



ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

VOL. XXVI NO. 9

P.O. BOX 1704, ORANGE, CA., 92668

SEP 1985

WHAT IS... AMTOR?

SEPTEMBER 20th MEETING:

Our guest speaker for the September meeting will be Jim Day, WA6BJE. He will be telling us about a new communications mode called AMTOR. Jim has been a ham since the late fifties and has been involved with special modes like RTTY and AMTOR. I'll leave the description of AMTOR up to him, but just say that I think it's a new RTTY type mode that has error correction and narrow bandwidth. Jim says he isn't into computers so this will be a ham oriented talk! Please attend, and invite other interested hams.

MEETING TALK-IN ON 146.55 Mhz

AMATEUR EXAM SCHEDULE:

Code and theory exams will be given on Saturday, September 21st at the Huntington Beach City Hall. For further information contact Bob Reitzel, KD6DA, 1836 Skywood St., Brea, CA 92621
(Txn WB6ULU)

UPCOMING HAMFEST CANCELLED

The HamFest at the Orange County Fairgrounds in Costa Mesa HAS BEEN CANCELLED. This event, sponsored by the Catalina Repeater Ass'n, was scheduled for the weekend of our club meeting. Rumor has it that it was cancelled due to lack of exhibitors.

de AF6C

1985 CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS

President	Bob Eckweiler	AF6C	639-5074
Vice President	Herb Rosenberg	KG6OK	??-???
Secretary	Frank Smith	WA6VKZ	492-7215
Treasurer	Jim Talcott	N6JSV	838-5395
Activities Chairman	Joe Partlow	KB6FZV	542-3122
Membership Chairman	John Meacham	N6LMX	842-4782
Public Relations O. T.V.I. Chairman	Al Watts Ken Konechy	W6IBR W6HHC	531-6245 541-6249
Member At Large	Kei Yamachika	W6NGO	538-8942
Member At Large	Dottie Watts	W6IBP	531-6245

CLUB APPOINTMENTS

Club Historian	Bob Evans	WB6IXN	543-9111
W6ZE Trustee	Bob Eckweiler	AF6C	639-5074
R.F. Editor (Acting)	Bob Eckweiler	AF6C	639-5074
Teen Representative	<open>		

CLUB FUNCTIONS

MONTHLY MEETING: 3rd Friday of each month, 7:30PM at:
MERCURY SAVINGS & LOAN
1095 Irvine Blvd. (4th St becomes Irvine)
Tustin, Ca. Talk-in on 146.55 MHz

Sep 20th
Oct 18th
Nov 15th

(Take the 4th St. exit to the 55 FREEWAY
and head east. Continue about two blocks
past Newport Blvd. on the left.)

CLUB BREAKFAST: 1st Saturday of each month, 8:00AM at:
MIMI's CAFE
17231 17th Street
Tustin, Ca. (714) 544-5522

Oct 5th
Nov 7th

(55 FREEWAY at 17th Street east.)

CLUB NETS

BAND	MODE	DAY OF WEEK	LOCAL TIME	FREQ MHz
2 Meters	FM	Wednesday	2100 hrs.	146.550
15 Meters	SSB	Wednesday	2000 hrs.	21.375
15 Meters	CW	Sunday	2000 hrs.	21.175

(Listen for W6ZE, net control)

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The Prez Sez:

Well, summertime has passed and it's time to start thinking about winter, the holidays and ham radio. Fall is a good time to get the antenna farm cleaned up and ready for all the DX that winter brings. Even with the propogation at a low point DX is going to start to improve this winter.

My plans include getting the rig and antenna back up to snuff, so I may be looking for some help. In the past getting help with the antenna was never a problem; one just held an antenna raising party! The party never amounted to much more than some beer and soda-pop, and perhaps a few hamburgers (or equivalent) on the coals. There hasn't been too many antenna parties in the club lately. I imagine we've all grown a little older and the towers seem higher than they did.

It's time we find more ways to get younger members into the club. The two important ages are the youngsters in Junior & Senior high school, and the young adults who have just graduated from school and settled down with a job. The board is open to any ideas.

Hey, somebody actually hears my pleas! I received an envelope in the mail after the last board meeting. It was from Jim, N6JSV and in it was an article for RF; a review of a piece of equipment he uses! (See page 4). Jim also sent along a piece of artwork that we can use to publicize the club and our future ham classes. It is also published in this issue.

At the August board meeting we spent some time talking about our novice classes and efforts to get new members through them. One Orange County club has good luck in bringing in new members thru their classes. A club member of ours commented that their classes were very well presented and to the point; with live demonstrations at almost every class meeting. This shows us ways we can improve our classes. I feel it is important that we present a good club image at the classes. This means a club effort larger than we've done in the past. One or two people can't keep teaching all the classes. If you'd like to try your hand at teaching the code and theory to future hams, and helping your hobby expand, be sure to volunteer your services.

At the November meeting elections will be held for next year's officers. If you want to hold an office let a board member know. We will be appointing a nominating committee to contact members and help put together next year's board. Feel free to volunteer to participate on the committee; you can still run for an office. The club needs good new leadership. If you are interested in the future of Ham Radio in Orange County and think you can do a good job, please volunteer.

Also, the November meeting will have a short slide show of this year's Field Day by Ken, W6HHC. If you have any 1985 F.D. photos of our club, and would like to show them, please coordinate your slides with Ken. If you have prints to show, bring them to the meeting to be passed around. de AF6C

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THE MICROLOG AIR-1:

A Review by: JIM TALCOTT, N6JSV

Less than 6" square and an inch thick, the Air-1, when plugged into the expansion port of a Vic 20 or Commodore 64 computer, puts you in business fast for RTTY/CW operation.

No software is required; it's a complete terminal with software in permanent ROM (Read only memory) for sending and receiving RTTY and Morse. Just three cables lead from the Air-1 to your transmitter/receiver or transceiver and that's it--- you're on the air with RTTY 60 to 132 WPM, CW 5 to 149 WPM or 110/300 Baud ASCII.



In the Morse mode, the speed is set by tapping "CTRL-X" and then the WPM you want to send. Press the Commodore key and CQ CQ CQ DE appears on the monitor. Add your call sign, press "SHIFT RUN/STOP" and you are transmitting. (The CQs can be set to repeat any number of times in the initial call.) Putting a vertical arrow at the end of your CQ automatically switches the rig to "receive."

There's a choice of full or split-screen display, with a large type-ahead buffer. In other words, type out your message, which is displayed on the upper half of the screen, then leave the shack for a cool one; the Air-1 keeps right on transmitting, repeating your message on the lower half of the screen. As the unit switches to "receive," the incoming message is displayed on the monitor.



RTTY is also simple, with such nice features as "Quick Brown Fox" or "RYRYRYRY" being transmitted at the touch of two keys. A cross-hatch signal is displayed for critical tuning; a flashing dot appears when in the Morse mode.

There are eight memories which can be loaded with whatever you desire. For example, your QTH and the WX can be recalled repeatedly for transmission during numerous QSOs without retyping them each time.

One particularly nice feature is the Random Code Generator. Press two keys and the unit starts sending 5-letter/number groups for code practice, all displayed on the screen for later checking. Great for upgrading!

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AIR-1 Continued:

The 56-page manual is clearly written and easy to understand, with separate sections on RTTY, Morse, and AMTOR (if you buy the latter version). Six pages are devoted to commands, alone: Everything from "CNTL-D" for a "diddle" to "CNTL-Commodore" to go to Basic for normal use of the computer. The UTC clock is set by pressing "CNTL-K," and you can even transmit the time by entering the "CNTL-C" command.

I've used my Air-1 for more than a year now, without a single problem. the terminal's only weakness is that you must have clear incoming signal for it to be displayed on the monitor; heavy QRN causes lots of "E's" to be interspersed along the message. This weakness tends to keep you sharp on Morse when static disrupts the display.

The Air-1 does a nice job of receiving and displaying teletype news and weather transmissions, too. The Thomas Harrington book, "World Press Services," (\$8.95) lists scores of news and press services by time, frequency and country. For instance, see if you can tune Reuters in London at 1500 UTC, at 23543 KHz. for the latest news.

Air-1 for the Vic-20 or C-64 lists at \$199.00. With AMTOR, it's \$279.00. Microlog Corporation, 18713 Mooney Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20879, or your favorite Candy Store.

N6JSV

LOOKING FOR MEMBERS INTERESTED IN PACKET RADIO!

I'm looking for some other members of the OCARC who are interested in getting started in Packet Radio. Bob, AF6C and I attended a RACES meeting on September 9th. The program, on Packet Radio, was presented by Jim; N6LV, Jim; KA6MOU and Hal; KB6RY. Important parts of their presentation included:

STATUS- Packet Radio is the fastest growing segment of HAM Radio today. Over 5,000 stations are active.

- MODES- 1) POINT TO POINT (like TTY).
- 2) REPEATER OPERATION (through a passive station).
- 3) NETWORKING (everyone can talk at once).
- 4) BULLETIN BOARDS (..and "mail boxes").
- 5) GATEWAYS (long distance relays thru HF band).
- 6) SATELLITE (Possible launch of "PAC-SAT" in 86).

- EQUIPMENT- 1) TERMINAL NODE CONTROLLER. (TNC).
- 2) HOME COMPUTER or TERMINAL.
- 3) RS-232 for COMPUTER or TERMINAL.
- 4) HAM RIG (preferably 2 meters).

*** FLASH ***
 It has been reported that
 Heathkit has lowered the
 price of the HD4040 TNC to
 \$250 from \$300!!!

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CLUB RADIO CLASSES: The Orange County Amateur Radio Club is about to conduct a new ham radio class. This class will be directed towards the non-ham with the goal of achieving the Technician class license.

Club members can help spread the word on our new classes. Please make copies of the announcement below, add your telephone number, and post at work and in neighborhood areas you frequent. When you receive calls, get enough information so we can contact them when everything is set-up. Tentatively, the classes will begin about mid-October, and will be held in the Orange or Tustin area.

We are looking for new instructors and people who can help with a class. If you are interested in participating please contact Bob, AF6C. Helping our class is a good way to help your hobby and the club grow! (All members; if you bring your copy of RF to the meeting, you will be eligible for a special drawing). If you are not interested in teaching, please help with a demonstration for a class, or be a teacher's aid.

A lot of thanks to Jim; N6JSV for the following poster and artwork. Jim is first in line for becoming the club cartoonist!



LONDON • PARIS • HONOLULU •
ATHENS • MEXICO CITY • ROME •
TOKYO • SYDNEY • COPENHAGEN

TALK TO THE WORLD!

OUR CLASSES TEACH YOU HOW TO GET ON THE AIR FROM YOUR OWN HOME OR APARTMENT. NO AGE LIMIT. MEN, WOMEN, BOYS, GIRLS AND SENIORS ARE ALL WELCOME TO BE PART OF THIS GREAT HOBBY!

LIMITED ENROLLMENT • CALL OR WRITE NOW!

ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, BOX 1704, ORANGE, CA 92688
PHONE :

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ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

AUCTION RULES & INFORMATION

LOCATION: Mercury Savings and Loan, 1895 Irvine Blvd. Tustin, Ca.

DATE & TIME: Friday, October 18th, 1985 at 7:30 PM. (Registration begins at 6:30 PM.)

PROCEDURES:

BUYERS: Register. Receive bidder's card. Show card when bidding.

SELLERS: Register. Receive seller's tags. Pay entrance fee. Indicate minimum bid.

AUCTION: Items for auction will be offered in numerical sequence of sellers up to five items at a time per seller.

FEEES:

BUYERS: None.

SELLERS: \$3.00 entrance fee + 10% of item selling price to a maximum of \$8.00 per item.

MISCELLANEOUS: Minimum asking bid is \$1.00; if item is not worth \$1.00 please make a "grab bag" of several items. Sellers wishing to describe item please do so on a suitable sized paper, taped to the item in order to aid the auctioneer in selling your item.

Personal checks accepted at the option of the seller.

Frank; WA6VKZ

----- Packet Radio cont...

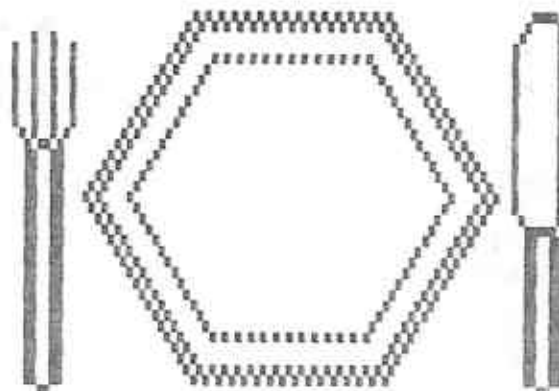
PRICE- HeathKit offers a Packet Radio TERMINAL NODE CONTROLLER (Model HD-4040) for \$300. Basic kits cost as low as \$200.

Anyone who might be interested in starting-up in Packet Radio, or just has some questions... please call:

KEN; W6HHC.....(714) 541-6249

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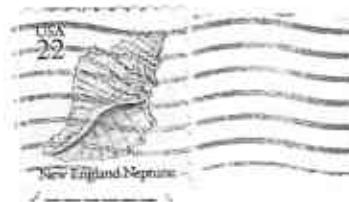
CLUB BREAKFAST: Many members are forgetting to attend the radio club breakfast on the first Saturday of each month. We have been "meeting and eating" at Mimi's; close to the freeways. If you've never been to a club breakfast, or haven't been to one in a long time, give it a try. If you don't wish to eat breakfast, then at least come-by for a cup of coffee. It's a good place to catch up on what's happening in Ham Radio. Bring along a guest, if you wish. We'll be seeing you there!



CLUB AUCTION: The yearly OCARC auction will be held in place of the October meeting this year. Now is the time to start cleaning out your junk box and getting your stuff together. With the cancellation of the Catalina HamFest in September we are looking for a good sized turnout. Be sure to get there early if you have items for the block. Our Auctioneer this year will be Ken, W6HHC; whom, it is reported, is tuning up his vocal cords and exercising his lungs! Auction rules are in this issue of RF.

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WB6 IXN
 Bob Evans
 781 South Kilson Dr.
 Santa Ana CA 92781

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FIRST CLASS!