

A HISTORY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Part 7

by Bob - WB6IXN, Club Historian

*** A NEW ERA – cont'd ***

The 1968 Christmas Party was held at Buffalo Bills Family Restaurant, Chapman & Main, Santa Ana. Max, W6DEY, was Santa Claus.

In 1969 Jerry VerDuft, WA6ROF [now ADØA], was elected president. The May general meeting was held at the Heathkit Co. store on Ball Road, Anaheim. The OCARC Field Day site was just above Pacific View Memorial Park Cemetery near Big Canyon Reservoir off of Jamboree Road. Ken Konechy, W6HHC, was editor of "RF". And Jack Hollander, UDC, was writing the "DX from Orange County" column for "RF".

In 1970, Jack Hollander, WB6UDC [now N6UC], was elected president. In Field Day performance, OCARC placed 6th in the 5A group with a score of 11,777, a gain over our 1969 performance. The Field Day site was located in Lemon Heights off Camden Drive.

Our 1972 president was Ron Cade, WA6FIT [now W6ZQ]. In late '72 or early '73, we once more changed our meeting site to Mercury Savings & Loan, 1095 Irvine Blvd., Tustin, CA., where we continued to meet until 1984. The 1972 Field Day was held at Los Alamitos Air Station (Navy).

In 1973, Bob Eckweiler, WB6QNU [now AF6C], was elected president. Field Day was held at the Marine Corps Lighter-Than-Air Station in Santa Ana, near the MARS station area. The MARS station allowed OCARC to put antennas on their three 150-foot self-standing towers. Hence, 2M FD operations were outstanding that year.

In 1974, Ken Konechy, W6HHC, was elected president. Once more, Field Day operations were held at the Marine Corps Air Station in Santa Ana. We made 1601 contacts for a total of 3452 points.

In 1975, Art Sheldon, WA6LHB [now K7ZE], was elected president. Again, Field Day was held at the Marine Corps Air Station (H) in Santa Ana. We made 2053 contacts for a total of 4934 points!

El presidente for 1976 was Martin Raymond, WB6PEX. Again, Field Day was held at MCAS(H), Santa Ana. We made 1914 contacts for a total of 4496 points. The annual Christmas dinner was held at the Crossroads Restaurant in Fountain Valley. Fried & Sandy, WA6WZO & WA6WZN, took reservations for the dinner.

In 1977, OCARC elected Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, president. Nate Hooker, WA6MPI, did a fine job with the ham radio classes. The Club thanked Bob Eckweiler, WB6QNU, for his continued Call Book service at his home. The Orange County Council of Radio Organizations, OCCARO, was reactivated. At the DX Convention, OCARC was represented by WA6WZO, WA6WZN, WA6FIT [now W6ZQ], WA6IRR, WA6MO, WA6KFJ, WB6UDC/N6UC, and KC6TC. Ernie, WA6FOW, was NetControl for the OCARC 2m Nets. Rick, WA6ULV, and Jim, WB6NVO, were instructors for the OCARC Novice classes. Field Day was again held at MCAS, Santa Ana, with Bob, QNU, in charge as FD chairman. 2610 FD QSOs were recorded for a total of 5,812 points!

Salt-water fishing trips, T-Hunts and auctions were other events enjoyed by Club members from time to time.

Mildred Maxson, W6PJU, a club old timer since World War II and also a life member of OCARC, became a Silent Key on July 15,

1977. She was a member of: QCWA, YLRL, ARRL, North County YLRC, and, Colegas y Amigos in Mexico. We will always miss Mildred's well written articles of Maxson's travels which were always welcome reading in past "RF" newsletters.

The following members attended the Southwestern Division Convention held at Santa Maria: WA6WZO/WZN, Fried & Sandy; W6DEY, Max; WA6FIT, Ron; WA6MOK, Jay; KFJ, Kathy; W6IBR, Al; WA6FOW, Ernie; W6RE, Alex; and RXR, Ken.

On Sept. 23-26, Frank, WA6VKZ; Terry, WB6IHZ; Gene, WB6YCY; and Joel Victor, harmonic of Vic, WA6RNA, all hike to the 10,000 ft. level of Mt. San Gorgonio and set up two portable stations for 2 meters & HF. W6ZE was listed 9th in the nation for Field Day in our class in QST!

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

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REAL ONES)**