



**RF**



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## ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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VOL. XXXVII NO 1 P.O. BOX 3454, TUSTIN, CA. 92681 JANUARY 96

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### The Prez Sez:

The year 1995 has gone and a new 1996 is upon us. With the new year brings many new challenges for the Orange County Amateur Radio Club. Let me begin by wishing our club members and their families my best wishes for the upcoming year.

### Membership Drive

Our club needs to increase its membership to prosper. As a club member for over 25 years I've seen the club pass through many changes. One change is the reduction of younger new members, fresh out of school and new in the job place, and eager to explore the many facets of amateur radio. Perhaps, in today's technical society these potential hams take the computer road instead. Computers and amateur radio have a lot in common as a hobby and it would be a good idea to introduce the local computer clubs to our hobby.

Since personal contact is so much more effective than a postcard or mailing an issue of RF to a prospective member, I'm asking each of you to reach out sometime during the year and invite a prospective member to the club.

### Dues

The club is at one of its lowest financial points in many years. In the past the club participated in the sponsorship of an ARRL convention frequently enough to add an occasional healthy jolt to our treasury. Our dues remain exceptionally low compared to other clubs, and I'd like them to remain there for as long as possible. Almost one-third of your dues just goes into postage to mail out your RF. This doesn't include printing costs and miscellaneous supplies that are currently being absorbed by some of our generous members. In order to hold the dues at their constant level we may have to be more wary over what we spend the club money on!

Minutes OCARC Board Meeting 01/06/96

Meeting was called to order at 8:45 a.m. by President, AF6C.

All board members present except KJ6TK and WA6VKZ.

Board meeting minutes for December were read and accepted.

Speakers for the following months are: January - ARES or Phone Company

February - Hospital Disaster Communications

March - Internet and Ham Radio

Secretary is to send Wyatt Berry, WA6BPX, a Get Well Card. Wyatt is getting better and recovering from his stroke..

Treasurer's Report: Audit Committee has not finished the audit. Jane, KC6TAM reported that bank statements from 1/95 through 4/8/95 have not been received from Bank of America, but she is working on it and should have it resolved soon. KD6BWH reported that the insurance has been paid and there is a balance of \$ 237.21 in checking with a refund due to the club from the Christmas dinner in the amount of \$ 25.00 from Marie Callendars.

Membership: No report. Bob, AF6C, wants to expand the club and get people to wear badges. He will pick up temporary name tags and the Membership Chairman will issue these to all people not wearing badges at each meeting. There will be one color for members and a different color for visitors.

Activities: No report due to chairman being absent.

Publicity: AF6C will call WA6VKZ regarding getting the meeting published in the O.C: Register. KJ6ZH will get copy of publicity flyer to AF6C to give to Frank.

Technical Committee: No report

RF: Bud, WA6VPP, reported he is not getting any articles from club members. AF6C suggested that club members and Board members send articles in to Bud.

Old Business: None reported.

New Business:

OCCARO: AF6C noted that no one has been going to meetings. KC6TAM notified the Board that she has contacted Fried Heyn to request meeting dates as times for OCCARO as the dates and times change and there is no set meetings. She will give this information to the Board as soon as she receives it.

AF6C also requested that the club have a point of contact with the Red Cross in case a key or other equipment is need. KC6OPI said that Johanna Lopez could help.

Good of the club: No bulletins.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Breller KJ6ZH

Secretary



NETNEWS  
by Bob Evans WB6IXN

12/6 15m phone net - W6ZE/AF6C checks in COJ, HHC, IXN, & RE. COJ says Kei is off to the River wid two JA OPs, Mac & Kaz #2, to spend a couple of days in Laughlin, NV. They visit wid Dave fer a couple of brews first! AF6C asks COJ abt his rotor control box, and Dave tells Bob that he has lots of coax lying arnd the shack. RE & XYL get a clean slate after Doc exams, & Alex reports zero sunspots fer a couple of days propogation-wise! HHC arrives home frm a trip to Wash., D.C. where he visits, and brings home, sum goodies frm the National Bureau of Standards. HHC knew he was back East when he was scraping thick, solid ice frm the windshield at 1:30 am! IXN says Blanche Berry called wid news that BPX is in a coma! Docs don't know what is wrong, but think it might be kidney infection!

12/6 2m phone net - W6ZE/IXN checks in RE, BWH, VDP, AF6C, QW, HHC, ZH & TAM, OPI, & ESD. IXN repeats BPX news, and RE tells OPs he has grape-stake fence to tear down, so if anyone needs gud grape-stake boards, give Alex a landline! RE also gives the propogation report. VDP works the 160m CW contest over the weekend, adding 5 new states to the QSL list! And, Alex, VDP works W9RE in Indiana during the Contest! ESD tells IXN that he has already received his 10 yr license renewal, so IXN expects to receive his renewed license in abt 2 wks. BWH, at the QTH tonite, airs another `5x9' Newsline!..a great service to Amateur Radio..Tnx, Bob!! AF6C gets lots of comments frm OPs on different types of coax fer the new feedline, wid most comments not favoring foam coax! HHC `flies in & flies out', wid a harmonic in the shack tonite! ZH gets more cards frm the Bureau, but not that 100th country on 80m yet! TAM visits Social Security Docs, & it looks like a permanent disability fer Jane! And ZH contemplates a `new look' fer his QSL cards in the near future. OPI, happy to be home fer awhile, works wid Red Cross on the layout fer a new communications room. ESD golfs 2 days a week, dances 3 nights a week, & manages to put up all the Christmas trimmings!! IXN misses QW after he checks in, but we pick up Rolf on the `net after net'! Rolf says there is no 6m FM to his knowledge on the freqs. mentioned in Newsline.

12/13 15m phone net - W6ZE/AF6C checks in NGO, HHC, IXN, & COJ. NGO gets abt a 1/4 in. of rain, wid IXN getting 3/4 in., and AF6C getting 0 in. wid a blown over rain guage, frm the last storm! HHC comments on how `Dr. Daug' helped him get rid of some `fungus amongus'! And IXN gets his license renewal returned frm FCC. AF6C says BPX needs some tobasco sauce to improve his condition! And COJ, just off the landline wid N6UC, tells us he has a tower down & ready to go to Crestline next week!

12/13 2m phone net - W6ZE/IXN checks in VDP, UCH, QW, EMQ, BWH, HHC, TWA, RE, ZH & TAM, ESD, & NG7D. VDP works wid an errant battery that doesn't want to take a charge! And Larry & IXN remind OPs that Dec. Club Meeting is replaced wid the Christmas Dinner! Meanwhile VDP listens to the `pitter-patter' of falling rain while he waits fer an improvement in 6m propogation! UCH hears all OPs well amidst the falling rain at the QTH. And QW checks in wid his harmonic after



hurricane winds & rain in Vancouver, wid 2 large trees down, and their home on generator power! EMQ & HHC both 'fly in & fly out', & IXN tnx TWA fer the delicious winter tomatoes Charles left at IXN's QTH! And Charles tells OPs to check p. 19 of Jan. QST fer item on VE6EK. Some time ago, RE creates 'Lake Alexander' under the orange tree in the backyard when he forgets to turn off the water. The oranges split, & Alex lost half of them! And RE gets gud copy on ARRL Bulletins at 3 pm local time on 40m RTTY, wid news that OSCAR 17 is inoperative on the 2m downlink! IXN tells OPs how to make their Christmas cactus plants bloom. And ZH & TAM warm themselves wid a cozy fire in the fireplace on this cold, rainy night. ZH has to send in his log fer the 'CQ' DX Contest, & Chris & Jane hve finished Christmas decorations, wid the ham tower well lighted! No time fer live Christmas trees anymore wid ESD's busy golf & dance sched!...Bob just pulls the half-trimmed artificial tree out of the box, stands it up, throws on a few trimmings, and off he goes!! And Bob says he waters his navel orange tree abt once a month after young oranges form. NG7D, just finished wid a landline frm VES, Gary, checks in to tell us he is happy that he got his 'over-repaired' wheel chair back. Question: Will John get 'rocked' fer the over-repairs?!

12/20 15m phone net - W6ZE/HHC checks in COJ, NGO, IXN, & AF6C. AF6C, wid a high SWR, finds a bad wafer on the bandswitch before he can check in! NGO readies the land north of the QTH fer sum rye grass. COJ gets a 2000 lb tower moved to Crestline, has Kei braze a broken toilet part, fixes a garage door that won't open, and wonders if any OPs hve heard frm former Club member, Jerry VerDuft! NGO, IXN & COJ all agree that a holiday seems the same as any other day once you are retired! HHC asks IXN to see if BPX wud like 2m at his bedside. But Blanche says Wyatt is too weak at present. AF6C proposes tobasco sauce as a remedy for BPX!

12/20 2m phone net - W6ZE/IXN checks in FMX, RE, VDP, BWH, QW, PZF, AF6C, NG7D, ESD, & ZH & TAM. FMX treats himself to new packet gear fer Christmas! BWH, wid voice 'on the rocks', airs Newslines wid news of ham radio aboard the SCE float in the Rose Parade, and, the new Form 610V is now available. If you ordered 610V, and didn't receive it, call (860) 594-0300. RE & XYL will hve family in after Christmas fer holidays, and Alex reads select ARRL bulletins. VDP meets a new ham frm Uniontown, PA. IXN, HHC, & AF6C will eyeball wid Dave, KE6YZW, if he comes to a Club meeting! QW, wid Christmas at the QTH, & sum rest needed, will take most of next week off. IXN agrees wid QW as Rolf defines the Christmas season as 'pure tension'! PZF is off to Lancaster fer a desert Christmas as John prepares to guard OP vehicles during the Rose Parade New Years Day! AF6C, wid next week off, and a week of vacation to follow, will work on the errant HF rig! NG7D won't tell us what's up fer Christmas...That part comes afterwards! WA6VES tells John that he put up a new sloper ant, and worked Hawaii on 30m tonite! Will John avoid the 'family cold' over the holidays?! ESD misses packet wid the Commodore 128 on the bum! VDP & Bob put heads together after net fer possible remedies! ZH is Eastern PA. born, too! (Any more Club OPs born in the Keystone state?!) ZH & TAM will Christmas at IBR & IBP's QTH in Moreno Valley. And ZH is off wid a batch of TAM,s Christmas cookies fer his buddies at work tomorrow!




12/27 15m phone net - W6ZE/AF6C checks in HHC and IXN. NGO tries to 'roto-till' his leg and ends up wid a few stitches!...So Kei doesn't fire up the rig tonite. HHC is attacked by the flu Christmas Eve and has been incapacitated the last couple of days! IXN reports that BPX, Wyatt, is doing better. But the BP is still low when he gets up! HHC informs IXN abt an article on Earth structure in Jan. Nat. Geo. magazine, and AF6C, HHC & IXN discuss increased seismic activity in CA. AF6C will install a new meter in a 'beige brown bug'?...a 4"x4"x2" chassis box, that is!

12/27 2m phone net - W6ZE/IXN checks in RE, AF6C, QW, BWH, VDP, UCH, & TWA, wid most other OPs forgetting this was net nite! RE 'flies in & flies out', as Alex awaits the arrival of family from Palo Alto! AF6C operates on his 27 yr old SB-401 Heathkit rig, finding an errant contact on a wafer in the bandswitch! Now AF6C puts out a booming sig on 15m! QW takes advantage of a 6m opening yesterday, getting 7 new grid squares, adding one more today! IXN spent Christmas in Indio, where he felt the 3+ mag. Niland event. BWH airs Newsline, where we hear abt a new VE scandal in NJ! Also Newsline keeps us abreast of the struggle to coordinate Repeater frequencies. "Dynamite!", exclaims VDP abt the 6m opening, wid a pipeline into the eastern U.S.! Larry now has 48 states, wid only Delaware & Mississippi to go! VDP tells OPs there will be a TRW Swapmeet this Sat. UCH wishes a HNY to all, & Jim is glad to relax frm the busy retail business during the Christmas season. We thank TWA's XYL fer reminding Charles abt Net tonite! IXN tnx TWA for the winter tomatoes, which were better than any IXN cud buy in the stores!

## SHOW YOUR PRIDE IN THE OCARC!

ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.



**KJ6ZH** ← *YOUR CALL*

CHRIS BRELLER ← *YOUR NAME*

STATION	DAY	MONTH	YEAR
UTC	FREQ	RST	MODE

73 PSE QSL TRX

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 4645 Pine Street  
 Riverside, CA 92501-4001

OR CALL: 1-800-390-2220 FOR CREDIT CARD ORDERS

100    250    500    1000  
 CHECK    MONEY ORDER



CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1996 Board of Directors

President.....Bob Eckweiler..AF6C.....639-5074  
Vice President...Ken Konechy...W6HHC.....744-0217  
Secretary.....Chris Breller..KJ6ZH...310-866-2077  
Treasurer.....Bob Buss.....KD6BWH.....534-2995  
Activities.....John Meacham...KJ6TK.....842-4702  
Membership.....Tom Thomas....WA6PFA.....771-2917  
Public Relations.Frank Smith...WA6VKZ.....838-3180  
Tech Commitee...Larry Breilin..K6VDP.....557-7217  
Member at Large..Cindy Hughes...KC6OPI.....971-3448  
Member at Large..Kei Yamachika..W6NGO.....538-8942

## CLUB APPOINTMENTS

Club Historian.....Bob Evans.....WB6IXN  
W6ZE Trustee.....Bob Eckweiler.....AF6C  
RF Editor.....Bud Barkhurst.....WA6VPP  
Refreshments.....

## DUES

Regular Member.....\$12.00..Additional Members..\$6.00 each  
Teenage Member.....\$6.00....Optional Club Badge..\$5.00 Each  
Dues for new members are prorated quarterly from January 1 each year.  
Family members must reside at the address of a Regular Member. One RF  
is sent per house.

## How to improve your lamp life.....Bob AF6C

Do the incandescent lamps in your rig, or other equipment, burn-out too frequently? One gentleman on packet was complaining about this recently, so I put out a general bulletin over packet that was very favorably received. It is from information acquired over many years in the aerospace testing business. I thought perhaps the members would find it of interest.

Incandescent lamp luminance and life are affected critically by changes in voltage from the specified value. To give you some idea, the calculated life of a lamp rated for 1000 hours at 12V at different voltages is:



voltage	life (hrs)	percent lumens
11.0	6600	61%
11.5	1780	86%
12.0	1000	100%
12.5	580	115%
13.0	340	132%
13.8	150	163%

These values vary somewhat between different sizes and wattage ratings, but they are reasonably close for small tungsten bulbs. From the data it is evident that lowering the voltage will increase life substantially at the cost of light output.

A second factor that shortens lamp life is turn-on turn-off cycles. When a lamp is cold its resistance is substantially less than when hot. Therefore, there is a large inrush current each time a bulb is turned on while it is cold. Limiting this inrush current can also improve life.

My Yaesu FT-227RA, that is used on packet, seemed to burn out lamps at a rate I felt excessive. The solution was to put a small resistor in series with a lamp whenever I replaced one. The size was selected to drop the voltage 0.5 to 0.75 volts. The drop in light output was noticeable but not objectionable. The series resistor also reduces the inrush current and adds life to the lamp in that respect too. The resistor is soldered in-line with one of the lamp's pig-tail leads. Usually, one-quarter or one-eighth watt resistors can be used, but use Ohms law to check the resistor rating (use the maximum specified operating temperature for the rig to be "professional").

Since equipment manufacturers don't usually give much information on the lamps they install in the equipment, (at least this seems true for the lamps with pig-tails) you'll have to do some experimenting to find the best size resistor for your application.

Before you start, check the schematic and make sure the lamp is not used for other functions too. This is not usually the case, but there are some clever designers who sometimes come up with unusual circuits!

Some people place a diode (1N4001 or equivalent) in series with the lamp instead of a resistor. This drops the voltage by just over half-a-volt providing longer life. The only draw back to this method is that it doesn't reduce the inrush current nearly as much as a resistor.

Finally, this suggestion to improve lamp life is for small tungsten pilot lamps. Before you use it on other types of lamps and higher power applications do some research.

One reference is:

"The Scientific Basis of Illuminating Engineering"  
by Parry Moon  
Dover Publications, New York, N.Y. 1961  
(paperback)

By the way - an empirical equation used to calculate the lamp life is:

$$\text{Life} = (\text{specified life}) * \left| \frac{\text{actual voltage}^{-13.5}}{\text{specified voltage}} \right|$$

The exponent -13.5 varies somewhat with lamp type and wattage.

#### Reminder -Dues Are Due

As we start a new year it is again time to pay your yearly dues. At \$12.00 the Orange County Amateur Radio Club is one of the few remaining bargains left in Southern California.

The deadline to pay this year's dues and stay an active member is the end of March. For new members only, the dues are prorated quarterly.

When you renew, please fill out a copy of the membership form for our membership chairman. This will help the accuracy of our roster. Please also mention any special requests for the roster; perhaps you do not wish to have your phone number listed.

#### COMING OCARC PROGRAMS AND SPEAKERS

JAN 19 - AN OVERVIEW OF AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICES in So. Cal. by  
Corky Corcorran - N6HQI & David Gutierrez - WB6PMX

FEB 16 - HOSPITAL DISASTER COMMUNICATIONS - MORE THAN AN ANT ON ROOF by  
April Moell - WA6OPS

MAR 15 - INTERNET AND HAM RADIO (A LIVE DEMONSTRATION) by Ken Konechy - W6HHC

APR 19 - (To be announced in the future!)

MAY 17 - AUTOMATIC PACKET REPORTING SYSTEM by Jim Carter - WA6HAG



## OCARC PRESIDENTS

by

Ken - W6HHC

with great assistance from our Club Historian, Bob - WB6IXN

YEAR				YEAR			
1996	AF6C	Bob Eckweiler					
1995	N6XTJ	Jim Roberts					
1994	KJ6ZH	Chris Breller		1959	W6BVI	Ken Kesel	
1993	KC6TAM	Jane Breller		1958	W6BVI	Ken Kesel	
1992	WA6VKZ	Frank Smith		1957	- CLUB DISBANDED!!		
1991	W6HHC	Ken Konechy		1956	W6HIL	Bob Swenson	
1990	KJ6ZH	Chris Breller		1955	W6BVI	Ken Kesel	
1989	WA6VKZ	Frank Smith		1954	W6UPP	Marinus Conway	
1988	W6HHC	Ken Konechy		1953	Probably only informal meetings, no officers?		
1987	N6JSV	Jim Talcott		1952	W6QZQ	Horace Bates	
1986	WA6VKZ	Frank Smith		1951	W6LDJ	Samuel (Mac) McNeal	
1985	AF6C	Bob Eckweiler		1950	Probably only informal meetings, no officers?		
1984	KA6IMP	Chris Breller	(call now KJ6ZH)	1949	W6CGF	Chuck Lunder	
1983	W6IBR	Al Watts		1948	W6BWO	Dale Bose	
1982	KA6HNY	Robin Hoff		1947	W6ALO	Tommy Gentges	
1981	WA6VKZ	Frank Smith		1946	W6DEY	Roy Maxson	
1980	WA6FOW	Ernie Prichard		1945	W6DEY	Roy Maxson	
1979	WB6IHZ	Terry Mathers		1944	- ALL OFF TO WAR!!		
1978	WA6LFF	Jim Kingsbury		1943	- ALL OFF TO WAR!!		
1977	WA6WZO	Fried Heyn		1942	W6IBN	Roy Cumpston	
1976	WB6PEX	Martin Raymond		1941	W6BAM	Shelley Trotter	
1975	WA6LHB	Art Sheldon	(call now AD6B)	1940	W6KLU	Harold Christensen	
1974	W6HHC	Ken Konechy		1939	Probably only informal meetings, no officers?		
1973	WB6QNU	Bob Eckweiler	(call now AF6C)	1938	W6NSA	Les Gates	
1972	WA6FIT	Ron Cade		1938	W6ADT	Noral Evans	
1971	WB6CQR	Billy Hall	(call now N6EDY)	1937	W6LYN	Noral Evans (Also reissued W6ADT)	
1970	WB6UDC	Jack Hollander	(call now N6UC)	1936	W6LYN	Noral Evans (Also reissued W6ADT)	
1969	WA6ROF	Jerry VerDuft	(call now AD0A)	1935	- CLUB DISBANDED!!		
1968	W6COJ	Dave Hollander		1934	W6IGO	Earl Moore	
1967	WB6GPK	Jim Hill		1933	W6IGO	Earl Moore	
1966	WA6YWN	Jack Shaw					
1965	K6KTX	Rolland Miller					
1964	W6WRJ	Ralph (Alex) Alexander	(call now W6RE)				
1963	W6DEY	Roy Maxson					
1962	K6LJA	Ted Glick					
1961	K6IQ	Roy Morriss					
1960	K6TXS	Charles (Ed) Edwards					

# Club Nets

Band	Mode	Day	Local Time	Freq. MHz	Net Control
15 Meters	SSB	Wednesday	8:00 PM	21.375*	AF6C
2 Meters	FM	Wednesday	8:30 PM	146.550 Simplex	WB6IXN

(Listen for W6ZE, Net Control) \*Plus or Minus QRM

## General Meeting

January 19  
February 16  
March 15

General Meeting is the 3rd Friday of each month at 7:30 PM.  
American Red Cross  
601 N. Golden Circle Drive, Santa Ana, CA  
Talk in Frequency 146.550 simplex  
Major Cross Streets: Fourth St. & Tustin Ave.

## Board Breakfast

January 6  
February 3  
March 2

Board Meeting is the 1st Saturday of each month at 8:00 AM.  
The Wildflower Restaurant - Members & Visitors are welcome.  
Grand Ave., Santa Ana, CA  
Exit the 5 freeway at 17th Street, go east to Grand Ave. Go north on Grand; or exit the 22 freeway at Grand/Glasell. Go South to restaurant.

Orange County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 3454  
Tustin, CA 92681

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personal copy



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