC Wedding ***

Chris Breller, KA6IMP (now KJ6ZH), and Jane Watts, NØNE (no call in 1988, later she became KC6TAM), picked April 1988 to resonate on the same frequency! The shack (church) was highly decorated for the occasion. (see pix in Club's historical records) Al W6IBR's (father of the bride) bald head reflected high SWR while Chris and Jane's low SWR drew the attention of OPs, guests and harmonics alike. The marriage vows on closely coupled circuits concluded a very successful QSO! Immediately after the ceremony, Chris & Jane cut the QRN, with Jane shoving a piece of cake into Chris' mouth to complete the transfer of energy. Later, with rigs loaded, close coupling, and antennas in resonance, Jane & Chris retired to experience closer QSOs!

The Christmas Party was held at the Temple Gardens in Garden Grove on Dec. 16. Alex, W6RE, was been confirmed as Asst. Director to the ARRL for the Club.

1989

Frank Smith, WA6VKZ, was gaveled in as the 1989 president with a program on Earthquakes that followed. This was Frank's second time as club president. Frank WA6VKZ would eventually go on to hold the position of President a record five times. Past president, Ralph "Alex" Alexander W6RE was airing the Westlink Tapes for the Club weekly nets.

The Club thanked Bob, KI6UL, for undertaking the copying (aka "publishing") duties of the 'RF newsletter. Ken Konechy W6HHC included a county-wide summary of 1988 Field Day results in Jan. 'RF' Newsletter. In Feb. 'RF', WB6IXN published an article on the Mercalli Scale vs. the Richter Scale.

In March, the Club's monthly Breakfast switched locations to Denny's Restaurant on E. 17th St in Santa Ana. The Club held a Pizza Party at the Chicago Pizza Factory in Santa Ana, on March 18. Alex W6RE, was appointed ARRL Asst. Director to Fried WA6WZO, the ARRL SW Dir. The Club Nets in 1989 were 2m FM, 15m SSB, 15m CW, and 2m Packet.

NO CODE radio license ideas were now creeping into amateur radio…an OCARC straw vote in March showed 18 members were in favor of NO CODE, 9 were against!

Field Day found the Club once again at Centennial Park in Santa Ana. The ARRL HAMCON 1989 Convention was held at the Los Angeles Airport Hilton Hotel on August 25, 26, & 27. Vic Leonard, WA6RNA won a Veterans Administration Award for his dedication and work with veterans in amateur radio.

(To be continued next month
…Bob Evans, WB6IXN, Club Historian)

New ARRL "Triple Play" WAS Award

Starting with contacts made on January 1 2009 and beyond, the ARRL has created a brand new Work-All States (WAS) award .....the Triple Play WAS. The award is earned by working all 50 states in each of three modes: phone, CW, and digital (PSK, RTTY, etc.). Triple Play WAS is a one-time award: collect the required 150 confirmations in your LoTW account (Log-book of The World) and you're done!

One thing you don't have to worry about when chasing Triple Play WAS is whether you can work a particular path on a particular band. For most amateurs in the US, the most challenging aspect of 5-Band WAS is to work the close-in states on 10 and 15 meters. For Triple Play WAS a contact on any band is as good as one on any other (except for 60 meters, where the special restrictions are incompatible with competitive operation), so for each state you can use the band that is optimum for the distance to be covered. This should bring the award within reach, even if your antenna possibilities are limited.

A HISTORY of OCARC PRESIDENTS

by Ken Konechy W6HHC
with great assistance from our Club Historian, Bob Evans - WB6IXN

YEAR
2009 AF6CF Nicholas Haban
2008 N8WP Willie Peloquin
2007 K6PEQ Kristin Dankert
2006 N8WP Willie Peloquin
2005 W6HHC Ken Konechy
2004 N1AB Steve Brody
2003 KQ6JD Lowell Burnett
2002 KE6WIU Cory Terando (now AE6GW)
2001 KD6BWH Bob Buss (now KØBWH)
2000 K6LDC Larry Hoffman
1999 WA6VPP Bud Barkhurst
1998 KD6BWH Bob Buss (now KØBWH)
1997 WA6VKZ Frank Smith
1996 AF6C Bob Eckweiler
1995 N6XTJ Jim Roberts
1994 KJ6ZH Chris Breller
1993 KC6TAM Jane Breller
1992 WA6VKZ Frank Smith
1991 W6HHC Ken Konechy
1990 KJ6ZH Chris Breller
1989 WA6VKZ Frank Smith
1988 W6HHC Ken Konechy
1987 N6JSV Jim Talcott
1986 WA6VKZ Frank Smith
1985 AF6C Bob Eckweiler

YEAR
1984 KA6IMP Chris Breller (now KJ6ZH)
1983 W6IBR Al Watts
1982 KA6HNY Robin Hoff
1981 WA6VKZ Frank Smith
1980 WA6FOW Ernie Prichard
1979 WB6IHZ Terry Mathers
1978 WA6LFF Jim Kingsbury
1977 WA6WZO Fried Heyn
1976 WB6PEX Martin Raymond
1975 WA6LHB Art Sheldon (now K7ZE)
1974 W6HHC Ken Konechy
1973 WB6QNU Bob Eckweiler (now AF6C)
1972 WA6FIT Ron Cade (now W6ZQ)
1971 WB6CQR Billy Hall (now N6EDY)
1970 WB6UDC Jack Hollander (now N6UC)
1969 WA6ROF Jerry VerDuft (now ADØA)
1968 W6COJ Dave Hollander
1967 WB6GPK Jim Hill
1966 WA6YWN Jack Shaw
1965 K6KTX Rolland Miller
1964 W6WRJ Ralph Alexander (later W6RE)
1963 W6DEY Roy Maxson
1962 K6LJA Ted Glick
1961 K6IQ Roy Morriss
1960 K6TXS Charles(Ed)Edwards
1959 W6BVI Ken Kesel
1958 W6BVI Ken Kesel
1957 - CLUB DISBANDED -

YEAR
1956 W6HIL Bob Swenson
1955 W6BVI Ken Kesel
1954 W6UPP Marinus Conway
1953 Probably only informal meetings, no officers?
1952 W6QZQ Horace Bates
1951 W6LDJ Sam(Mac) McNeal
1950 Probably only informal meetings, no officers?
1949 W6CGF Chuck Lunder
1948 W6BWO Dale Bose
1947 W6ALO Tommy Gentges
1946 W6DEY Roy Maxson
1945 W6DEY Roy Maxson
1944 - **ALL OFF TO WAR!!**
1943 - **ALL OFF TO WAR!!**
1942 W6IBN Roy Cumpston
1941 W6BAM Shelley Trotter
1940 W6KLU Harold Christen-sen
1939 Probably only informal meetings, no officers?
1938 W6NSA Les Gates
1938 W6ADT Noral Evans
1937 W6LYN Noral Evans (Also reissued W6ADT)
1936 W6LYN Noral Evans (Also reissued W6ADT)
1935 - CLUB DISBANDED!!
1934 W6IGO Earl Moore
1933 W6IGO Earl Moore

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

The following organizations support our club's events in numerous ways. Please consider them when making your Amateur Radio and Electronics purchases:

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Burghardt Amateur Center
http://www.burghardt-amateur.com/

The DX Store
http://www.dxstore.com/

Elecraft
http://www.elecraft.com/

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http://www.fordelectronics.com/

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http://ham4less.com/

Ham Radio Outlet, Anaheim, CA
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