



RF



ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

VOL. XXXIII NO. 11

P.O. BOX 3454, TUSTIN, CA 92681

NOVEMBER, 1992

Prez Sez

by Frank Smith, WA6VKZ

Hopefully, everyone who participated in our Annual Auction sold all of their treasures and went home with more treasure. The Club realized \$277.00. Thanks to all who organized and participated.

This month is the month that all Board Members look forward to; it is the time for all Club Members to make their annual choices for who will do what for the Club by volunteering for office for next year. If you would like to see change, great or small, volunteer for office. Here is an abbreviated run down of duties for each position/office for the Board:

PRESIDENT

In charge if he/she doesn't lose it.

VICE-PRESIDENT

In charge if the President does lose it, otherwise in charge of program and is supposed to be an expert on Robert's Rules of Order.

TREASURER

Takes care of the \$. Busiest in January and February when members are renewing.

SECRETARY

Writes a few letters a year and tries to record the minutes of our meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

Keeps track of who's who and where the whoses live along with their call signs. Copies and mails out the RF.

ACTIVITIES

Coffee and refreshments, sweepstakes prize coordinator and BIG BOSS of Field Day.

Day (if it all comes together.)

TVI

A member who coordinates the Club talent to solve a member's TVI.

2 MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

None, one or two of whom will be elected if the past year's President or Vice-President doesn't hold another office on the Board. Supposed to provide continuity from year to year.

Please show up at the November meeting and show your democratic spirit and possibly be 'railroaded' into office.

The results for 1992 Field Day are in and published in the November QST. The Club participated in the 5A classification. For all of you non-ARRL types, OCARC finished sixth in the county and third in 6-land. Six-land is some tough competition! Thanks to all who participated. Looking forward to next year.

With Halloween over, Christmas can't be far behind (at least I am seeing Christmasy things already.) Annual Christmas dinner, same place as last year - Officer's Club Marine Corps Helicopter Base, Tustin - December 20th, a Sunday, in the evening -- mark your calendars and give Carmine, AB6KE, our Treasurer some money for the Christmas dinner. 73....Frank, WA6VKZ

November 20th Program: Jim Roberts, N6XTJ "Packet"

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Notifies the media that the Club will participate in a Field Day and hopefully on Amateur Radio Awareness

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COMING SOON!

December No Meeting HOLIDAY BANQUET Sunday, Dec. 20

## TVI Chair Sez:

### Basic Things to Know about Antenna Restrictions

I have often heard conversations on the local repeaters (and down on HF) where amateurs, frustrated about the bind they are in over local antenna restrictions, make broad, sweeping statements about what their "antenna rights" are and how they are going to go about securing them. Others, more mild in their approach, bemoan the powerlessness they feel about the situation. Both of these positions often turn out to be based on misinformation. Good and accurate information about a particular situation will go a long way to helping us solve (or at least understand) a given problem.

First, there are four basic types of antenna restrictions:

1. Federal restrictions (from the FCC);
2. Court Orders respecting nuisance law;
3. Zoning and local ordinances; and,
4. Covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&R's).

These types of restrictions are very different in the source of their power, the forum where we must argue the case (if we so choose), and the nature of possible solutions. In order to understand a particular case, you must understand the type of restriction you are dealing with.

First, the Federal restrictions are given to us by the FCC. The Federal government has nearly absolute authority over our ability to transmit through antennas and to erect antennas "close" to airports. We each have an amateur license, and that license is a grant of permission to operate...we have no rights to use the airwaves. Thus, the FCC has ultimate authority over our behavior as amateurs. The Federal government can technically revoke or suspend our privileges as amateurs for bad reasons or NO reasons (as long as they don't violate other Constitutional provisions such as civil rights in the process.) The Federal

Courts are the only authority that can review FCC or Federal government actions. The State has no authority at all in this arena.

Second, a Court (Federal, State, or local) can apply concepts of Tort law in a Nuisance case to order certain things be done or not done on private property. A Nuisance is the interference with another property owner's right to enjoy her own property. For example, if you were to have daily raging bonfires in your front yard that blew smoke constantly into your neighbors yard, that neighbor could go into the local court and get an injunction preventing you from having the bonfires (among other legal violations that may arise). The neighbor may even collect monetary damages from you for all the suffering you have caused. Many neighbors have been known to threaten nuisance suits for TVI and other interference. They are not very welcome suits in court because it is usually clear that the amateur radio is not really the cause of the interference, but the weakness of the neighbor's ground system, shielding, etc. turns out to be the real problem. Now, if you were to detune your 3-500z amplifier and encourage parasitics so that you could wreak havoc on the local RF environment, you might have problems with nuisance suits (as well as violations of FCC regulations).

Third, we have zoning and local ordinances respecting "structures" and antennas. These laws have their source in local government, which derives its power from the State government. The State government is there to exercise its power for the health and general welfare of its citizens. States have almost exclusive power over Tort law, Contract law and matters of local concern. The Federal government has exclusive jurisdiction over radio communications, though, and this is where a conflict begins. If the local government (State government) encroaches upon areas within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal government, then the local law is preempted by the Federal rule on the subject. This is PRB-1 in action. PRB-1 states that, "State and local regulations of a station

## 1992 CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS

President .....	Frank Smith .....	WA6VKZ .....	838-3180
Vice President .....	Bob Eckweiler .....	AF6C .....	639-5074
Secretary .....	Jane Breller .....	KC6TAM .....	310/866-2077
Treasurer .....	Carmine Fiorello .....	AB6KE .....	837-5133
Activities .....	Bob Schnabel .....	KM6TL .....	776-8486
Membership .....	Bob Buss .....	KD6BWH .....	534-2995
Public Relations .....	Cindy Hughes .....	KC6OPI .....	971-3448
T.V.I. Chairman .....	Clark Turner .....	WA3JPG .....	856-2131
Member at Large .....	Ken Konechy .....	W6HHC .....	744-0217
Member at Large .....	Mike Abreu .....	K6KAA .....	832-8503

### CLUB APPOINTMENTS

Club Historian .....	Bob Evans .....	WB6IXN .....	543-9111
W6ZE Trustee .....	Bob Eckweiler .....	AF6C .....	639-5074
RF Editor .....	Nancy Bucher .....	N6XQR .....	537-8728
Refreshments .....	Cindy Hughes .....	KC6OPI .....	971-3448

### DUES

Regular Member .....	\$12.00	Additional Family Members .....	\$6.00 each
Teenage Members (under 20) .....	\$6.00	Optional Club Badge .....	\$5.00

Dues for new members are prorated quarterly from January of each year. Family members must reside at the address of a Regular Member. One RF is sent per household.

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## On the Nets -- October, 1992

by Bob Evans, WB6IXN

**10/1 40m CW net** - W6ZE/RND checks in IXN, NG7D/QRP, NT, & WB7UXD. XQR misses the net for a VE session says IXN. UXD, Jim, from Benton Co., Wash., says 'Hi' to all the OPs, & NG7D leaves 'The Simpsons' long enough to join us! And John has called numerous Ham Radio stores, but can't beat them down on the price of an 850! NG7D also says VDP dropped off the much needed schematic of the QF1A audio filter & manual. Now all is working well! NT makes arrangements to call RND after net, and RND plans to attend the Club breakfast Sat. morn.

**10/7 15m phone net** - W6ZE/AF6C checks in NGO, XTJ, VKZ, & IXN. IXN has 5S QRN tonite! And AF6C 'fights the fog' on his early jaunts to work. And NGO loses Ida in Ariz. for 3 or 4 days, as the XYL looks over some of the 2nd WW Japanese internment sites. VKZ checks in wid 'packet distortion' on his sigs, which Frank quickly removes. And XTJ busied himself working a few contacts in the CA. QSO Party.

**10/7 2m phone net** - W6ZE/IXN checks in ZH & TAM, BPX, ESD, XQR, RE, NG7D, RND, XTJ, HHC, QW, VDP, OPI, BWH, & G3UHK/6, from near London, at net's end! IXN called BWH & Bob will send UHK an 'RF'. In return, UHK will send the Club a copy of the Radio Society of Great Britain magazine! UHK edits a repeater magazine for the ham world of Great Britain! BPX & Blanche had company for Blanche's BD. And Wyatt is still walking around with 6 legs, 2 of his own & 4 with wheels! OPs enjoyed Wyatt's voice once more on the airwaves! ZH's brother is off to Okinawa representing 'Toys R Us', & TAM has 2 favorable job interviews while the exotic DX just keeps rolling in. Oman, FK5ZU, CY0NSM... ESD makes it back to Palm Springs to visit relatives after a 25 yr absence, & has a good time! And Bob gets an awaited QSL from the Sandwich Is. XQR & crew have been VEing at the Columbia Studios in Culver City. The OCARC tnx all Club members who are helping XQR with VE duties. Nancy can use all the help she can get! RE, 4 cans lined up for the G-man, tells DX OPs that 5R8GW is accredited for DXCC as of 12 Dec. 91! And Alex airs an interesting Newline...high fines for erring OPs & all! NG7D, new computer table in place, has made room for the new TS-850S! When it arrives, you'll hear John DXing! UA4, LU4DIT, LU5EW, an IO4, and an FK0AW are just a few of the DX contacts at John's QTH! RND won't be around for CW net tomorrow eve. IXN will assume W6ZE for John. XTJ asks KD6MUX to change freq. with his QSO to eliminate Net interference, & Jim works a little AMTOR, & the CA. QSO Party, too! HHC helps VKZ to remember 'packet', & Ken finds it easier to think about erecting a tower than doing it! QW has both Big Bear homes on the market, & is investigating Florida as his potential QTH! Like other DXers, Rolf runs a retinue of interesting calls & places past NC: a UF6 from Soviet Georgia, FO0CI, S. Sandwich Is., etc. VDP tells OPs that one OP had over 2500 contacts in the CA. QSO Party! And both Larry &

Rolf enjoy all the bells & whistles on QW's FT-1000! VDP will work on the ant. gnd. system for 160m to make it more efficient. OPI invite OPs to help with the RC Pasta Fest to be held at Wild Rivers on Sun. Oct. 18. Cindy ask OPs to give her a ring for more info. BWH & IXN discussed seismic activity in the Landers area, & IXN landlined BWH to have him send an 'RF' to G3UHK/6, Julian Baldwin, Apt. 21-D, 55 W. 14th St., NYC, NY. 10011. IXN & QW continued talking with Julian after net.

**10/8 40m CW net** - Wid RND away, IXN assumes NC for the net and promptly meets with a severe case of Tennessee Valley Indians! Next week IXN will try QRP before other measures are taken to reduce QRM! W6ZE/IXN checks in J.J., KB7LOH, from Sierra Vista, AZ., and Ray, NT. XQR was VEing tonite, & the baseball playoffs probably caught the other OPs. NT says JJ had stronger sigs than NC! IXN knows he had stronger TVI than JJ! Ray gave JJ a 589, & NC had him 599! JJ was using a bug with two weights to slow down the 'dits'. We hope that JJ will join us again on the net!

**10/14 15m phone net** - W6ZE/AF6C checks in VKZ, NGO, YZG, NG7D, QW, IXN, & XQR. IXN & XQR can't hear each other too well tonite, and NGO protects himself from sunburn from welding. AF6C..Who is the OP who 'needs to dig a hole'?! NG7D gets the new TS-850-S on line & marvels over all the 'bells & whistles'. Now for the \$\$ "added options" \$\$! QW adds a digital recording unit to the FT-1000, enjoying its simple operation & good audio quality! VKZ has audio distortion on his sigs; no speech processor, say Frank! YZG still isn't 'up to par' healthwise, so Lu will take it easy for awhile yet. Lu is intrigued by 'digital signal processing' & finds QW's digital recorder interesting! YZG tells OPs that Ken Kinoshita, KI6DH, is back in town!

**10/14 2m phone net** - W6ZE/IXN checks in ZH & TAM, OPI, KSP, VKZ, RE, NG7D, XQR, QW, VDP, BWH, & ONZ. ZH has 249 countries in the DX log, & OPs are sorry to hear that TAM's grandma's health is failing. OPI VEs with ULU & BWZ at the Red Cross, and KSP attends the Octoberfest in Big Bear. RE has the vegetation under control, but Alex discovers old pipes are the reason for his 'sprinklers' watering in the wrong places! And RE also gives Newline address for those who wish to drop a card to Carl Pagel, PO Box 6080, Anaheim, CA. 92816-6080, with your name, address, call, where you hear Newline, frequency, sponsor, day, time, & suggestions for improvement. Tnx, Alex! KE will help Nancy with a better radiator for 20 & 15m. And XQR VEs with VKZ at ICOM in Irvine, making 7 or 8 Generals, 6 Adv. class, & 4 Extras, with Byron, BCH, & JPG on No-code Techs. NG7D tells OPs about the TS-850-S with auto ant. tuner..Is there an R7 ant. in John's future? VKZ checks in & IXN doesn't take notes! Hm!..Ur message must have been interesting, Frank! And NG7D talks with XO on vacation in No. CA. ONZ reminds all about the upcoming Pastafest at Wild Rivers for benefit of RC Vol. Youth Service. If interested in helping please call 835-5381 ext. 493. QW doesn't like the new 'free for all' rules for ham radio in Germany as discussed on Newline. And Rolf installs new K-Comm filters on the telephones. VDP tells OPs about the

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## Net Notes - Continued from Page 3

new Oceanside Swapmeet sponsored by the Palomar Radio Club, but Larry will be attending the Rio Hondo Swapmeet next Sat. morn. BWH pulls up the rear, & IXN asks Bob if he has heard abt any new seismic activity other than the Egypt event in Cairo. Then it's bk to the computer fer Bob!

**10/15 40m CW net** - IXN doesn't know RND is still away! Phone calls frm XQR & NG7D bring IXN to the rig as NC, W6ZE/IXN checks in XQR, NG7D, & NT. Wid TVI at NC, IXN runs only 10W of power! NG7D is running abt 8 watts on the TS-850-S wid 599 sigs at ZE's QTH! XQR, wid the 'RIT' off, comes up right on freq., & is congratulated by NT! NG7D retires the Argonaut to the closet, as he plays wid all the new, mysterious gadgets & buttons on the new rig! Get ready to bk off the RF gain on XQR's sigs! KE will be installing new radiators fer 20 & 40 at Nancy's QTH! NT tnx IXN fer handling net, & Ray hears all OPs FB on Goat Hill! We all plan to attend the auction tomorrow eve.

**10/21 15m phone net** - W6ZE/AF6C checks in VKZ, IXN, RND, XTJ, & XO. VKZ cures the ground problem, but still has sum audio distortion. AF6C tells VKZ that lower freqs. are missing in his voice. And Bob asks IXN abt the predicted Parkfield earthquake. RND enjoys the rain today, & tells OPs that earthquake predictions sound like WX predictions wid the 33% prediction at Parkfield. XTJ arrives home late, & Jim tells OPs he has abt 3 wks. before returning to nite work. XO enjoys a motorbike vacation in earthquake country... Tracey, Antioch, horseshow at Hollister... but misses the 4.7 event at Coalinga! And Bob will soon be transferring to another job at the Post Office!

**10/21 2m phone net** - W6ZE/IXN checks in BPX, OPI, NG7D, RE, XTJ, RND, LNN, VDP, BWH, QW, AF6C, ZH & TAM, & XQR. BPX improves by leaps & bounds! Wyatt rides the bike abt a mile each day, drives the car, & learns how to make a numb left hand work! RE, FZE, UK, FHY, & ONZ all give OPI a hand at the RC Pasta Fest! Tnx, OPs! Fireworks fer NG7D as John's TV screen goes blank, & he is treated wid an electrical display and accompanying smoke frm an errant flyback transformer! Want to know all abt WWV xmissions? Then RE has the answer! Send fer your free copy of the Geophysical Alert User's Guide to: Space Environment Service Center, M-S, RE-SE 2, 325 Broadway, Boulder, Colorado 80303. Code number for the Guide is ERL FEL-80. XTJ has truble copying Newsline... Might be RE's beam is turned north! RND & XYL visit relations in NY State & Connecticut, plus a ham friend. They were greeted wid 8 rainy days out of 10! IXN cures his TVI problem... Gnd the 2m ant when sending 40m CW! VDP enjoyed the auction, but wondered if bookkeepers got bought & sold columns backwards! BWH graduates frm a 'coathanger' ant to a 2m,220,440 vertical. Wid vy gud sigs, Bob tells OPs that KC6LNN is not a Club member. LNN 'flies in & flies out'. QW still needs 3 states fer 20m WAS as Rolf prepares fer a wedding this weekend. XQR gives AF6C a

projected amount for Club profit on the auction. And Bob still searches for a program fer next meeting. XQR counted 80 people present at the Auction! TAM loses her grandmother, so she & ZH funeral last weekend. But they get a new toy, a Postmaster 64, which allows multiple monitoring across the bands. XQR, working on database software & VEing, still finds time to set her houseplants out in the rain fer Mother Nature's watering!

**10/22 40m CW net** - Wid NC bk home, W6ZE/RND checks in IXN, NG7D, NT, & XQR. IXN tells OPs there's less than a 5% chance that the predicted Parkfield event will take place now. However, the prediction for an event there is gud till the end of the year! NG7D brings RND up to date on the new Knwd 850 TS rig. And NG7D received sad news abt the death of one of his MD friends. NT gives all OPs' RSTs. NC checks on OPs to see if they hve FSK. NT just listens between the characters. What do we call that, Ray?... HFSK, H for 'human'! XQR checks in wid a 'growling tummy'! Nancy gets home late, so it will be late 'din-din'!

**10/28 15m phone net** - W6ZE/AF6C checks in NGO, XQR, IXN & VKZ. XQR discusses FD results listed in Nov. QST. IXN loses XQR & NGO in the QRN! VKZ has audio distortion, but does sumthing at the rig which improves his audio quality! AF6C is tiling the bathroom.

**10/28 2m phone net** - W6ZE/IXN checks in ZH & TAM, XQR, NG7D, RE, VDP, RND, AF6C, KN6AT (Dave), QT, & XTJ. TAM is bored wid 'domestic engineering' & hopes a job turns up soon! And ZH has a great DX weekend; Ethiopia, 4U1ITU, TJ1, XT2, etc.! W6CPB calls W6RE at end of net, & VDP tells IXN that CPB was a former NARS man! XQR cudn't hear IXN or VKZ on 15m, & Nancy tells OPs that OCARC came in 6th in Class 5A in the Nation! And NG7D & VES came in 4th under 2B2 QRP fer the Nation! And RND is listed (p. 128) as the only 2B-1 OP fer the ORG Section!... More on FD in 'RF'! RE gives another tree its '40 whacks', wid remnants fer the G-man! And Alex reads an interesting ARRL bulletin abt amateur call signs before airing Newsline. VDP, busy painting, plans to work the Contest over the weekend on 20 & 40m. RND did write a small quip abt the Landers 7.4 event fer QST, but they didn't bite! And John plans to work 100+ contacts in the CW Sweepstakes Contest fer a 1992 ARRL pin! AT, calmly takes a leave of absence to polish off his Xtra ticket! And QW still works at the 5-band DXCC as he contacts Japan, Greenland, New Zealand, Barbados, new VD call signs in Canada, etc. (Wonder if they hve all been bad boys & girls in Canada!) And Rolf says 'playing radio' doesn't get much work done! AF6C & XTJ 'fly in & fly out'!

**10/29 40m CW net** - W6ZE/RND checks in IXN, NG7D, ZH, NT, & XQR. RND comments on the clarity of the net, hearing all OPs FB. NG7D contacts VES & tells him abt placing 4th in FD competition. Next year, they will try fer 3rd! And John will be out of town fer the next 2 wks. ZH says bands hve been lousy last few nites as TAM says Hi to all frm the family room. NT congrats all on their FB showings in the FD

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## Net Notes - Continued from Page 4

ranks, & Ray busies himself looking over a new bunch of QSL cards from the Bureau! XQR tells Ray that successful rig operation comes when one 'quits playing with the knobs!' And KE & XQR will put their heads together on 'clamp up' antennas for net & emergency use at Nancy's QTH. IXN informs OPs about a 3+ mag. event that took place, close by, during the net!

## Minutes Board Meeting November 7, 1992

Meeting was called to order at 8:50 a.m. by Frank, WA6VKZ. All board members were present.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Auction** - Club netted \$ 277.00 on the auction which was the best we have ever done.

**Christmas Dinner** - Dinner is scheduled for 12/20/92 at the Officer's Club at Tustin Marine Corps Air Base. Dave, W6COJ, advised the board that he needs a list of OCARC members attending for the base and that he has advised them that a buffet is the best way to go. He also advised the Board that tickets should be sold as it is a "per plate charge" and that will make it easier for the club and prevent overcharging.

**Trailer Committee** - no meetings have been scheduled. Frank, WA6VKZ, advised that the committee should be looking for a 24 ft stripped down trailer.

**Nominating Committee** - Cindy, KC6OPI, advised the board that 2 people have requested their names be withdrawn, but all positions are filled.

**Product Drawing** - Bob, KM6TL, advised the board that 208 tickets have been sold. He stated that there has not been much interest and he would like to do drawing at the 11/20/92 General Meeting. Jane, KC6TAM, advised the board that ticket sale was to be 400 tickets. It was moved by Bob, KD6BWH and sec-

onded by Bob, KM6TL, that Pk232 be given away at the 11/20/92 meeting no matter how many tickets have been sold. Motion was passed by the board.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Audit Committee** - Frank, WA6VKZ, advised that audit committee be established to audit the books before year-end. Carmine, AB6KE, advised board that the year-end statements would not be in until January. Frank stated that audit committee could balance thru December and new treasurer could balance the December statement. Committee members are Nancy, N6XQR, Bob, AF6C and Ken, W6HHC.

### GOOD OF THE CLUB

Nancy, N6XQR, has received a letter from Mrs. Moe (widow of James Moe, N6ZOB) that thanks the club for their help in auctioning off the estate equipment. She will give letter to Bob Evans, WB6IXN, to put in the club history.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking - \$ 964.83  
Savings - \$ 1,181.73

### TVI

Clark, WA3JPG, advised the board that he has a "TVIKit" and procedure manual that he has made up and will let the new TVI Chairman use.

### MEMBERSHIP

Bob, KD6BWH advised the board that there are currently 129 paid members.

Bob, AF6C announced that the November speaker will be Jim, N6XTJ, who will give a talk on packet radio.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.  
Respectfully submitted, Jane Breller,  
KC6TAM, Secretary

## Minutes General Meeting October 16, 1992

There was NO General Meeting in October due to the Auction. The next General Meeting will be in November.

## Connected.... by Brad Freeborn, AB6FD

Imagine your VHF packet radio set-up connected to a station where multiple users can monitor everyone's packets at the same time, in what is called conference mode. A nice feature which permits a party line type of communication.

Now imagine doing the same thing, only not just locally, or county to county, or even state to state, but WORLDWIDE! Well, worldwide conference mode does exist. I just happened upon this a few weeks ago while I was connected to the WD6EHR conference bridge that a friend told me to connect to. I suddenly saw amateur calls "pop up" on my display, such as N8 calls as well as W0, VE and even VK3's, ZL's and many others.

Well, at first I thought I was somehow linked up through a satellite or I had fallen victim to a practical joke, but when I inquired further about it, the name Internet was brought into the QSO. Internet is a worldwide high speed data network over special telephone lines. This worldwide conferencing was all being done through packet/Internet gateways.

Mike Curtis, WD6EHR, has been experimenting with conferencing for quite a number of years. Mike does a super job keeping the bridge operational and said that we are just "scratching the surface" of this type of conferencing, and to expect further breakthroughs in these types of communications. He welcomes anyone to connect to him in North Hollywood. Connect to WD6EHR-6 thru a path accessible into North Hollywood. The best suggested path is on 145.010 or 441.500 thru K6VE-10 ("LANODE"). Once connected type "C 5 WD6EHR-6" and then enter. Other possible ways to connect to Mike are on 146.745 down 600 Hz and 439.025 simplex.

If this type of communication interests you, come join in on the fun. Mike and I will see you there.

73 Brad....."Disconnect"!

(Mike Curtis, 7921 Wilkinson, N. Hollywood, 91605-2210 (818) 765-2857)

## ON-SCENE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATING

by Gordon West, WB6NOA

Those two recent hurricanes in Florida and Hawaii underscore the importance for every ham to be well-prepared to handle on-scene distress calls. And while it is advisable to take advanced training in emergency message handling from groups like RACES, ARES, and the American Red Cross--it's important to know that you can be an effective emergency communicator taking on the lessons learned during the last two hurricanes.

**GETTING BACK ON THE AIR.** A good emergency communicator can get back onto the local and worldwide airwaves FAST after an emergency. Here is where a mobile or base station that runs off of 12 volts really shines! (in more ways than one) Just add 12 volts from any vehicle, destroyed or not, and you are back on the air. I like the little 12-volt gel cell (7 amp hour variety) because I can plug that into a vehicle's cigarette lighter plug, and "float" my 12-volt transceiver.

Some vehicles were so badly damaged in the past hurricanes that the ham operators couldn't get at their batteries. The hood just wouldn't open. But guess what--most of the vehicles still had their electrical system intact, and on most vehicles the cigarette lighter receptacle usually remains "hot" even though the vehicle is turned off.

For coax cable for your antenna system, you could quite easily get by with 72-ohm cable TV coax. In an emergency, the slight mismatch will still let you get on the air. A simple dipole is easily fashioned out of any downed wiring, and just remember the formula  $468$  divided by the frequency in MHz, and this is all the wire you will need for a particular band. Cut the wire in half, and attach the one-quarter wavelength to the braid of the coax in one direction, and the other one-quarter wavelength of the wire to the center conductor of the coax and run it in the other direction. Get it up off of the ground by at least a half a wavelength, and you are on the air with a resonant dipole for a single band.

On the 2-meter band, 18 inches of wire jammed in the back of your mobile transceiver will do quite nicely. Go through the memorized channels in your set, and see if you can find a repeater that can get you good coverage for the devastated area you are in. Hopefully it will give you enough coverage to get to someone outside of the area to be able to handle emergency traffic for you.

On the worldwide bands, come up on a band--such as 15, 20, or 40 meters--where you hear activity. If you are one of the first stations on the air, break into a conversation using a triple break which signifies life and death emergency traffic. If you can't break into the net, chances are you didn't get your antenna system up properly, and look and see what's going on with your wires. If they're coming in over signal strength 7 on your worldwide set, you should surely be heard with a triple break.

If you are one of the first on the air, the 20-meter band is a great place to get some help over long range, and your antenna requirements are only 16 feet of wire on each side of your dipole. 14.275 MHz is a common meeting spot for wide-spread disasters. This frequency is monitored regularly by members of the International Amateur Radio Network (IARN), and these eager-beavers are always on the prowl for any disaster that they can offer assistance.

If you're in the disaster area, first handle outgoing traffic. You'll get many calls from other hams wishing to inquire about a certain street address inside the disaster area, and is the house standing or not. Unfortunately, your priority is outgoing traffic, not incoming inquiries.

As you begin to receive outgoing messages where the typical message is, "We are okay; do not worry. We will call as soon as telephone service is restored. Don't worry," signify this as simply ARRL message ONE. You will find a list of ARRL numbered radiograms in the back of the ARRL radio station log book.

During the last two emergencies,

some pieces of outgoing traffic were taking as long as 2 or 3 minutes to pass in their entirety! Yikes, this is nuts--you should be able to send a complete outgoing message, by voice, in less than 30 seconds. If the operator at the other end of the circuit can't take it down that fast, then suggest someone else come in to handle the communications more efficiently.

If you have digital communications for H.F. or VHF, all the better. This way, numerous stations can help you out.

So are YOU ready to handle it when the big quake hits here in Southern California? Do you have the back-up equipment that can be run truly portable to get you back on the air within minutes after the shaking stops? Do you have a small 6 or 7 amp hour gel cell battery to act as a buffer between your H.F. rig and an alternate source of 12 volts? How about a simple vice-grip type of H.F. antenna mount to clamp onto anything metal to use as a ground plane for your mobile whip? That's a great way to get on the air without having to find 2 trees that are still standing to stretch a dipole.

Remember, if you're in the middle of the disaster area, you don't need to be a member of ARES or RACES to take part in outgoing emergency communications. But then again, joining either of these organizations, plus the American Red Cross, wouldn't be a bad idea, either!

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## Starting Packet - Part 2

by Jim Roberts, N6XTJ

This is the same list we left you with last month, just in case you didn't keep it but want to continue. The frequencies for the following examples are simplex. You can chose one or try them all. Use the alias that is listed where I type ALIAS in the text. Match the frequency with the Alias. Comments or differences are set out in {}. PK-Gold key strokes are in these {} brackets for now, this changes later.

ALIAS	CALL	FREQ(S)	LOCATION
* ANAHIM	WF6O-3	145.030	Anaheim
&		223.540	
OBBS	WF6O	145.050	
* JESNDE	KB6JES-1	145.030	Paramont
&		223.580	
JESBBS	KB6JES	441.500	
* LANODE	K6VE-10	145.010	Mt. Washington
&		145.030	(EagleRock)
LABBS	K6VE-5	223.540	
		441.500	
LGB05	WA6RIK-2	145.050	Long Beach
BGBEAR	AA6TN-1	145.010	Big Bear
PV	W6IWY-4	145.010	Palos Verde

The \* shows a switch and its related BBS rather than a node. You see multiple frequencies for these, use any that goes with that alias. I only listed the 1200 baud ports, more about using these later. These are just a few to try most of you can probably hit them all.

C stands for connect. Type: C ALIAS ^M (remember ^M means to press the return key not type ^M) {PK-Gold type: ALIAS F7 key} into the terminal program. Watch the radio and TNC both to see that you are getting transmit lights. In a few moments (it can be slow) you'll see:

"connected to [call]."

Or "Retry count exceeded" or "Failure with " or the like.

If you get either of the latter, examine the settings of the squelch, volume and threshold (DCD).

Here is an example, to connect to LANODE:

C LANODE ^M

(Don't type the ^M just press the ENTER key) {PK-Gold: LANODE F7} Substitute the Alias and frequency closest to you. From these nodes you can do a N ^M to see what other nodes they can connect to. You can see the commands by typing H ^M or ? ^M. Either will get a list, one because it is the help command the other because the node doesn't recognize the command.

Many also have a BYE command but some do not. If Bye doesn't work and you want off, type: ^C (meaning press the control [ctrl] and C keys together.) You will see "cmd" then

type D ^M to disconnect. {PK-Gold ALT F7 then answer the questions will completely disconnect you}. I mention that first because it was my first problem. I figured out how to connect but not how to get off. Pulling the plug is not an elegant way to disconnect!

Now lets do something besides leave. A node operates on one frequency. A Switch operates on several frequencies, and allows you to change. You can connect to something on a different frequency or even a different band. If we are on a SWITCH we need to know what the PORT choices are, that is what frequency choices we can make. So type P ^M. The SWITCH will list port numbers and frequencies. Make a note or have your printer on line before you put in the command. If it's not a SWITCH it will complain that it didn't know that command. We can make a connect through LANODE going in on 145.030 so we understand how a SWITCH works.

Type: CLANODE ^M {PK-Gold type: LANODE F7}  
you'll see: CONNECTED LANODE etc..

Type: P ^M  
you'll see: a list of port numbers, frequencies, baud rate or use.

Type: C 4 N6XTJ  
you'll see: Connected to N6XTJ.

WAIT! You are connected to my TNC on 441.5

Then you'll see: I'm not around now. etc..

Or: Hi (your call), etc..

If you see the first:

Type: your mailbox call and a path back to you.  
That is; what nodes you used, your frequency and when I can reach your tnc.

You can disconnect with the ^C then D ^M {ALT F7} described above. If you see the second phrase, give me some time to answer. I'm probably on another channel but at the keyboard. If you can't reach LANODE connect to JESNDE: C (JESNDE) {JESNDE F7} then continue with the rest of the above.

You have now completed a connection through a SWITCH. A NODE is even easier, just drop the port number. Connect to the NODE then type: C Call-# ^M. You could have put a -0 on my call in the above but it's not needed. If you want to connect to my personal mailbox the command to use is: C 4 N6XTJ-2, from LANODE. Do not be to hasty. Do not send multiple commands, wait for a response on screen. Multiple commands will further slow the system.

Pick a quiet time and try the different commands on the node. The N or NODES command tells you what NODES this one can connect to. You do not have to use the PORT number when connecting to another NODE from a SWITCH. If the NODE is on the list, it can chose the path.

Next month we will begin to use the PBBS system.

## Antenna Restrictions Continued from Page 2

antenna structure must not preclude amateur service communications. Rather, it must reasonably accommodate such communications, and must constitute the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the state or local authority's legitimate purpose." Notice that PRB-1 does not preclude all local regulations on antennas. It merely states that they must be "reasonable". This has been interpreted to mean various heights must be allowed, such as 30 feet in some cases, and 40 or more feet in others. But PRB-1 ONLY applies to state and local ordinances. It does not apply to private agreements.

Fourth, we have the ever-popular CC&R's. These restrictions are the most problematic, because, technically, we "agreed" to be bound by them. Thus, CC&R's are NOT affected by the PRB-1 ruling. They are private agreements (like a contract), included in your deed explicitly or by reference to a community plan on file at the local deed office. Though there are limits on contracts and deeds, the limits are not great and Courts generally uphold them unless they are extremely unfair or fraudulent.

In the first case, if this type of restriction becomes a problem, we must follow FCC procedures and possibly Federal Court action. Appeals can also be made to members of Congress to change the relevant laws. Amateur Radio has been well served by former Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, and it would be a great step to elect another ham to such a high office at some point in the future!

In the second case, seek legal assistance, and above all else, be a reasonable neighbor until you have resolved all the issues and understand the limits of your rights to use your property. Kindness and understanding, even in the face of completely unreasonable neighbors, will, at the very least, gain you some points with the press, or the judge you will need to speak with. This can turn the case in your favor. I cannot make this point strongly enough! Even though it may really hurt, be nice and reasonable with that crazy

neighbor for as long as possible, and keep all records of your reasonable, respectful behavior. In my experience, Judges will not rule against reasonable, respectful people if at all possible. Further, the real goal in such a situation is NOT to go to court at all, and reasonable, respectful behavior will decrease the chances that you will need to undergo the arduous (and sometimes expensive) process of legal action.

In the third case, do not act until you thoroughly understand PRB-1 and have prepared a good case for yourself. If you have a ton of money, I suppose you can just forge ahead and plan a long entrenched battle with your local city, but that is not good for you or amateur radio. You must thoroughly investigate the local ordinance, attempt the variance procedure as politely and completely as you can, and you should always seek the assistance of your local amateur radio club, and an attorney if possible, for assistance with presenting a case for amateur radio (contact the ARRL for some really helpful materials). I have seen some real successes with this procedure, though it does exact a price from the local amateur involved (investment of time, money, and patience with non-amateurs!)

In the fourth case, again, do not act until you have researched your own particular deed restrictions and variance procedures. You will NOT have PRB-1 as an authoritative decision to help you, though it can be persuasive. There are a few ways you can reason with boards and obtain variances, especially if their enforcement has been spotty, if your antenna has been "grandfathered" (there before the restrictions applied) and there are a few other ways. (Again, the ARRL has some good publications and packages to help you in such a situation.) I have seen this situation work out very well for some amateurs willing to take time and energy in following proper procedure, explaining the purpose of amateur radio, and exhibiting maturity and manners. Our claims about amateur radio must be reasonable - and the amateur concerned should be prepared to back up the claims to the local commu-

nity, not just go back to ragchewing and DX'ing.

In some cases, the only alternative is to have an indoor antenna. Indoor antennas can be surprisingly efficient, but can sometimes be real TVI enhancers (which is exactly what the restrictions are usually meant to lessen!) I have not seen any restrictions on indoor antennas, and believe that they might not stand up legally anyway. There are battles going on in the California Courts involving the "reasonableness" of deed restrictions, though I would be surprised if they had a real affect on our deeds statewide. The argument is that deed restrictions are so "one-sided" and "unfair", and that they do not accomplish their goals, so the Courts should not enforce them. This argument seems to hold the attention of just a few Judges, and I will keep you informed of any big developments.

Overall, if you have a problem with antenna restrictions, INVESTIGATE carefully, be POLITE in your dealings with irate neighbors, and FOLLOW UP with all reasonable avenues. After all reasonable avenues have been exhausted, if you haven't gotten what you need, there is plenty of time to get frustrated and try to make your way in the legal system. It just costs money, time and effort that should only be spent if that is the last resort. But also keep in mind, whatever you do, you will make an impression that will affect all amateurs who follow you. In these days where the Federal Government's commitment to Amateur Radio is lessening, we must keep in mind that we can use all the popular support we can generate.

Please note also that the ARRL maintains a "Volunteer Counsel" system - where you, as an amateur, can get a half hour free legal consultation with an attorney in your area concerning such problems. The ARRL can provide a list of such attorneys in your area. Use the program if you need to! I work with the Volunteer Counsel program and am available to the club members to assist in any way that I can.

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