The Prez Sez:

Welcome to 2006! This should be a great year for OCARC if 2005 is any indicator. We said goodbye to some friends and made some new ones. Enjoyed a great Field Day. Held a new potluck club event that was well-attended and great fun. Participated in the Orange County Fair. Hosted a great Christmas Party. Hosted some good speakers at the meetings. The OCARC raffles are better than ever. Who would have ever thought we would be raffling off such great prizes!

This year I would like to host a few more club events that get family more involved with our group. This years Field Day will be better than ever; Family friendly with lots of great food and opportunities for everyone to get on the air. I have two more ideas that I would like to run by the membership. A fox hunt that ends in an Orange County park with a picnic at the end. I would also like to sponsor a Mini DXpedition on Catalina Island.

Starting with the January meeting I would like to start a Show and Tell. So bring along some amateur radio projects you have been working on and amaze us all!

73's,
Willie - N8WP

January Program

Kure Atoll DXpedition!

Where is the Kure Atoll? Why did a team of Amateur Radio operators go there? And just how much work was involved in putting together this DXpedition?

These and other questions will be answered at the next general meeting on Friday, January 20, 2006 as Arnie Shatz, N6HC, gives us a look into what was hailed as one of the most interesting and talked about DXpeditions. You don't want to miss this meeting.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL BE ON
FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2006 @ 7:00 PM

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[see COAL MINE, page 3]
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Kristin Dankert, K6PEQ
(714) 534-2995
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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 7:30 AM
Katella Grill
1325 W. Katella Ave.
(SE corner at Main St.)
Orange, CA

Club Nets (Listen for W6ZE):
7.086 ± MHz CW OCWN
Sun- 9:00 AM – 10 AM
Rick KF6UEB, Net Control

28.375 ± MHz USB
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 December & 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 charge if you’d like to have your badge mailed to you.
in critical condition and receiving Oxygen Therapy in a Pennsylvania hospital's Hyperbaric Chamber.

An explosion early Monday, January 2nd trapped the 26 year old McCloy and 12 other miners more than two miles inside a mountain. The blast also released toxic carbon monoxide that prevented rescuers from reaching them for more than 40 hours.

Only Mr. McCloy survived but doctors fear that he has suffered damage to his heart, kidneys, lungs and possibly his brain. He is listed in critical condition and is expected to remain at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh until further notice.

The bodies of the other 12 men were removed from the mine on Wednesday, January 4th. Lightning is believed to have caused the blast.

On December 16, fifty OCARC members, guests, and visitors gathered for an outstanding evening of fun, food, recognition, eyeball QSOs, and raffle prizes. Through a series of pictures (contributed by Bob-AF6C and Ken W6HHC), we will summarize the highlights of the event.

“Dapper Dan” – N6PEQ, our Membership Chair, greeted members and visitors as they entered the Jagerhaus Restaurant on Ball Road, next to the 57-FWY.

Each year the OCARC chooses a recipient for the “Good of the Club Award” to recognize their extra contributions to the club. This year the award was presented to Kristin-K6PEQ and Dan-N6PEQ who have done so much for the OCARC.
Geomagnetic conditions have been very, very quiet. This week has seen many periods when the K index, both planetary and mid-latitude, was 0 or 1. The average planetary/mid-latitude K index this week dropped from 5.4/5.1 (last week) to 3.3/3.4, respectively.

Of course, this low in the solar cycle, it is not surprising that sunspot numbers and solar flux dropped also. Average daily sunspot numbers dropped by 35 points from last week to 14.7, and solar flux was down 7.5 points to an average of 79.4.

Over the next week expect these conditions to stay the same, with possibly some slightly unsettled geo-activity on January 16.

Users of Canada's Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory data were caught off-guard this week when our source of thrice-daily solar flux readings seemed to disappear from the net.

An unexpected donation of $500 was provided to the OCARC by the US Sensor Company in Anaheim (owned by the father of Dan-N6PEQ, Roger-N6EGC). Notice the antics of Tuck Miller-NZ6T, ARRL SM for San Diego, who was a visitor to the dinner.

By Googling around and using a freeware program called Xenu Link Sleuth (a handy desktop web spidering application, which you can also find via a Google search) I finally discovered the new home of the Current Flux Archive. It now appears at http://www.drao-ofr.hia-iha.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/icarus/www/current.txt.

The observatory's servers seem to have moved from drao.nrc.ca to the much longer domain shown in the URL.

The best part of the night may have been where the raffle prizes were awarded. Kristin-K6PEQ, our club Activities Chair, had organized a nice array of gifts for the ladies, plus an outstanding group of ham radio raffle prizes for $1-per-ticket. The Grand Prize was a brand new Icom IC-7000 rig. When the winning ticket was being pulled there was a lot of quiet anticipation....
January 2006 - RF  Page 5

[PROPAGATION, from page 4]

More 10 meter mail arrived this week. Glenn Stewart, N7NRA of Mesa, Arizona reminds us to check for beacons between 28.2 and 28.3 MHz. Glenn says, "If you hear beacons, there is a very good likelihood that you can raise a PSK31 contact or two by calling CQ on PSK at 28.120. Chances are excellent that you’ll raise a phone contact or two. The band's not dead. The problem is that everyone is listening. No one is calling CQ. Give it a try!"

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, k7ra@arrl.net.

For more information concerning radio propagation and an explanation of the numbers used in this report see the ARRL Technical Information Service propagation page at, http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html. An archive of past propagation bulletins is found at, http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/prop/.

Sunspot numbers for January 5 through 11 were 23, 24, 11, 11, 11, 11 and 12 with a mean of 14.7. 10.7 cm flux was 83.4, 82, 79.2, 78.2, 77.6, 77.8, and 77.3, with a mean of 79.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 3, 6, 5, 4, 2, 1 and 2 with a mean of 3.3. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 3, 6, 6, 5, 1, 2 and 1, with a mean of 3.4.

[TECH TALK #47: Challenges of Going Mobile in a T-Bird
Part 2 of 2 – Mounting the Antenna
By Ken Konechy W6HHC]

In Part One of this “going mobile” series (published in the August 2005 issue of the RF Newsletter) I explained that there were three major challenges to going mobile in my new T-Bird convertible. These three obstacles were:

1) How to run the cables between the trunk (where the main rig is located) and the passenger compartment where the control-head, speaker, and mike need to be.
2) How to mount the control-head and speaker in the passenger compartment (there are very few places for mounting)
3) How to mount an antenna (magnetic mounts won't work because most of the car body is not steel).

Well, in Part One I explained how I conquered Obstacle #1 and Obstacle #2. In this article, I will explain how I finally mounted the antenna.

The final challenge was to mount an antenna on the car. As I had explained in the earlier article, most of the 2003 T-Bird body is made from fiberglass or aluminum. Only the side fenders are steel. So a mag-mount will not work on the body. On my last plastic-body car (I have owned four, so far) I used a trunk lip-mount bracket. But, the trunk lips on the T-Bird are too thick to accept a standard Comet lip-mount bracket. But, the trunk lips on the T-Bird are too thick to accept a standard Comet lip-mount and my wife, Diane, has cautioned me about filing down the trunk lip thickness or drilling holes. I tried putting a metal plate beneath the trunk lid panel, but the magnetic mount would not "bite enough" to satisfy me. I tried to mount a strip of metal to pop up between the trunk lid and the body, but the fit to too tight or the motion of the trunk lid while opening is just wrong for this concept to work.

Cold weather and the coming rainy season threatened my "make shift" antenna set-up where I mounted the mag-mounted it behind the passenger seat. This temporary set-up only works when the convertible top is down. So with fresh eyes, I thought I could mount a metal bracket to the trunk frame and have the metal bracket extend out the back below the trunk lid. But, with my wife’s caution of “no holes"...I tried a compromise of “NO VISIBLE HOLES”.

My plan was to “hide the holes" for mounting the metal bracket under the flaring of the rear light assembly on the T-Bird. Figure 1 show the bracket mounting area with the rear light assembly removed from the T-Bird.

I bought a piece of steel strip that is 1.5 inch wide and 1/8 inch thick at the local Ace Hardware store to use as the antenna mounting bracket. I then used a work-bench vise and a hand-sledge-hammer to bend the bracket to fit the mounting area.

Figure 1 – Bracket Mounting with Rear Light Assembly Removed.

I [see TECH TALK, page 6]
DID WE MENTION THAT
THERE’S A W6ZE CLUB NET
EACH AND EVERY
WEDNESDAY EVENING
STARTING AT 7:30?
WELL…WE DO!!!

28.375 MHz USB
Wed- 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM
AND
146.55 MHz Simplex FM
Wed- 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Figure 2 shows a close-up of the final shape of the antenna mounting bracket.

In Figure 3 you can see how the antenna mounting bracket looks with the rear light assembly re-installed. There are no mounting holes visible after the rear light is installed. I am pleased to say I even received my wife’s approval of “no holes showing”.

I added the Comet lip mount for the antenna to the extruding antenna bracket and added some black paint to prevent rusting. Figure 4 shows the finished antenna mounting project. The antenna is a Comet model CA-2X4SRB for 144 MHz and 440 MHz. A problem with this mounting technique and plastic-body cars in general is that there is no ground plane under the antenna. The solution is to use “half-wavelength” antennas that do not require a ground plane for proper operation. This antenna model provides a half-wave on 144 MHz (36-inches long) and two collinear half-waves on 440 MHz. The final results are that the antenna operates great and even fits under my garage door, too.

Now I can continue to enjoy 144/440 MHz mobile operations as I drive to work or around the county, even in the rain. If you have any questions about the antenna mount, send me an e-mail at W6HHC@W6ZE.org.

A HISTORY of OCARC PRESIDENTS
by Ken Konechy W6HHC with great assistance from our Club Historian, Bob Evans - WB6IXN

YEAR
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
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)

[see PRESIDENTS, page 7]
There were a total of 12 members and visitors in attendance at the first breakfast meeting of the new year, with all but two of the Director's present.

Although at the time of the board meeting, the finances from 2005 were unaudited, the reported total amount of money coming into the club during 2005 was $4,935.09 and the outgoing amount was $3,446.77. The raffle expenses and receipts were both the major expense and the major revenue source.

Several motions were made and voted on.

1. Dan and Ken will be contacting Newsline requesting information about their yearly expenses. This came about by some people questioning how their financial resources were being utilized.

2. The new membership chairman (AF6C) will be responsible for obtaining the monthly new ham list from the ARRL.

3. Field Day planning will begin in February.

4. Beginning January 2006, the RF will become a web only publication. There will however be a few printed copies available during the monthly meeting for the use of visitors.

5. Two aluminum towers for use during Field Day will be purchased. Each tower will have four ten foot sections with a base and top piece. The cost will be $1,019 for both with a shipping cost of $123.40.

Submitted by Steve Brody - N1AB Secretary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PRESIDENTS, from page 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>WB6CQR Billy Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>WB6UDC Jack Hollander</td>
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<td>1969</td>
<td>WA6ROF Jerry VerDuf</td>
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<td>1968</td>
<td>W6COJ Dave Hollander</td>
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<td>1967</td>
<td>WB6GPK Jim Hill</td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>WA6YWN Jack Shaw</td>
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<td>1965</td>
<td>K6KTX Rolland Miller</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>W6WRJ Ralph Alexander</td>
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<td>1963</td>
<td>W6DEY Roy Maxson</td>
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<td>1962</td>
<td>K6LJA Ted Glick</td>
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<td>1961</td>
<td>K6IQ Roy Morriss</td>
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<td>1960</td>
<td>K6TXS Charles &quot;Ed&quot; Edwards</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>W6BVI Ken Kesel</td>
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<td>1958</td>
<td>W6BVI Ken Kesel</td>
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<td>1957</td>
<td>- CLUB DISBANDED -</td>
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<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>W6HIL Bob Swenson</td>
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<td>1955</td>
<td>W6BVI Ken Kesel</td>
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<td>1954</td>
<td>W6UPP Marinus Conway</td>
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<td>1953</td>
<td>Probably only informal meetings, no officers?</td>
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<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>W6QZQ Horace Bates</td>
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<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>W6LDJ Sam &quot;Mac&quot; McNeal</td>
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<td>1950</td>
<td>Probably only informal meetings, no officers?</td>
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<td>1949</td>
<td>W6CGF Chuck Lunder</td>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>W6BWO Dale Bose</td>
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<td>1947</td>
<td>W6ALO Tommy Gentges</td>
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<td>1946</td>
<td>W6DEY Roy Maxson</td>
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<td>1945</td>
<td>W6DEY Roy Maxson</td>
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<td>1944</td>
<td>- ALL OFF TO WAR!!</td>
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<td>1943</td>
<td>- ALL OFF TO WAR!!</td>
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<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>W6BN Roy Cumpston</td>
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<td>1941</td>
<td>W6BAM Shelley Trotter</td>
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<td>1940</td>
<td>W6KLU Harold Christensen</td>
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<td>1939</td>
<td>Probably only informal meetings, no officers?</td>
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<td>1938</td>
<td>W6NSA Les Gates</td>
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<td>1938</td>
<td>W6ADT Noral Evans</td>
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<td>1937</td>
<td>W6LYN Noral Evans</td>
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<td>1936</td>
<td>W6LYN Noral Evans</td>
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<td>1935</td>
<td>- CLUB DISBANDED!!</td>
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<td>1934</td>
<td>W6IGO Earl Moore</td>
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<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>W6IGO Earl Moore</td>
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</table>
The 2nd Annual 2006 Yuma Hamfest will take place February 17 through 19 at the Yuma County Fairgrounds in Yuma, AZ. This year will be a combination Hamfest & Electronics Expo for all things electronic. Items featured at the event will be all kinds of radio gear, including Amateur Radio Equipment, Family Radio Service radios, Cellular Telephone Equipment and Services, and satellite equipment. Another major emphasis of the show will be computer equipment. You will have a chance to buy new equipment and haggle over the price of used gear.

On Saturday February 18, the main day of the event, there will be drawings for door prizes held throughout the day. Approximately every hour an announcement for a door prize will be made over the loudspeaker system at the Fairgrounds. You must be present to win the door prizes and claim them by 5:00 PM that day. On Saturday evening, in what has already established itself as an annual tradition, the Buzzard BBQ will be held in the Main Hall at the Fairgrounds. Even more prizes will be given away following the Bar-B-Que dinner.

Last year's event, the 2005 Yuma Hamfest, was primarily focused on Amateur Radio. The 2006 show will expand to include all facets of radio, including cellular phones, Internet Wi-Fi, FRS radios, Citizen Band, GMRS, satellite radio, home satellite systems, and other forms of radio-based communications. In addition to radio-related products, the three-day event will also promote computer technology and other forms of modern electronic technology.

The best way to keep up with what is going on regarding the Yuma Hamfest & Electronics Expo is by visiting our website. The website can be found at www.yumahamfest.com. Or you can telephone the Yuma Hamfest & Electronics Expo hotline at (928) 782-0534.

Additional information can be had by contacting the following individuals:

2006 Committee Chairman
Jack Koeckes KC7DUU
Email: kc7duu@arrl.net

Chairman Keeper
BJ Koeckes KB7WBH
email: bjjkyuma@adelphia.net

Commercial Vendor Chairman Hal Johnson
WB6SLA email: wb6sla@juno.com

VE Testing Chairman
Robert Sidebottom K0LQB
email: lsidebotto@adelphia.net

Buzzard Bar-B-Q Dude
Scott Seamans W7RFI
email: w7rfi@beamspeed.net

The San Diego Southwestern Division Convention will be held at San Diego Marriott Mission Valley at 8757 Rio San Diego Drive, San Diego, CA 92108. The San Diego Trolley stop is just steps away from the hotel. Bus stops are close by too - About 10 miles from Lindbergh Field Air Port. Getting here is easy. All you have to do is have fun. The San Diego Zoo is one of the best and is only moments away.

We will have venders from all aspects of Ham Radio. Guest speakers will be talking about all kinds of Ham Radio topics. Come and see all the latest radio technology coming down the road. A Swap meet will be outside before the convention starts. Prizes will be awarded every hour from start to the very end of the Convention. We will also have a Grand Prize. So come on down and enjoy the fun of Ham Radio. You may even visit one of the many seminars that will be going on throughout the Convention. You may wish to get on the air at our Convention Shack. You can even take a test to get and/or upgrade your license. There is something for everyone here at the Convention or take in the sites of San Diego. We even have a T-Hunt planned so bring your gear, good luck.

For more info contact:
Convention Chair: Mike Maston, N6OPH at mastroleo@mindspring.com

[see SAN DIEGO CONVENTION, page 9]
SSB. QSL via operator’s instructions.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HI. Tibor, HA7TM will be QRV as HA7TM/HI9 from Las Terrenas, Samana, from January 18 to February 2. Activity will be on the HF bands, and possibly 160 meters. QSL via operator’s instructions.

SAUDI ARABIA, HZ. Manfred is QRV as HZ1IK and has been active on 40 meters using SSB around 0055z. QSL via DK7YY.

ANTARCTICA. Station LU1ZB will soon be QRV from Melchior Base in the Melchior Islands, IOTA AN-012. QSL via LU4DXU.

SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS. Look for LU1ZC to be QRV from Deception Base on 20 meters. QSL via LU4DXU.

ARUBA, P4. Bob, W3BTX and Roy, W3TEF are QRV as P40/homecalls until January 18. Activity is on all bands, but mainly on 30 and 6 meters. QSL to home calls.

SEYCHELLES, S7. Team members DL2NUD, DL9GRE and DM1CG are QRV as S79HP, S79GRE and S79CG, respectively, during what may be the first-ever S7 Worldwide EME DXpedition. In addition to being active on 40 to 6 meters, they are also QRV with EME and JT65 CW on 2 meters. QSL via operators’ instructions.

WESTERN KIRIBATI, T30. Udo, DL9HCU is QRV as T30HC and has been active on 20 meters SSB around 0450z. He also operates CW QRP on 20 meters around 0530z. QSL to home call.

PALAU, T8. Operators JA6EGL, JH6WDG and JA6CM are QRV as T88SM, T88AQ and T88CM, respectively, until January 17. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home calls.

NEPAL, 9N. Pop, YU7EF is QRV as 9N7JO and has been active on 80 meters using CW around 1700z. He has also been active on 40 meters around 1440 to 1600z. QSL to home call.

OMAN, A4. Chris, A45XR has been active on 160 meters around 0230z. QSL to home call.

ANGOLA, D2. Janna is QRV as D2DX. She has been active on 20 meters around 1800 to 2000z and 30 meters as well. QSL via OH2BAD.

CHILE, CE. Marco, CE6TBN will be QRV as CE6TBN/7 from Las Huichas Island, IOTA SA-046, on January 14 and 15. Activity will be on 40 and 20 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

NEW CALEDONIA, FK. Tibor, FK8HW has been QRV on 20 meters using SSB around 0700 to 1200z. QSL via VK4FW.

JERSEY, GJ. Bert, PA3GIO is QRV as MJ/PA3GIO/p until January 15. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL via operator’s instructions.

OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC. The following operations are approved for DXCC credit: Angola, D2DX, current operation as of December 15, 2004; Wake Island, KH9/W0CN, from September 17 to 28, 2005.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The North American CW QSO Party, Hunting Lions in the Air Contest, 070 Club PSKFest, M1 QRP January CW Contest, Midwinter CW/SSB Contest, NRAU-Baltic CW/SSB Contest, HA DX CW Contest and the Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest are all scheduled for this weekend. Please see January QST, page 101 and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.
SPECIAL THANKS!
Thank you for your donations, discounts, and support of OCARC club!

First Class Mail
Time Dated Material.
Please Expedite!!