



RF



ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

VOL. XLIX NO. 7

P.O. BOX 3454, TUSTIN, CA 92781-3454

July 2007

The Prez Sez..... By Kristin K6PEQ



PREZ SAYS:

What an amazing field day! I have heard so much positive feedback regarding field day and I want to thank everyone who participated! It was exciting to see people operating around the clock, non-hams learning and operating, and people laughing and having fun. It is now time for the OC Fair and I hope that everyone has a chance to at least stop by the amateur radio booth if not work at the booth. It is a great time to get people informed and interested in our amazing hobby. You can also practice your Morse code skills with the kids! I hope you all have a great July!

73,
Kristin, K6PEQ

Field Day 2007

Wow! Field Day 2007 was certainly a tremendous success. Los Alamitos JFTB sure did look majestic with a straight line of towers spanning the field. Participants ranged from hard core contesters to complete novices. The Field Day team pulled together an astounding array of equipment. From top of the line transceivers to a super quiet commercial generator. Did anyone notice that the commercial power went out early Sunday morning? The operators probably never knew what happened. I think the best endorsement for a generator is not knowing it is even there. Did I forget to mention the 100 foot tower! The food was excellent. No one went away hungry; that is for certain. I could fill a news letter expressing my gratitude to everyone who made Field Day 2007 happen. Thank you, everyone, for putting on a great event!

[FD Scores are on Page 3]

Willie, N8WP

July Meeting

At the July General Meeting Bob Grimmick - N6OX will talk on the XT2C DXpedition to Burkina Faso. Hear about operating at Ouagadougou and the adventures of the expedition.

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The next general meeting will be:

**Friday, July 20
@ 7:00 PM**

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

**THE ORANGE
COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO**



Club Dues:

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

Dues run from Jan. through Dec. & Are prorated for new members.
* Additional members in a family of a regular member pay family rate up to \$30 per family
** There is a \$1 charge for the badge being mailed to you.

ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – W6ZE

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ARRL Assistant Director:

Ken Konechy, W6HHC
(same as above)

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(714) 557-7217
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OCCARO Delegate:

Loran Dargatz, KD6LRD
(714) 777-9081
dargatzin@msn.com

MONTHLY EVENTS:

General Meeting:

Third Friday of the month
at 7:00 P.M.
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
Jaugerhaus
2525 E. Ball Road
(Ball exit off 57 freeway)
Anaheim, CA

Club Nets (W6ZE):

7.086 + MHz CW OCVN
Sunday 9-10 a.m.
Rick KF6UEB, Net Control

28.375 + MHz USB
Wednesday 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Bob AF6C, Net Control

146.55 MHz Simplex FM
Wednesday 8:30-9:30 p.m.
Bob, WB6IXN, Net Control

Ham License Renewal

By Bob - AF6C

Is your ham radio license coming up for renewal soon? If it's approaching ten years since you last renewed or were first licensed, you'll find the renewal procedure has changed. The FCC Form 610 is no longer used. You can now renew on line at the FCC website or, if you prefer, through the ARRL. You may also renew through the W5YI VEC program as well as other VEC programs.

The FCC DOES NOT send out any renewal information when your license is about to expire. If you are an ARRL member you will receive a notice that your license is expiring about four months prior to the expiration date. W5YI also mails out expiration notices to all amateurs who have a valid address on file with the FCC. ***If your address is not valid in the FCC database then you are in violation of FCC rules and renewal could be denied!***

Cost:

The cost of renewing varies. If your call is standard issue, then there is no charge if you renew through the FCC directly, or through the ARRL and are a member. Renewal through W5YI costs \$7 (possibly recently raised to \$8.) This fee is to help offset their VEC program costs as well as fund their expiration notification service. Renewal through the ARRL for non-members costs \$14.

If you have a **vanity call** then you must pay the FCC vanity fee. It's currently \$20.80, but check the fee carefully because it has changed several times recently. If you renew through the FCC they will collect your vanity call fee directly. If you renew through the ARRL, they charge a \$5 processing fee on top of the vanity call fee. W5YI has no additional processing fee other than the FCC vanity fee.

Which method should you choose? If you are Internet savvy, and already have an FCC FRN number (we'll discuss the FRN number in a bit) then renewing on the FCC Internet website is quick and easy; especially if you aren't renewing a vanity call. If you are not in a hurry, you may also renew with the FCC via mail using the FCC form 605.

ARRL members might want to take advantage of their membership; especially if they are too busy or don't feel comfortable renewing on the FCC site. To renew via the ARRL, download their VEC 605 form, fill it out, attach any required fees and mail to the ARRL. Do not mail this form directly to the FCC. Non-members may renew through the ARRL for a \$14 fee.

W5YI also offers a good renewal service. If you're address is good in the FCC data base then you will receive mail from them about five months before your license expires. You won't receive a renewal notice from the FCC so this service provides you with possibly your only warning if you're not an ARRL member. Renewing through W5YI gives you the opportunity to purchase an up-to-date book that includes the latest regulations and band plans for a mere \$3.95 additional. You may either renew online at the W5YI website or download their VEC 605 form and mail it to them. Do not mail this VEC form directly to the FCC!

FRN Required

Before you can renew your license you need to obtain an FCC Registration number (FRN number) from the FCC's Commission Registration System (CORES). This ten-digit number is required to renew your license, or do any business with the FCC. You may go online to the FCC's website, <http://www.fcc.gov> and click on [FCC Registration Number \(FRN\) Commission Registration System \(CORES\)](#) link on the left-hand menu. Registration is straight-forward and there is a help phone number to walk you through, if needed.

You may apply for your FRN at any time. When you are done you will be given a ten-digit FRN number and a password so you can update your information at any time. The FRN number is public (It will be listed along with your other information on sites like QRZ.) The password should be stored in a safe place and kept private. Should you lose your password you may go to the FCC site and have your password reset.

Due to the ***Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996***, the FCC must have your Social Security Number on file. In order to keep your SSN private, the FRN was devised. You cannot obtain an FRN without giving the FCC your SSN/TIN or, in special cases, a special ID number if you do not have an SSN.

If you don't yet have your FRN you may, when renewing through the League or W5YI, let them obtain your FRN for you. However you must supply your SSN to them. Some people prefer to limit giving out their number, so the choice is yours.

How can you check as to whether you have an FRN already or not? The simple way is to go onto QRZ and enter your call. When your page comes up, click on ***Details*** and your FRN number,(if you have one), should be shown just below the expiration date.

When May You Renew

You may renew your license only within a 90 day period before your license expiration date. If you submit an application to the FCC before that date it will be returned without action. If you sent in any renewal fees, they may not be returned! So it is wise to be sure you are within the 90 day period. If you have submitted your renewal you may continue to operate after the expiration date pending receipt of your new license unless otherwise directed by the FCC.

How Long Before Your Renewed License Arrives?

The wait between submitting a renewal and receiving your license in the mail is much shorter than it was some years back. Online renewals are reported to be faster than renewals mailed into the FCC. Renewals via the ARRL or other VEC program are generally also fast because they are submitted electronically to the FCC by the VEC organization. Licenses seem to be arriving in about a one-to-two week timeframe now-a-days!

What if You Forgot to Renew?

If you didn't send in your license renewal prior to the current expiration date, you must stop operating; you are no longer licensed. However, you do have a two-year grace period to renew your license without requiring retesting. If you fail to renew in that two year grace period you will have to start fresh; you must retake any required tests and you will receive a new call sign. If your old call sign is still available you may apply for it as a vanity call, paying the associated fees. There is no assurance you will receive it, however.

The Agreement

When you renew your license you must sign an agreement that you certify, among other things,

- . To waive any claim to any particular frequency.
- .
- . That your station doesn't have any significant environmental impact.
- .
- . That you have read and will comply with FCC Rules regarding RF Radiation Safety.

If you have questions regarding this last item, be sure to read ***RF Exposure Evaluation*** in the May through July Issues of RF (Available on our website).

Renewing a Club or Recreational License

You cannot renew a club or recreational license on the FCC website. Instead you MUST go through one of the VEC programs. Either the League or W5YI can handle this renewal for you. You must fill out a special form ***VEC Form 605-C*** and submit it by mail to the VEC. These forms are available on the associated VEC's website. Be sure to use the form belonging to the specific VEC you're renewing through. The League will do this for ARRL affiliated clubs for free, W5YI charges a small fee. Of course any vanity call fees continue to apply.

Links:

Here are some valuable links if you are planning to renew:

FCC:

Home page:	http://www.fcc.gov
FRN Registration:	https://svartifoss2.fcc.gov/cores/CoresHome.html
FRN Password Reset:	https://svartifoss2.fcc.gov/coresWeb/html/moreinfo.html#q139
FCC Online Renewal:	http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls
FCC Form 605:	http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form605/605.html

ARRL:

Home page: <http://www.arrl.org>
 License Renewal (general): <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/renewals.html>
 License Renewal (members): <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/memberlicenseinstructions.html>
 License Renewal (non-members): <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/licenseinstructions.html#four>
 Vanity Fees: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/vanityfee.html>
 Complete filing Instructions: <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/memberlicenseinstructions.html>
 ARRL VEC Form 605: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/ncvec605-3.pdf>
 ARRL VEC Form 605-C: <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/arrlvecform605c.pdf>

W5YI:

Home page: <http://www.W5YI.org>
 License Renewal: <http://www.w5yi.org/page.php?id=87>
 Online Renewal: https://www.w5yi.org/ssl/ama_renew_form.php
 W5YI VEC Form 605: <http://www.ncvec.org/ncvec605.pdf>
 Club Renewal Form: http://www.w5yi.org/documents/club_application.pdf

QRZ:

Home page: <http://www.qrz.com>

73, Bob, AF6C

(Good for another 10 years, as is W6ZE!)

Congratulations to Dan - N6PEQ and Kristin - K6PEQ on passing their Extra Class license!



To the left is Katsutoshi-JK1PHL/ AF6CQ who traveled to the US just to see the OCARC FD (he is interested in improving Emergency Preparedness in his country), in the middle is Willie N8WP our FD chairperson and to his right is Ken Kinoshita – KI6DK (who was a member of OCARC 20 yrs earlier before returning to JA-land and has now rejoined the club).

Photo by Ken-W6HHC

W O W

Did you know ??

You can call YOUR Orange County Public Event Coordinators and listen to the upcoming events ? Number 714-525-6029

✚ You can leave **YOUR** upcoming event !

✚ You can tell us if you need help

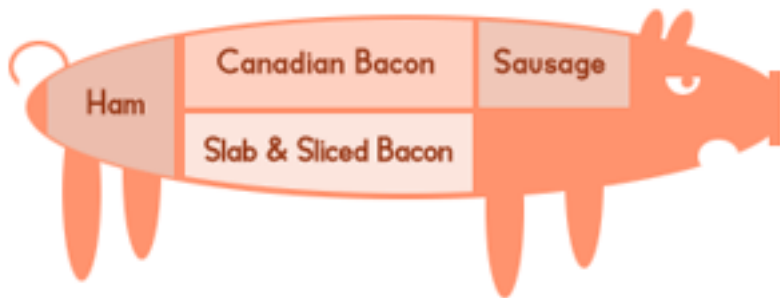
✚ How much (Or how many Hams) do you need for the event.

✚ We will put out the word on the **Monday Night** nets.

✚ Don't forget to leave a contact number too!

This Service is brought to you by Cheryl Day KI6AFL and Susan Roatch KF6VBOMembers of Orange County Council of Amateur Radio Organization





Ham Cuisine

by Kristin, K6PEQ

Apricot-Sauced Ribs

The season of BBQ is upon us! Grab those flip flops and head outdoors for an amazing feast from the grill. Corn on the cob and sweet potatoes can also be grilled at the same time which means less dishes and more enjoyment. So invite a few friends over and have a great time!

Ingredients:

4 pound pork spareribs, cut into serving-size pieces

1 8-oz. can undrained apricot halves

3 tablespoons ketchup

3 ½ tablespoons brown sugar

2 tablespoons lemon juice

1 ½ tablespoon Dijon-style mustard

1 teaspoon dry ginger

1/8 teaspoon salt

Cooking Directions:

Prepare medium-hot coals for indirect grilling in covered grill. Place ribs on grill not directly over coals, cover grill and cook ribs over indirect heat for 1 1/2 hours. Meanwhile, blend remaining ingredients together in blender. Brush ribs generously with sauce and continue to cook, about 15-20 minutes, basting and turning 2-3 times.

Serves 4



You don't need to write like William "Bill" Shakespeare in order to write an article for the RF Newsletter. In fact, we prefer articles without the words "Thy", "Whilst", "'Tis" and "Oft".

Do you have an idea for a newsletter article? Maybe you have acquired a new piece of equipment, designed or constructed a new antenna, took a trip focused around ham radio, want to share an amateur radio related experience or discuss a technical topic. Why not write an article for the monthly RF newsletter? The article can be short or long, simple or elaborate, and can even include pictures!

The RF newsletter relies on articles from our members. So why not give it try? Write an article and send it to the newsletter editor. It's fun, and at the same time, your contribution helps support our club and hobby!



Attention Members!!!

Do you know a fellow ham that would be interested in joining OCARC? Do you have a friend that is curious about ham radio and wants to learn more about our hobby? Why not invite him or her to one of our exciting monthly meetings?!?! The meetings are fun, informative and entertaining. Check out the upcoming events page in this newsletter to see the exciting speakers we have lined up for the next couple of months. Don't forget about the great raffle prizes too. So bring a visitor to one of our meetings, and help **your** club expand!

Make sure to inform your friends of our club's website, which is always kept up to date. Information on club meetings, activities and our newsletter archive make it a worthwhile site to surf!

<http://www.w6ze.org>



The center-piece for the OCARC FD towers was a 100-foot self-supporting crank-up tower on a trailer, courtesy of the efforts of Dino-K6RIX.

Photo by HowardWB6TIK

Orange County Amateur Radio Club would like to thank Erik – W6EWL for his help during the Field Day set up. It seems that the generator that was going to be used to raise the 100 foot tower was not large enough. But come to the rescue was Erik who just happened to work at the base in Homeland Security, and who just happened to come to the base to pick up his truck with a large generator in it and was looking for Larry – K6YUI. Erik drove over to the 100 foot tower looking for Larry at just the right time and offered the use of his generator. Isn't it great when things come together. Erik is in the process of moving into his home in Long Beach so maybe he will be able to make some of the meetings when he isn't traveling.



Upcoming OCARC Events!!!

(Check the club website for updates and additions
<http://www.w6ze.org>)

OCARC's Days at the OC Fair!
Come and stop by or work the booth on Wednesday, July 18th or Saturday, August 4th!



July 20th (Friday 7pm)
Bob, N6OX will be speaking to us about his DXpedition to Burkina Faso, XT2C. Come here about operating at Ouagadougou and the adventures of the expedition!

August 17th (Friday 7pm)
Don Hill, KE6BXT, will be speaking and demonstrating ATV. ATV is a huge success at the OC Fair with everyone that passes by.



August 21st (Friday 7pm)
Dave Doody, a senior engineer at JPL, will be speaking to us about the Cassini Spacecraft to Saturn.

The Orange County Amateur Radio Club "OCARC"
P.O. Box 3454 Tustin, CA 92781

Web: <http://www.w6ze.org> Email: ocarc_info@w6ze.org

The Hamcon Convention in Torrence, will be September 7th through the 9th

REGISTRATION FORM

**ALL ATTENDEES MUST BE REGISTERED - Please list additional attendees
No Charge for Children under 16 when Accompanied by a Registered Adult**

Call Sign: _____ Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ E-Mail: _____

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	CALL SIGN	CHILD	ADULT
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

REGISTRATION

Pre- Registration (Post Marked by August 1, 2007)	\$18.00	_____ @ \$18.00 ea. = \$ _____
On Site Registrations	\$20.00	_____ @ \$20.00 ea. = \$ _____
Breakfast Tickets	\$20.00	_____ @ \$20.00 ea. = \$ _____
Luncheon Tickets	\$25.00	_____ @ \$25.00 ea. = \$ _____
Banquet Tickets	\$40.00	_____ @ \$40.00 ea. = \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Short Ribs <input type="checkbox"/> Salmon <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian		
Alternative Craft Program	\$ 8.00	_____ @\$ 8.00 ea. = \$ _____
		Total = \$ _____

<p>Make Checks Payable To: HAMCON, INC. P.O. Box 333 Pomona, CA 91768 For Information Visit HAMCON.ORG</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Staff Use Only</p> <p>Date Received: _____ # Pins Given: _____ Amount: _____ # Registered: _____ Check Number: _____ Other: _____ Receipt #: _____ Other: _____</p>
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PACIFICON 2007 * October 19 - 21 *** San Ramon Marriott Hotel
*** San Ramon, California *****

PACIFICON 2007 Mail-In Ticket Order Form

use this form to order event tickets by mail

NOTE: If you would like to have the tickets mailed to you, be sure to include a stamped, self-addressed # 10 envelope with your order. Otherwise, all tickets will be held at the Pacificon will-call table.

The \$10 advance admission (\$15 at the door) covers all convention events except the Friday Antenna & Legal Seminars, the Saturday Opening Breakfast and the Saturday Banquet Dinner.

The Antenna Seminar is \$10.
The Opening Breakfast is \$14
and the Banquet Dinner is \$39

The Exhibit hall will not be open on Friday.

Print this form, fill it out and send it along with your check to:

PACIFICON 2007
PO Box 272613
Concord, CA 94527

Name _____ Call* _____
Street _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____ E-mail* _____
Phone* _____

*Optional Information we would like to have. Note: this information is for use by PACIFICON only and will not be sold or shared with any other organization.

I need ___ General Admission Ticket(s) @ \$10 each _____

I need ___ Antenna Seminar Ticket(s) @ \$10 each _____

I need ___ Opening Breakfast Ticket(s) @ \$14 each _____

I need ___ Banquet (Beef) Ticket(s) @ \$39 each _____

I need ___ Banquet (Chicken) Ticket(s) @ \$39 each _____

Enter Total Amount _____

**** Tickets can also be purchased at www.pacificon.org**

OCARC General Meeting Minutes

2007-06-15

The OCARC General meeting was held at the Red Cross complex in Santa Ana at 7PM on Friday evening, June 15th. There were a total of 41 members and visitors present. All club directors were present except: Kristin-K6PEQ, Dan-N6PEQ, Steve-N1AB, and Loran-KD6LRD. Therefore, there was a quorum of OCARC Directors present at the meeting.

PROGRAM:

The OCARC June program was presented by both Chip-K7JA and Gordo-WB6NOA who spoke about:

"A Pep Rally for Field Day"

It turns out that Chip-K7JA had an unexpected business trip to Alabama on the date of the OCARC meeting....so he did the next best thing...he created a SUPER video tape on getting ready for Field Day!! The VCR covered many FD topics from using push-up masts...to tying FD knots...to how to call "CQ FD" and hold your frequency.

Gordo-WB6NOA provided a good "ham radio test" to see if you remembered manufacturers of certain radio models and could recognize the sounds of radio modes.

OLD BIZ:

- Cheryl-KG6KTT encouraged everyone to come out to field day to help set-up on Friday, operate, and tear-down on Sunday morning.
- Cheryl-KG6KTT made a motion for an \$800 Field Day budget, including \$500 for food and \$300 to cover trailer or truck rentals and other expenses. The board members passed the motion unanimously.

GOOD OF CLUB:

- OCARC had four new members join at the meeting:
 - Ted Nelson – KI6GEN
 - Ken Kinoshita – KI6DK (who had belonged 20 yrs earlier before returning to JA-land)
 - Arnie Shatz – N6HC
 - Michael Tott – KI6DHT
- Bob Maller – WT6A found an old film clip (maybe 70 years old) that was made about ham radio by RKO. He presented the 10 minute clip on VCR. It was very entertaining.

Submitted by Ken W6HHC – Secretary



At the end of the day on Friday, the sun sets over the Pacific Ocean. The VHF/UHF antenna farm is silhouetted in this beautiful California sunset.

Photo by Bev - KI6APH

OCARC**Board Meeting Minutes****2007-07-07**

The OCARC Board meeting was held at the JagerHaus Restaurant at 8:15 AM on Saturday, 2007-07-07. There were a total of 11 members and visitors attending. There was a quorum of directors present, with only Dan-N6PEQ, Rich-KE6WWK, and Steve-N1AB absent.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

- **Treasurer** - Bob-AF6C reported the club had \$3,742 in the treasury (with most of the Field Day expenses turned-in).
- **Activities** – Dan N6PEQ reported that Bob-N6OX will provide a presentation on the XT2C Burkina Faso DXpedition at our July General meeting. Willie-N8WP volunteered to provide a program on using PSK-31 for the January 2008 club meeting.

OLD BIZ:

- **RF NewsLetter “Rotating” Editors**
 - July is Cheryl KG6KTT
 - August is Nicholas AF6CF
 - September is Bob AF6C
 - October is Kristin K6PEQ
 - November is Ken W6HHC
- **Base Plate for Club Tower**
 - A motion was made and passed by the board to spend \$250 for the purchase of the new tower base plate that was custom made to fit the club’s 40-ft aluminum tower.
- **Field Day Report**
 - Willie-N8WP reported that FD was a great success....over 6,100 QSOs...no problems were reported.
 - Everyone commented that it was amazing that Katsutoshi-JK1PHL/ AF6CQ had traveled to the US just to see the OCARC FD event and learn more about ham radio emergency communications information from the many local hams during FD. While visiting, Katsutoshi had explained that FD is not so wide-spread or so well-organized in Japan.
 - Boy Scout Troop 788 from Redondo

Beach will be presented with certificates showing appreciation for their help at OCARC FD this year by President Kristin and Willie.

- **OCARC QSL Cards**
 - Bob AF6C explained that the club will be launching a “QSL design contest” for a new OCARC QSL card that could be available to club members and used by W6ZE.
- **OCARC Club Picnic-in-the-Park**
 - Nicholas-AF6CF investigated reserving a gazebo at the Yorba Linda Regional Park through the County of Orange. He learned that the proposed date of Saturday, Aug 18 was completely booked, already.
 - Nicholas will investigate alternate dates extending thru the end of Sept, and including Craig Regional Park.

NEW BIZ:

- **OCARC Podium**

Ken-W6HHC reported that the OCARC possessed a terrific wood engraved table-top podium that had been used at club meetings. But, the podium did not seem to be used much (once in last 3 years) lately. Ken has been storing the podium at his house and was running out of storage room and looking for a new storage home for the podium. Dan-N6PEQ and Kristin-K6PEQ offered to take over storage of the club podium.

GOOD-of-the-CLUB:

- Bob-AF6C reported that he was periodically hearing S8 noise on 10M at his QTH in the City of Orange.
- Ken reported that a friend from COAR, Bob-WB6FCP, was hearing S9+20DB noise from 12.5-to-14.5 MHz 24 hours per day in the City of Orange. Lowell-KQ6JD who is about one-half mile away reports S9 noise level. Ken-W6HHC is located about one mile south and reported he heard S4 noise level in SSB mode and S5 in AM mode.

Submitted by Ken W6HHC - Secretary



Please support the companies who support OCARC!

Make sure to thank them for their support of OCARC when you order from them, or when you see them at a convention!



The DX Store
A Shack on the Belt Free Zone
 Heil - Bird - I.C.E - Inrad - Comet
 Daiwa - Alpha - DCI 

 **FREE PL-259**
 Visit our Web site fo details

Amateur Radio Equipment for DXers!
 sales@dxstore.com
www.dxstore.com

