



# RF



## ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

VOL. LII NO. 4

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

April 2011

### The Prez Sez.....

By Paul W6GMU



April has, per my previous plea, heralded in a lovely Spring!

This bodes well for another successful and enjoyable "Portables in the Park" activity (04/23/11). Our Field Day effort is gaining momentum and looks very promising. We are still looking for a few more Band Captains, so please consider (or reconsider) serving as such.

Not wanting to jinx propagation on those days, I'll say only that the QSOs will roll in. Our April 15<sup>th</sup> General Meeting may be sparsely attended (I'll be in Visalia staying sober) as two major outside Ham Radio events are also scheduled for that weekend: the DX Comedian in

Visalia and the Baker-to-Vegas event. A slide show on a DXpedition will be shown during the meeting and should be a hoot (I love those things!). Have fun, all & CUAGN at the May 20<sup>th</sup> General Meeting. 73 de Paul W6GMU



### OCARC 2011 Dues

**"Dues are Past Due!!"**

It is April 2011, and that means that it's past the time to renew your club dues.

You had through the end of March 2011 to pay your dues without falling in arrears.

However, the Club Treasurer will be very happy to take your money at any time.

He can also liquidate your estate in favor of the Club, even before you become a SK.

### April Program

Our guest speaker for the April meeting is Dr. Steve Brody. Dr Brody will explain the small monkey glands microsurgery and other fund and hair raising events.

Also a HAM related Video on the BS7H DXpedition to Scarborough Reef in the South China Sea will be shown if the dissertation is not too long.

The next general meeting will be on:

**Friday, April. 15th  
@ 7:00 PM**

As usual, we will be meeting in the west Green Cross Building, Room 208.

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**ORANGE COUNTY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
[www.W6ZE.org](http://www.W6ZE.org)



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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. & 4<sup>th</sup> St.)  
Santa Ana, CA

**Club Breakfast:**

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

**Club Nets (Listen for W6ZE):**

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

7.086 ± MHz CW **OCWN**  
Sun- 9:00 AM – 10 AM  
John WA6RND, 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 Jan 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, and \$73.00 for hand delivery.

# URGENT: FIELD DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Field Day 2011 will soon be upon us! Club VP George Jacob, N6VNI has already secured our usual operating site at Walter Knott Elementary School in Buena Park (thank you, George!) Jeff Hall W6UX and Doug Britton W6FKX have enthusiastically agreed to organize field day this year. Now we need to finalize our operating class and recruit members to serve as band captains and setup/teardown crews.

We have just 3 short months to take care of the final details to make sure we have a successful Field Day! As your Field Day organizers for 2011, we want to get as much planning done as early as possible, and to accomplish this goal **we need your help!**

The first thing we need to do is finalize our Band Captain assignments. Thus far, we have the following confirmed:

Band Captains	Band	Mode(s)
Bob Eckweiler, AF6C Ken Konechy, W6HHC	20m and EME	Phone
Paul Gussow, W6GMU	20m	CW
Jeff Hall, W6UX	15m	Phone, CW
Robbie Robinson, KB6CJZ	6m/2m/70cm/9mm	Phone, CW, ATV
Steve Brody, N1AB	GOTA, IOTA	Phone, CW, Digital

## WE NEED ADDITIONAL BAND CAPTAINS FOR 10, 40, AND 80 METERS!

A band captain plans the station layout, acquires the equipment (your own, someone else's, or club equipment if available), schedules people to operate, and oversees its assembly the day before Field Day. Band captains will be issued a check list to make sure they don't forget anything crucial and together we will help each other fill in the blanks. **Please STEP UP and help the club out!**

Additionally, **we need every able bodied member of the club to sign up to help with tower climbing and setup Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> starting at 11 AM and/or help with tear down Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> following the end of operations at 11 AM.**

**We are suggesting Field Day planning meetings for the band captains to be held following the Club Board Meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of April, May, and June.** We promise to keep these meetings short and on track.

**We need additional band captains and sign ups for setup and tear down ASAP.** Contact Jeff via e-mail at [w6ux@w6ze.org](mailto:w6ux@w6ze.org) or Doug at [w6fkx@w6ze.org](mailto:w6fkx@w6ze.org) to let us know in what capacity you can assist the club with. Let's make this a great event!

***Doug Hall, W6UX and Jeff Britton, W6FKX***  
**2011 Field Day Disorganizers**

**Don't Miss it!!!**  
**Visalia**  
**International DX Conference**  
**April 15-17**

The 62nd Annual International DX Convention sponsored by the [Northern California DX Club](http://www.norcal-dx.com) will be held at The Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center in Visalia, California from April 15 - 17, 2011.

If you're a DXer or interested in any aspect of Ham radio, then IDXC is the place to be. Top DX operators from around the world will be there. You'll match those familiar call signs with new faces, and shake hands with the person you have had a sched with for the past 10 years but never met.

Learn the secrets for big signals on top band. How to have fun adventures chasing IOTA, attend the contest forum, antenna forum, DX forum, or [Contest Academy](http://www.contestacademy.com). There are seminars for everyone from the seasoned pro to the beginning DXer. Visit the Exhibit Hall, where you can talk to the people who design and use the best DX equipment. We have some great raffle [Prizes](#) the likes of which top even the famed Dayton Hamvention. And don't forget the YL's — we have a [Special Tour](#) for them as well. Enjoy DXpedition presentations - Technical sessions - Vendor exhibits - Contest Academy - Ladies Tour - Golf Tournament - Saturday Banquet - Over \$25,000 in raffle prizes - and meet DXers who travel from around the world to this premier DX event. Early registration closes on March 19th, so register today at <http://www.dxconvention.org/> .





## Orange COAR RACES Continues Preparations to Support Orange PD Running Team during Baker-2-Vegas Race

by Ken W6HHC

The COAR RACES members (and friends) from the City of Orange continued preparing to provide communications for the Orange PD running team during the yearly B2V running event. This year the Baker-2-Vegas running race, 120-miles long through the desert, will be held on April 16 and 17 and will include 260 running teams from law-enforcement-agencies. On Saturday morning, April 02, members from COAR and quite a few members of OCARC tested the radio equipment and antenna that will be used during the B2V race. Pictured below are hams gathered at the QTH of Ken W6HHC where the 144 MHz and 440 MHz equipment (including APRS tracking of the OPD runner position) for the communications center that will be located at Pahrump, NV, was tested.



**B2V Equipment Testing Workshop by COAR RACES members and friends.**

**Seated L-R: Bob AF6C, Susan WU6U, Will KJ6IA, Jay KI6WZU, and Nicholas AF6CF**

**Standing L-R: Kathleen K6IBH, Bill W6VKO and Ken W6HHC**

-- photo by Ken W6HHC --

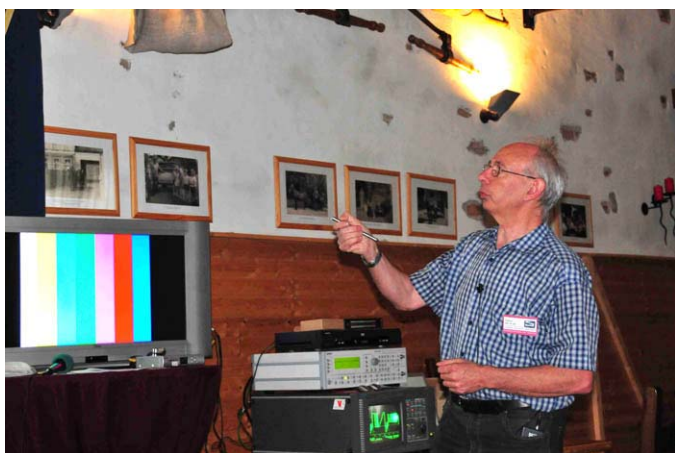
## TechTalk93

# DATV – Transmission-Test and Range-Test comparing DVB-S and DVB-S2

by Hans-Gerhard Hass DC8UE

Commercial TV-stations in Europe are just changing their satellite contribution from the older DVB-S protocol to the newer DVB-S2 protocol in order to reduce bandwidth. So I have access to the newest equipment and have had the possibility to make some test with new DVB-S2 equipment on DATV-transmissions.

I used a DVB-S2-encoder (from a commercial company called Tandberg Voyager E5740). This Encoder has a built-in DVB-S2-modulator and produces an output-signal in the frequency-range between 950MHz and 1750MHz. This signal would be normally up-converted with an LO of 12.800 GHz into the Ku-band satellite uplink-range from 13.750 GHz to 14.500 GHz. Instead of that, I have used a down-converter from DGØVE to bring this L-band signal down to the 450MHz-range and have transmitted this SCPC-signal with 2 MSymb/s and an FEC of  $\frac{1}{2}$  in the DVB-S2-QPSK-mode. I have used a saturated 40Watt PA operating at a linear operation point of 10W RF output on a 6dB antenna.



Hans DC8UE lecturing at the ATV Convention in Glovzin, Germany

On the receiving side we have used a 14db yagi antenna and also an up-converter from DGØVE to bring the receiving UHF-signal back to the L-band. The receiver was also a commercial Tandberg TT1260 (but it also runs with a consumer DVB-S2 HDTV receiver from Comag).

As I am also a pilot, we tried to transmit from a helicopter in a height of near 5000 feet over a distance more than 90 miles to a ground-station with these directional antennas on both sides. The signal on the receiving side was only 2.5 db ahead the noise level (C/N), but the picture was perfect. When we lower the altitude of the helicopter and the receiving S/N reaches 2 dB and below, the picture was gone (see **Table 1**). The range between “working or not working” in the DVB-S2-mode is in a range of smaller than 0.2 dB.

**Table 1 – Digital Signal-to-Noise ratio (C/N) For DVB-S2 Protocol for Different FEC Settings and for QPSK and 8PSK**

FEC Rate	DVB-S2	
	C/N (dB)	
LDPC	QPSK	8PSK
1/2	2.00	(not permitted)
3/5	3.23	6.50
2/3	4.10	7.62
3/4	5.03	8.91
4/5	5.68	(not permitted)
5/6	6.18	10.35
8/9	7.20	11.69
9/10	7.42	11.98

We tried also to use DVB-S-QPSK-mode. There we needed a C/N of more than 5.5dB with  $\frac{1}{2}$  FEC and more than 6.5dB with  $\frac{3}{4}$  FEC (see **Table 2**). When we changed to the old FM-mode, there was only to find a signal in the range of 1dB over the noise level available only on the spectrum-analyser, but no picture to see. With the same PA only in DVB-S2-QPSK-1/2-mode there was a pretty picture to receive.

This shows to me, that in the future there may be a small chance to make DATV-DX possible. The main problem today is, that the prices for the encoding-equipment and transmitting-equipment for DVB-S2 are not in an amateur range (but we hope the best for the future).

I have added small tables with the necessary C/N-rates for DVB-S2 (**Table 1**) and DVB-S (**Table 2**) with different FEC-rates and in the different modes QPSK (2Bits per Symbol.) and also 8PSK (3Bits per Symbol.). DVB-S uses the Convolutional-Viterbi-code for the FEC. And DVB-S2 is operating the new (and "better") LDPC-code (Low Density Parity Check). And these new codes add at the same QPSK-modulation and the same FEC-rate (1/2) a performance step upwards to 3.5dB.

**Table 2 – Digital Signal-to-Noise ratio (C/N) for DVB-S Protocol for Different FEC Settings for QPSK Modulation**

DVB-S	
FEC Rate	C/N (dB)
Convolutional	QPSK
1/2	5.50
2/3	6.00
3/4	6.50
5/6	7.00
7/8	7.40

**Table 3 – Details for DVB-S Protocol**

<b>DVB-S</b>	MPEG framing:	Bytes
	Net data bits	188
	Gross data bits	204
FEC:	inner:	Convolutional (Viterbi)
	outer:	Reed-Solomon

**Table 4 – Details for DVB-S2 Protocol**

<b>DVB-S2</b>	FEC-Frame type:	Net data	Gross data/frame
	normal	8100	64800 (Note: 40 times longer as DVB-S)
	short	2025	16200
FEC:	inner:	LDPC (Low Density Parity Check)	
	outer:	BCH (Bose-Chaudhuri-Hocquenghem)	

### Interesting DATV Links

- Digital Video Broadcasting organization (DVB commercial standards) – see [www.DVB.org](http://www.DVB.org)
- Digital Video Broadcasting standard for DVB-S2 – see ETSI EN 302 307 specification
- British ATV Club - Digital Forum – see [www.BATC.org.UK/forum/](http://www.BATC.org.UK/forum/)
- German portal for DATV streaming repeaters and downloads – see [www.D-ATV.net](http://www.D-ATV.net) (in German)
- AGAF D-ATV components (Boards) – see [www.datv-agaf.de](http://www.datv-agaf.de) and [www.AGAF.de](http://www.AGAF.de)
- SR-Systems D-ATV components (Boards) – see [www.SR-systems.de](http://www.SR-systems.de)
- DGØVE microwave amps, up-converters, down-converters – see [www.DG0VE.de](http://www.DG0VE.de)
- Orange County ARC TechTalk76-DATV on DVB-S modulation – see [www.W6ZE.org/DATV/](http://www.W6ZE.org/DATV/)
- Orange County ARC TechTalk92-DATV on DVB-S2 protocol – see [www.W6ZE.org/DATV/](http://www.W6ZE.org/DATV/)
- Orange County ARC newsletter entire series of DATV articles – see [www.W6ZE.org/DATV/](http://www.W6ZE.org/DATV/)
- Wikipedia on DVB-S2 – see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DVB-S2>



**Come join us for**  
**"Portable in the Park"!**

**WHO:** All OCARC members!

**WHAT:** Operate solar- and battery- powered Ham radios in a beautiful park!

**WHERE:** Jeffrey Open Space Preserve in Irvine, CA (33.703564,-117.753804)

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Please join us for a fun day of Ham operating in a peaceful park setting located in North Irvine!

This is the perfect opportunity to try out that new antenna you've been working on for Field Day or to dust off your old portable equipment to make sure it's still in good working order. There's no substitute for getting on the air and these events aim to educate those new to portable operating. See how it's done, ask questions, do some operating, then build your own portable station and bring it out to a future event! Members will be able to operate in a relaxing, NO PRESSURE atmosphere!

Jeff, W6UX, will be bringing his 100w battery powered station with a multi-band dipole or possibly a vertical wire antenna this time around. Nicholas, AF6CF, will be trying out a new portable loop antenna and a new 50w solar panel. There is plenty of room for others to bring their portable stations out!

Bathrooms are close by and there is a small picnic area with several tables (please bring your own food and drinks).

Don't forget to bring your logbook!

**Directions to the Park:**

Take INTERSTATE 5 to the JEFFREY ROAD Exit in Irvine  
Right on JEFFREY ROAD  
Right on LONG MEADOW  
Left on VINTAGE  
Left on LAMPLIGHTER  
Right on GRASSLAND BUNGALOW  
Park between TRIPLE and SHEPARD; the park is on the left.  
Take one of the two short dirt trails to the picnic tables.

Visit [maps.google.com](http://maps.google.com) and paste **33.703564,-117.753804** into the search box to get a satellite overview of the area.

**BE SURE TO MARK SATURDAY APRIL 23, 2011 ON YOUR CALENDAR!**



**Heathkit of the Month #28:**  
*by Bob Eckweiler, AF6C*



**Heathkit GU-1810  
Log Splitter.**

**Introduction:**

This is April and even though the first has past, it is a good month to talk about one of the more esoteric kits Heathkit produced. Instead of volts and amps this one has specifications that are given in PSI, tons of force, gallons per minute and horsepower.

While not a kit that most hams would own, those living in rural wooded areas (both hams and non-hams) might find this a godsend, especially if they have a wood burning stove or fireplace. The GU-1810 splits fire wood and can help keep the rack in the backyard filled with wood, split, aged and ready to burn.

The Heathkit GU-1810 log splitter was introduced in 1981 at a price of \$549.95 + shipping. Since the shipping weight of the kit was 206 lbs., it had to be delivered Motor Freight, which added to the cost significantly. You could also purchase a GU-1810 from one of the Heathkit retail stores. In 1983 the retail store price was the same as the mail order price, which had inflated to \$629.95. The kit remained in production until the mid 80's, and surprisingly, it was listed in the "Energy Conservation" section of the Heathkit catalogs.

**Description:**

The GU-1810 measures 54" long by 31" in width and height, and is

claimed to fit "neatly" into a station wagon or pickup truck. The assembly has two wheels on the heavy end so it can be moved and positioned easily by lifting up the other end. The heavy end holds most of the mechanical parts and the whole unit is balanced to make the light end easy to manage. Extending from the wheeled end is a log cradle made of tubular steel pipes that end in a triple-angle steel wedge.

A 5 horsepower Tecumseh four-cycle, high torque gasoline engine powers a 4.5 gallon per minute hydraulic pump. The pump drives an hydraulic actuator that operates a ram that moves along the log cradle. A three position hydraulic hand lever controls the movement of the ram along the log cradle. The lever has three positions: Forward (non-locking), neu-



**Stack wood quicker with a Heathkit Log Splitter**

**\$629<sup>95</sup>**

- Splits logs faster than by hand, cuts worktime by hours
- Portable and weight-balanced, wheels to any worksite
- Save money – split wood you cut or buy uncut wood

**Finally you can enjoy your fireplace or woodstove** and put an end to the back-breaking drudgery of splitting timber by hand. With the Heathkit Log Splitter you can split more wood in less time, and with far less physical labor!

**No more wobbling logs or strenuous stooping:** A three-position one-hand lever has non-locking forward, neutral and detented reverse with 24-second full cycle automatic return to ready the next log at a comfortable 15-inch work level. The GU-1810 is equipped with a five horsepower Tecumseh gas engine and a pressure relief-protected hydraulic pump. Together, they generate 1550 p.s.i. to ram up to a 21" log into the steel wedge with an irresistible *ten tons of force*. Build it all in one night, split a cord of wood the very next day! At only 31" H x 31" W x 54" L, it fits neatly into a car trunk, station wagon or pickup truck.

**Kit GU-1810, Shpg. wt. 210 lbs. Motor Freight ..... 629.95**

**Ad for the GU-1810 - 1983 Heathkit Christmas Catalog**

tral, and reverse (with a detent allowing automatic return of the ram).

To split logs the engine is started and a log is placed lengthwise on the log cradle. The lever is then moved and held in the forward position and the ram moves, pressing against the log causing it to slide into the splitting wedge. The ram exerts about 10 tons of force and the wood splits easily into two pieces. Once the log is split the lever can be moved to reverse. If left there in the detent the ram will retract fully and automatically stop. If you let go of the lever when in the forward position the ram stops where it is. Each half piece can then be split again into a quarter log.

### Hydraulics:

The splitter works on the principle of hydraulics. It is a well known fact that most fluids, water included, are not compressible to any degree. The hydraulic pump raises the pressure of the hydraulic fluid up to about 1,550 pounds per square inch (PSI) but the volume of the fluid stays basically the same. When the hydraulic lever is in the neutral position the fluid bypasses the actuator and it does not move. When the lever is moved to the forward position hydraulic fluid is let into one side of the actuator chamber. The piston has a surface area of about 13 square inches so the 1,550 PSI of hydraulic pressure slowly moves the ram with a force of about 20,000 lbs. The pump is protected from over-pressure by a relief valve that will bypass any excessive pressure from the high pressure side of the pump to the low pressure side.

Since air is highly compressible, all air must be removed to make the system perform properly. It's akin to bleeding the brakes on a car. The hydraulic fluid used in the GU-1810 is automatic transmission fluid (ATF) available almost anywhere. The fluid is not supplied by Heathkit and must be bought separately.

### Specifications:

Engine: Tecumseh four-cycle, high torque gasoline engine.

Fuel Tank: One-gallon capacity. About 1 hour of operation.

Fuel: Gasoline - regular or unleaded.

Hyd. Pump: 4.5 GPM, 1550 PSI with safety pressure relief valve.

Hyd. fluid: Standard automobile automatic transmission fluid (not supplied).

Capacity: 7 quarts hydraulic fluid.

Ram force: 10 tons.

Log length: 21" max.

Size: 31" H x 31" W x 54" L

Log cradle: 15" work height.

### Kit Building:

I'm the first to admit that I never got a chance to build this kit. I did see one in New England some years ago; and while the owner did show it to me, he didn't volunteer to fire it up. It was late summer and his wood supply was up to his storage limit. He did tell me he brings it out in the winter after a storm if he finds some good fallen wood. Hmm he has to cut that wood up first; did Heathkit make a chain saw?

From what I could glean, the kit was easy to assemble. It could be "built in just one evening and be ready to split wood the next day". The engine, pump and hydraulic actuator came pre-assembled. Kit building consisted of bolting together the parts and connecting some high pressure hoses.

### QUIZ:

Can you name any other gasoline based Heathkits? I know of at least three others.

73, from AF6C



*Remember if you come across any old Heathkit Manuals or Catalogs that you do not need, please pass them along to me.*

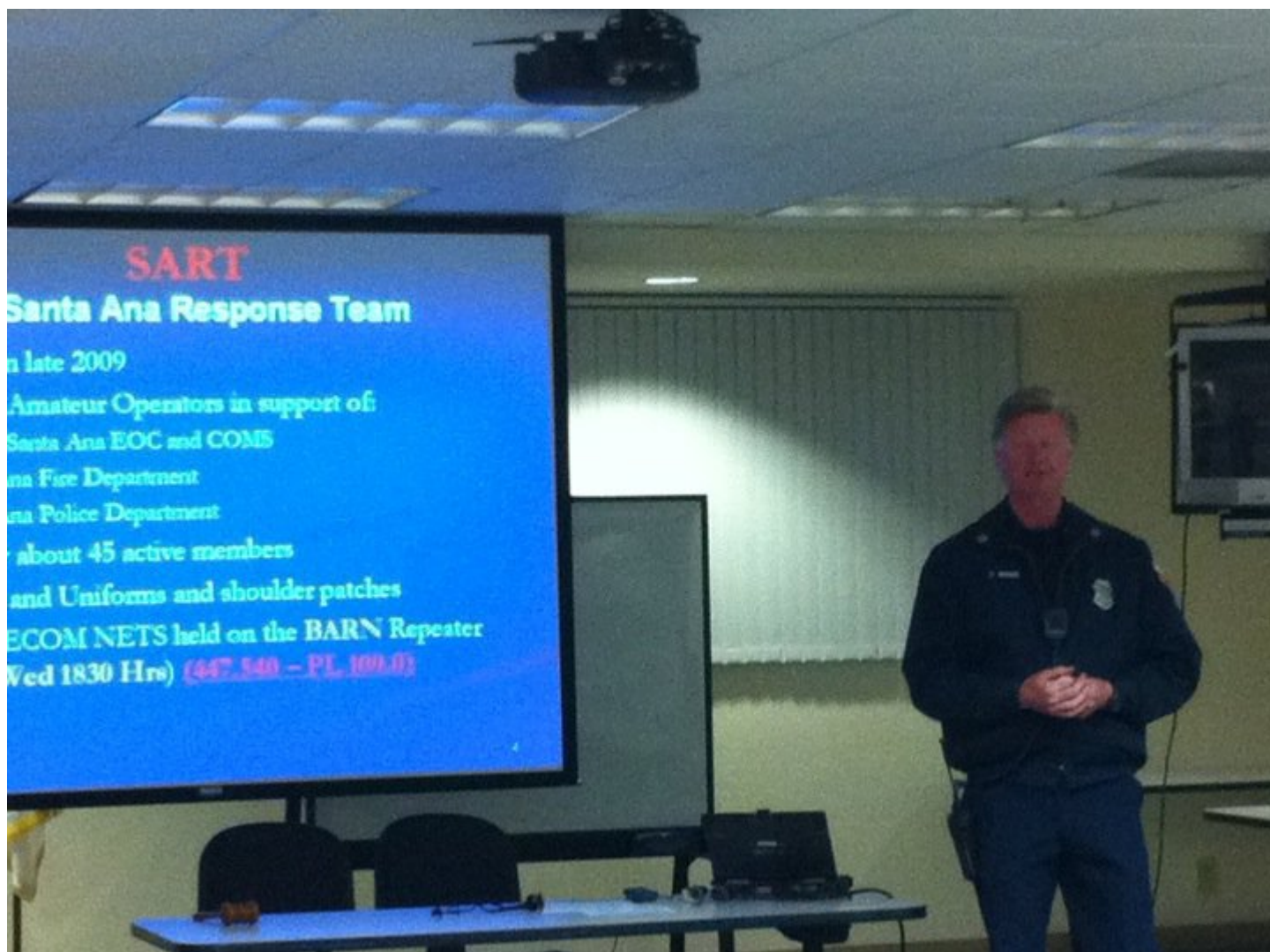
*Thanks - AF6C*



**OCARC****GENERAL MEETING MINUTES****2011-03-18**

The OCARC March General Meeting was held at the Red Cross complex in Santa Ana at 7:04 pm on Friday evening, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. There were ~30 members and visitors present. Five club officers were present, so there was a quarrel.

Activities Directory Kristin Dankert, K6PEQ, opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and then introduced our speaker for the evening, Captain Steve Snyder with the Santa Ana Response Team (S.A.R.T.).



*Capt. Steve Snyder presents talk on S.A.R.T.*

The Santa Ana Response Team was founded to assist the City of Santa Ana with auxiliary communications in the event of a disaster or to assist with public service event. SART is affiliated with both RACES and ARES to enhance our ability to operate in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Santa Ana and others in Orange County. The team includes 45 Amateur Radio operators (80%+ of which are licensed Extras), with their base of operations at the OC Emergency Operations Center (EOC) up on Loma Ridge.

The EOC has HF, VHF/UHF, XYZ and Amateur TV capabilities. All members of the team are tracked using Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS). In addition, Steve has the ability to reach all members instantly using a broadcast system facilitated by ALERTOC.com. Everyone is encouraged to register for this free service to receive emergency notifications via e-mail, voice, or text message.

S.A.R.T. helps facilitate communications for numerous activities including festivals, parades, fire and police events, the OC Fair, ballot box tracking, and much more. **Weekly nets are held on Wednesday evenings at 1830 hours (447.540 MHz with PL 100.0).**

2010 was the first year that S.A.R.T. participated in Field Day and it was a huge success with over 125 visitors. This year they are holding a free "Field Day Academy" to teach amateurs the ins and outs of participating in our favorite event of the year. It will be held June 20-24 (evenings) at Centennial Park in Santa Ana (near Harbor/Edinger).

Disaster preparedness sheets were distributed to those attending the meeting: Those that did not attend did not get any sheets, so we present a copy here.

## Disaster Preparedness

### **Family Documents:**

Waterproof container, wills, insurance, contracts, deeds, stocks, passports, bank account numbers, social security cards, immunization records, credit card account numbers, birth certificates, marriage license

### **First Aid Kit:**

Band aids, bandages of different sizes, germicide hand wipes, latex gloves, cold packs, scissors, tweezers, prescriptions, aspirin, antacid

### **Phones:**

Long distance works before local phone lines – have out of state contact person

Don't make non-urgent calls

Don't count on cell phones

Keep coins in your emergency kit – payphones usually first to be back online

Cordless phones require electricity – have a backup phone; check phone to make sure it is not off hook

### **Get Out Quickly:**

If told to leave, evacuate immediately

Sturdy shoes, emergency supplies, lock your home – if time, let neighbors know you are leaving; call your out of state contact



**Plan Ahead:**

Pick evacuation locations, have map and phone numbers to locations. Medications, small emergency kit for your car, tools, utility knife, extra batteries, flashlights, cash, non-electric can opener, fire extinguisher, tube tent, pliers, tape, compass, matches, aluminum foil, plastic storage container, signal flares, paper, needle and thread, medicine dropper, shutoff wrench for gas and water, whistle, plastic sheet, maps

**Water and Food:**

Change water and diapers every six months. Keep 3 to 7 days of each. Water locations: water heater, pool, toilets, and waterbeds.

**Gas Shut Off:**

If you smell gas, or unmarked wheel is spinning. May be days before Gas Company can turn system back on.

Have a good attitude about buying supplies (think Christmas!)

Arrange two meeting places with family (one in neighborhood, one much farther away). Schools expect you to check on your kids; follow instructions of person in charge. Plan for your pets. Ration food (1/2 amounts are adequate). If water limited, avoid food if possible (no salty foods).

After Steve concluded his talk, Jeff W6UX made a few announcements:

- Don't forget Portable In the Park event – Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:00am – 5:00pm @ Jeffrey Open Space Preserve in Irvine (near Jeffrey Rd and Bryan/Long Meadow)
- **WE FIELD DAY BAND CAPTAINS FOR 10, 40, AND 80 METERS!** Contact Jeff W6UX ([w6ux@w6ze.org](mailto:w6ux@w6ze.org)) if you can help out with Field Day! Only 3 months left!
- W6ZE is now on Twitter ([twitter.com/w6ze](https://twitter.com/w6ze)) – please follow us!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

**Submitted by Jeff Hall, W6UX\***

**OCARC Membership Chairman acting as Secretary for this meeting because the President was squaring the M and the current Secretary went rock picking.**



## Renew Your OCARC Membership

It's that time of the year again. Time to renew your OCARC membership for 2011, if you have not already done so.

Help continue to support your growing club. There are many entertaining monthly meetings, speakers and events planned for this year. But it can't happen without your support for OCARC.

Dues can be paid at the monthly club meetings, club breakfasts or via snail mail. Regular dues are only \$20. Late fees are \$73. Additional family members are \$10 (Total). Membership for teenagers under the age of 20 is only \$10 as well. What a deal!



OCARC  
P.O. Box 3454  
Tustin, CA 92781

## OCARC Board Meeting Minutes for March 12, 2011

The OCARC Board meeting was held at the JägerHaus Restaurant, 2525 East Ball Road, Anaheim, and called to order by Paul Gassow W6GMU (President) at 8:15AM Saturday, March 12, 2011. Roll was called by Doug Britton W6FKX (Secretary), there were a total of 8 directors and five visitors – Dave Bass AF6XP, Dick Hilde K6JRW, Nicholas Haban AF6CF, Xing Xiao Ping RY1QRM and Kris Jacob KC6TOD. There was a quorum with the directors' present.

### DIRECTOR REPORTS:

- Vice President George Jacob N6VNI – as the Vendor Coordinator for the 2011 HAMCOM, he will be attending a dinner for the vendors and will gain weight and miss the March general meeting. George reported that Steve Brody N1AB will MC the April general meeting a showing of the Scarborough reef DXpedition DVD. George also reported that all documentation to secure the Walter Knott field day site has been completed. George also confirmed that the Boy Scouts, organized by Brett (sorry, the secretary missed the whole name and call sign) will assist the GOTA station at OCARC's Field Day. Thank you scouts.
  - Treasurer Ken Konechy W6HHC – absent, no report. Our sincere condolences Ken.
  - Secretary Doug Britton W6FKX – will miss the March general meeting, Jeff W6UX volunteered to record the meeting minutes in Doug's absence.
  - Activities Kristin Dankert K6PEQ – Kristin proposed that the club skip the April chance drawing following the club meeting because attendance is expected to be low. Several club members will be attending the Visalia DX convention or supporting the Barstow to Vegas run. Kristin proposed the purchase of additional club mugs to give as gifts to general meeting presenters, Doug W6FKX made a motion that 20 club mugs be purchased, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Eckweiler AF6C and unanimously approved. Kristin reported that a club picnic is proposed for May.
  - Membership Jeff Hall W6UX – membership roster current as of March 1.
  - Publicity Steve Brody N1AB – Steve suggested that the Ham Radio Mobile Cruise-in be held sometime late summer. Kristin K6PEQ asked Bob AF6C to update the clubs publicity fliers; to be completed by June 2011.
  - Technical Bob Eckweiler AF6C – Bob reported that the club owns a Kenwood TS-450S which needs approximately \$100 of repairs. The radio is available for loan to club members as a starter radio for example. Kristin made a motion that the club authorize \$100 to repair/maintain the radio, Paul W6GMU 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, it was unanimously approved.
  - Directors-at-large – Dan Dankert N6PEQ – requested updated certificates of appreciation for amateur radio businesses that support the club through donations. Bob AF6C to update the certificates and Dan will print them out as needed.
- Larry Mallek K6YUI – Larry will be missing the April general meeting while attending the Visalia DX convention. Larry reported that recently the 10 and 15 m bands have been open with good DX.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- **RF Newsletter "Rotating" Editors – thank you to all who volunteer!**
  - March – Ken W6HHC                      April - Nicholas AF6CF
  - May – Doug W6FKX                      June – Kris KC6TOD
- **Field Day Update** – Steve N1AB asked whether or not to send new hams over to the other band stations if they show interest in operating other than the GOTA station. The response was absolutely! Bob AF6C suggested that the club should plan a large Field Day effort in the near future, perhaps next year. Field Day will be chaired by Jeff W6UX and Doug W6FKX this year. Several band captains are finalized but

some still open. Jeff will make an announcement at the March meeting, asking for band captain volunteers. George N6VNI informed the board that the WARA group will work with OCARC on Field Day, but no details as of yet. Nicholas AF6CF is planning to have a solar powered station running. Jeff and Doug plan to organize band captain meetings starting in April.

- **OCARC equipment inventory** – to be discussed at the next meeting.
- **Portables – in – the – park** – Jeff W6UX and Nicholas AF6CF are set for April 23, 2011.
- **Bob AF6C's Kit building class** – the board discussed a few options with Bob; and since the secretary is recording the minutes and likes his idea the best ☺, perhaps the class could be the construction of a portable battery kit similar to the kit Nicholas built and presented at the OCARC general meeting a few months ago. To be continued.
- **Drive – in mobile amateur event** – still in the discussing phase for a late summer timeframe.
- **OCARC Facebook update** – page is up, and being maintained by Kristin. Would like to see more interaction on the page. Jeff suggested also establishing a W6ZE Twitter feed.
- **Club Bank cards** – management postponed until next meeting.

## NEW Business

- **Alternate President and VP for March and April General Meetings** – Since Paul W6GMU and George N6VNI will be missing the next two general meetings, Kristin K6PEQ will fill for Paul in March, and Steve N1AB will cover the April meeting.
- **New Club Activities** – George N6VNI reminded the board about the upcoming HAMCON; Bob to include information on the clubs website. Kristine Jacob KC6TOD suggested that club fliers be available at the hospitality suite being hosted by OC and LA county Council of AR clubs (please correct the record if this information is inaccurate, thanks). It was suggested that all the board members fill out the profile questionnaire created by Jeff W6UX for the newsletter to generate interest and participation.

**GOOD OF THE CLUB** – Dan N6PEQ suggested a Club Jester or Buffoon. Immediately many names came up, so many that the matter was tabled.

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Steve N1AB, seconded by Larry K6YUI and unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned 9:30AM

Respectfully submitted:

*Doug Britton W6FKX*, OCARC Secretary