

**A HISTORY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Part 8**

by Bob - WB6IXN, Club Historian

***** A NEW ERA – cont'd *****

During 1977, Vic, WA6RNA, a volunteer instructor at the Long Beach VA Hospital, needed a 2m transceiver and antenna. OCARC member, Lee, WA6FSP, immediately donated his EICOM 230 with power supply. Ray, WA6TEY, and Ernie, WA6FOW, plus other hams, constructed the antenna for the hospital station. Roy, K6IQ, had his mobile rig, a Kenwood TR-7400A, stolen. The annual Christmas dinner was again held at the Crossroads Restaurant in Fountain Valley.

In January, 1978, Jim Kingsbury, WA6LFF, was became the new president. Bill Myatt, WA6YKH, and Jack Lockhart, WD6AEI, conducted the class for Novices. Al Watts, W6IBR, and Dave Matherly, WD6ABB, conducted a General Class licensee program. During the 1977 and 1978, the Club again became active in 2m T-hunts. Bill, WA6KHB, received the ARRL Public Service Award in February. Field Day was once again held at MCAS on June 24-25. We had 2,600 contacts for 5,986 points, operating 80-10 meters, Novice, and 220 MHz/F3.

The club president in 1979 was Terry Mathers, WB6IHZ. The big event for 1979 was the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention held Oct 19-20 at the Sheraton-Anaheim Hotel near Disneyland. Our own Ralph Alexander (Alex) W6RE was Chairman of the ARRL convention.

In February, Jim Kingsbury, WA6LFF, became president of the Orange County Council of Amateur Radio Organizations (OCCARO). We also congratulated Fried, WA6WZO, for his high score in the I.A.R.U. Radio Sport Championship, and also for Fried's appointment as Assistant Director of ARRL, Southwestern Division.

Jay Hall, MOK, resigned as vice president, and he was replaced by Ernie Prichard, WA6FOW. Sandi Heyn, WA6WZN (Fried's XYL) got her Extra ticket. Frank, WA6VKZ, coordinated Field Day. Field Day was held on June 23 and 24 at the Marine Corps Air

Station in Tustin. Ken, W6HHC, organized a Club July salt-water fishing trip for club members. At Field Day, the Club had 2,266 QSOs for a total of 5,018 points.

In 1980, Ernie Prichard, WA6FOW, was the elected president. OCARC sponsored an Orange County 40 meter QSO Party held on Jan. 13, 1980.

OCARC also sponsored the VIP-ARC for visually impaired pupils. Marty, WD6AUS; Vic, WA6RNA; Al, W6IBR; and Alfred, WD6DIY, were all involved in the VIP program. 1980 was a strong year for the Visually Impaired Program! VIP had three 40 thru 2 meter stations on the air at three different area schools: Circleview, OSD; R.H. Dana & Crown Valley Schools, C.S.D. Safeco Insurance Co., and Rotary International, among others, made donations to support the club-sponsored VIP program.

Jess, W6LEN, handled the U.S. & Foreign Callbook listings for the Club members. Vic, N6AHB, took charge of the Novice class for the Club. Seven Club members volunteered to participate in the Boy Scout 5-Km Run in August, providing 2-member communications for the operation. Johnny Sidler, WA6OZF, became a Silent Key. Ralph (Alex) Alexander, W6RE, was made an honorary member of the OCARC.

We thanked Ken, W6HHC, for the many fine programs he has presented over the years on slides from past Field Days. Field Day was held at the USMC Mars Station in Tustin. We had 2,849 QSOs for a total of 7194 points...Best Field Day yet for the OCARC!

In August, Fried, WZO, announced his candidacy for Director of the ARRL Southwestern Division. Ken, W6HHC, was auctioneer for the Club's Annual Auction in Oct. The Christmas Banquet was held at Longfellows Restaurant in Anaheim. Alex, W6RE, and others provided communications for the Red Cross during fire operations near O'Neill Park, both from their homes and at the O'Neill Park Base Camp.

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