

A HISTORY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Part 16

by Bob - WB6IXN, Club Historian

*** THE MODERN ERA – cont'd ***

1998

Bob Buss, KD6BWH, received the Club El Presidente gavel for 1998. Bob later received the call KØBWH when he moved to North Dakota. The monthly Club Board Breakfast moved from the Wildflower Cafe to Coco's Restaurant on N. Tustin Ave. in Orange.

The OCARC obtained the www.W6ZE.org domain name, and our new website was up and running with Ken-W6HHC being the third Webmaster! OCARC had two earlier web sites without our own domain. Club internet-pioneer, John-KJ6TK, set-up the first OCARC web site on the early "GeoCities.com" servers around 1994/1995. Then, Phil-N7PA and his UCI-student son set-up the second OCARC web site on his own domain and server at "www.BlackHawkUSA.com/OCARC" in 1997.

In 1998 OCARC club members were active in many events. Nine club members helped at Pahump, Shoshone, and Las Vegas, providing communications for the Baker-to-Vegas Race in April. The 3rd Not-So-DXpedition was held at the Black-Rock Campground in Yucca Valley in Joshua Tree National Park in May. Dave-W7KTS, was in charge of the Ham Booth at the Orange County Fair. Rich-KE6WWK and Bob-KD6BWH helped with communications for the Mojave 250 Death Race. Bob-KD6XO thanked many members for providing communications at the California Classic Marathon horse event on Aug. 8. The 4th 'Not-so-DXpedition' took place on Oct.30-Nov. 1, at El Mirage Dry Lake near Adelanto.

The Orange County Field Day was held in a field across from the Irvine Civic Center. The Club had 1,439 QSOs for a total of 3,270 points. Three Ops were eligible for "N6UC FD Awards" from Field Day: Chris-KJ6ZH assembles a beam antenna incorrectly; Frank-WA6VKZ blows the muffler off the generator; and Larry-K6LDC sends a tower skyward with no guy ropes!

The Annual Club Auction was held in Oct. with the Club earned \$70 from the Auction. The Christmas Dinner was held at Mimi's Café on 17th St. in SA. Ken-W6HHC received the "W6NGO-For the Good of the Club Award".

1999

Bud Barkhurst, WA6VPP, was elected president in 1999, bringing with him the Y2K scare that the year 2000 would

foul up computer date-keeping programs! The CW requirement for maritime operations was eliminated.

The 5th 'Not-so-DXpedition', April 23-25, was held at El Mirage Dry Lake near Adelanto, but had only two participants: Larry, K6LDC, and Art, WA6WOX. 12 club members participated in the Baker-to-Vegas Relay Race. The CA. Classic Event, held Aug. 7, at Rolling Hills Estates,

When the USMAC base in Tustin closed in 1999, FD sites became difficult to obtain. GPS units used 34 deg.12.267 min. N, 116 deg. 22.845 min. W, to pinpoint the Field Day location in Yucca Valley, about 120 miles away that was located about 3 miles ESE of the epicenter of the 1992 Landers Earthquake!. Chris-KJ6ZH, was Field Day Captain with 11 other club members in the hot hot hot desert. The 'Desert Dozen' amassed 2,033 QSOs for 4,122 points.

OCARC member David Mofford, W7KTS, was again the OCCARO Chairman for the Ham Radio Booth. The Orange County Fair Amateur Radio Booth was a Special Events Station, W6F, and got 5 ribbons: a red ribbon for Theme & Decoration; a blue ribbon for Interaction-with-the-Public; a blue ribbon for Personnel; a blue ribbon for Educational Purposes; a blue ribbon for Best of Show.

On Sept. 15, KJ6ZH & WA6VPP & son had finished audio taping for the upcoming Wouff Hong ceremony for the ARRL Convention. Wouff Hong actors were:

The Old Man	Bud Barkhurst, WA6VPP
Novice	Cori Terando, KE6WIU
Crystal	Jim Winn, KE6UCH
High Potential	Bob Buss, KD6BWH
QRM	Ken Konechy, W6HHC
QRN	Bob Eckweiler, AF6C
Page	Jane Breller, KC6TAM
Stage crew	Tom-WA6PFA & Steve-KE6NAH
Director	Chris Breller, KJ6ZH

ARRL Southwestern Div Convention was held aboard the Queen Mary Oct 1-3. OCARC had charge of the Wouff Hong Ceremony at which FCC Enforcer, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, was inducted into The Royal Order of the Wouff Hong by our club. A CD recording of the Wouff Hong Ceremony has been placed in Club records.

The Club Auction was held on Oct. 15th with a profit of about \$30. The 1999 Christmas Dinner was held at Mimi's Café in Fountain Valley on Sat., Dec. 11. The "1999 W6NGO - For the Good of the Club Award" was presented to Chris Breller-KJ6ZH

(The History Series will be concluded next month
...Bob Evans, WB6IXN, Club Historian)