

A HISTORY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Part 6

by Bob - WB6IXN, Club Historian

In 1966, Jack Shaw, WA6YWN, was elected president. Under his leadership and with Alex W6WRJ (later W6RE) appointed as the Convention Chairman, OCARC sponsored, along with other local radio clubs, the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention at Disneyland. (Convention Booklet in Historical Records) The editor of the club "RF" newsletter that year was Bob Evans, WB6IXN. The club had a new meeting location, the Lincoln Savings and Loan on 17th Street in Santa Ana (just across Bristol from the Santa Ana College campus).

In 1967, Jim Hill, WB6GPK, was elected president. The May meeting featured Darryl Branstetter of Pacific Telephone. He demonstrated world-wide telephone links. He telephoned G3GEW, Dave Hollander's friend in England. A montage of photos of the event, done by Jack Shaw, appears in the Historian Records. Field Day was held on Mountain View High School property at Segerstrom Ave. & Raitt St., in Santa Ana. The Club amassed 1641 contacts on 80 through 2 meters, and a total of 10,640 points. For comparison, In 1966, we had a total of 7,832 FD points.

Jack Shaw, YWN, had the Santa Ana Register photograph, Dave Hollander, W6COJ, and Bud Barkhurst, WA6VPP, in preparation for Field Day. The picture appeared in the Thursday, June 22 edition of the Register (copy in Historical Records). The Tuesday evening, Dec. 12 edition of the Register carried an article (on file) naming Billy, WB6CQR, as Emergency Coordinator for the Orange Section. The release was sent to the Register by George Hart, the ARRL Communications Manager.

In 1968, Dave Hollander, W6COJ was elected president. In the January issue of QST, our Jerry VerDuft, WA6ROF [now ADØA], was pictured (on file) with a group of ARRL leaders at the combined Pacific-Southwestern Division Convention ARPSC meeting held in Los Angeles.

Jack Shaw underwent surgery and recovered rapidly at home. John Trotter, W6BVX, brother of Shelley, W6BAM, became a Silent Key on May 27. Backing up a bit, on Feb. 10, 1968, Dave Hollander, WB6NRK [now N7RK], the son of Jack, WB6UDC [now N6UC], earned a write-up in the "Trouble Shooter" column in the OC Register, for his efforts trying to contact Manta, Ecuador, for an Orange couple. (on file, in March "RF" newsletter)

The March issue of the Garden Grove High School "Argolog" newspaper carried an article on our Keith Salyards, WB6RJX, the station custodian of GGHS Amateur Radio Station WB6WPK. Keith was involved in a message handling program for teachers and students at GGHS. (file: Apr.'68 "RF")

On Sunday, March 3, 1968, OCARC members Jerry Ver Duft, ROF; Billy Hall, CQR; Ralph Alexander, WRJ; Bill Robinson, WB6WOO; Dave Yap, WA6TSU; Roy Maxson, DEY; and Dave Hollander, COJ, along with other hams, all members of the Orange County Radio Emergency Corps, banded together to provide communications for the Heart Fund Drive. The operation was dubbed "Heart Line", and was given a write-up with photograph (in Club records) in the "Daily News Tribune" dated Thursday, March 28, 1968. The OPs were awarded a plaque for their effort. (award in Club records)

On May 19, 1968 the OCARC and the Anaheim Club sponsored a joint picnic. Members who signed the roster are listed in June 1968 "RF". Ted Glick, K6LJA, and Jack

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Shaw, YWN, put together a montage of pictures of the event. (copy in Club records) On the weekend of June 22-23, 1968, the Club again held Field Day at 2801 S. Raitt Street and Segerstrom, at the Mountain View H.S. site.

In Oct., 1968, Jerry VerDuft, WA6ROF, reported that the Club-sponsored message handling program at the Orange County Hospital had been discontinued due to lack of patient interest.

On June 15, 1968, a joint SCN-RN6 meeting was held at Redondo Beach concerning ARPSC. Jerry, ROF, attended and was pictured in the Sept. issue of QST. (pix also in Oct. 1968 "RF")

At the October meeting, Werner Escher, South Coast Plaza, invited OCARC to sponsor Christmas messages to overseas servicemen. The Club accepted, and Billy Hall, CQR, was nominated chairman. His steering committee consisted of: Jerry, ROF; Dave Browsers, RVM; John Vaideen, W6BNX; Bruce Scholes, WA6BYY; and Mildred, W6PJU. In addition, Alex W6WRJ, Bud WA6VPP, Bill WA6WOO [now N6BR], YWN, LJA, TDO, Paul Sheridan, and TYZ, Ralph Riesmiller, also provided services...

(to be continued next month
...Bob Evans, WB6IXN, Club Historian.)