



# RF



## ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

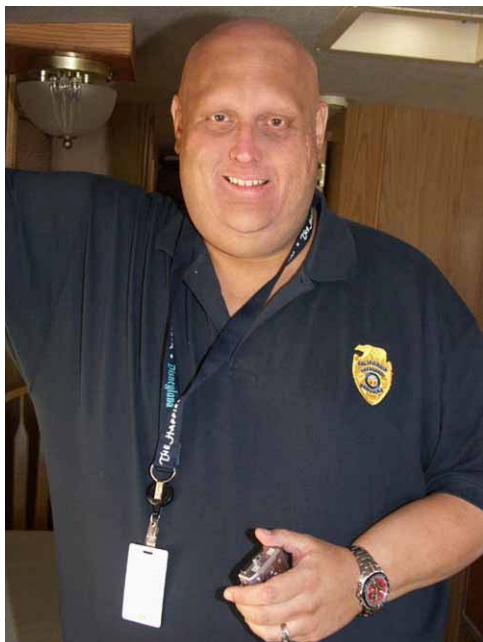
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P.O. BOX 3454, TUSTIN, CA 92781-3454

June 2006

### The Prez Sez.....

By Willie N8WP



### Field Day is here already!!!

Hello OCARC!

June has to be the busiest month of the year. Field Day is right around the corner, Yeah! I am up to my ears in work and personal business.

Luke at AES Las Vegas is working hard to get us our new aluminum tower. It should be here this week. We are scheduled to pick up masts and antennas this weekend. Cheryl and I went to Escondido last week to pick up another antenna, a Force 12 C3, to use at the site.

Bill, W1HIJ, will be giving a talk on the benefits of using HF equipment for emergency operations. I have always been confused why most ARES/RACES groups insist on VHF equipment for support operations when HF seems to be an ideal fit as a solution.

Kristen, K6PEQ, is doing an outstanding job with the management of the Orange County Fair. OCARC is committed to helping her in any way possible. Remember, the OC Fair starts about a week after Field Day.

I heard some disturbing news last week. Tuck Miller, NZ6T, was hospitalized after a heart attack. Fortunately the hospitals did their thing and Tuck toughed it out. I spoke with him on the telephone the day after and he is doing well. Tuck is a personal friend of mine, a friend of OCARC and a major supporter of amateur radio. I hope to see you soon Tuck!

See you at Field Day!

73,

Willie  
N8WP

### June Meeting

The June meeting will be held in the Red Cross Building meeting location. Our speaker is Bill Scholz W1HIJ, who will present a program on:

### "Role of HF in Emergency Communications"

"An often overlooked resource for emergency and disaster communications is the use of High Frequency channels. HF has the advantage of being easy to set up with some very simple antennas and further does not depend on any infrastructure such as repeaters. The presentation will talk about how to plan an HF station, arrange for 'networks', and cope with some common misunderstandings".

The next general meeting will be:

**Friday, Jun 16<sup>th</sup>  
@ 7:00 PM**

We will be meeting in Room 208  
In the east Red Cross Building

Don't miss it. All members  
and visitors are welcome.

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# THE ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO



## 2006 Board of Directors:

### **President:**

Willie Peloquin, N8WP  
(714) 318-4047  
[n8wp@arrl.net](mailto:n8wp@arrl.net)

### **Vice President:**

Kristin Dankert, K6PEQ  
(714) 544-9846  
[kdankert@comcast.net](mailto:kdankert@comcast.net)

### **Secretary:**

Ken Konechy, W6HHC  
(714) 744-0217  
[kkonechy@pacbell.net](mailto:kkonechy@pacbell.net)

### **Treasurer:**

Cheryl Peloquin, KC6KTT  
(714) 318-4047  
[Cherool@escapees.com](mailto:Cherool@escapees.com)

### **Membership:**

Bob Eckweiler, AF6C  
(714) 639-5074  
[af6c@arrl.net](mailto:af6c@arrl.net)

### **Activities:**

Dan Dankert, N6PEQ  
(714) 544-9846  
[n6peg@comcast.net](mailto:n6peg@comcast.net)

### **Publicity:**

Tom Weed, K6CCD  
(714) 838-9672  
[TVWeed@aol.net](mailto:TVWeed@aol.net)

### **Technical:**

Kenan Reilly, N6CCE  
(714) 543-5073  
[n6cce@yahoo.com](mailto:n6cce@yahoo.com)

### **Members At Large:**

Lowell Burnett, KQ6JD  
(714) 997-0999  
[KQ6JD@aol.com](mailto:KQ6JD@aol.com)

Ken Konechy, W6HHC  
(714) 744-0217  
[kkonechy@pacbell.net](mailto:kkonechy@pacbell.net)

## 2006 Club Appointments:

### **W6ZE Club License Trustee:**

Bob Eckweiler, AF6C  
(714) 639-5074  
[af6c@arrl.net](mailto:af6c@arrl.net)

### **Club Historian:**

Bob Evans, WB6IXN  
(714) 543-9111  
[bobev@netzero.net](mailto:bobev@netzero.net)

### **RF Editor (rotating):**

Cheryl Peloquin, KC6KTT  
(714) 318-4047  
[Cherool@escapees.com](mailto:Cherool@escapees.com)

### **WEB Master:**

Ken Konechy, W6HHC  
(714) 744-0217  
[kkonechy@pacbell.net](mailto:kkonechy@pacbell.net)

### **ARRL Assistant Director:**

Ken Konechy, W6HHC  
(714) 744-0217  
[kkonechy@pacbell.net](mailto:kkonechy@pacbell.net)

### **ARRL Awards Appointee:**

Larry Beilin, K6VDP  
(714) 557-7217  
[k6vdp@aol.com](mailto:k6vdp@aol.com)

### **OCCARO Delegate:**

Kristin Dankert, K6PEQ  
(714) 544-9846  
[kdankert@comcast.net](mailto:kdankert@comcast.net)

## Monthly Events:

### **General Meeting:**

Third Friday of the month  
at 7:00 PM  
American Red Cross  
601 N. Golden Circle Dr.  
(Near Tustin Ave. & 4<sup>th</sup> St.)  
Santa Ana, CA

### **Club Breakfast:**

First Saturday of the month  
at 8:00 AM  
Jagerhaus Restaurant  
2525 E. Ball Road  
(Ball exit off 57-Freeway)  
Anaheim, CA

### Club Nets (Listen for W6ZE):

7.086 ± MHz CW **OCWN**  
Sun- 9:00 AM – 10 AM  
Rick KF6UEB, Net Control

28.375 ± MHz SSB  
Wed- 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM  
Bob AF6C, Net Control

146.55 MHz Simplex FM  
Wed- 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM  
Bob, WB6IXN, Net Control

## **VISIT OUR WEB SITE**

<http://www.w6ze.org>

for up-to-the-minute club  
information, the latest  
membership rosters, special  
activities, back issues of RF,  
links to ham-related sites,  
vendors and manufacturers,  
pictures of club events and much  
much more.

### **Club Dues:**

Regular Members ...\$20  
Family Members\* ...\$10  
Teenage Members ..\$10  
Club Badge\*\* .....\$3

Dues run from January thru Dec  
and are prorated for new mem-  
bers.

\*Additional members in the family  
of a regular member pay the family  
rate up to \$30 per family.

\*\*There is a \$1 charge if you'd like  
to have your badge mailed to you.

By Rol Anders, K3RA

# FIELD DAY

## A Mirror of Amateur Radio History

Steeped in tradition and mystery, today's Field Day evolved from humble beginnings in the Golden Age of Radio. Anything but stable, Field Day rules and practices have changed radically since the 1930s.

**Be** careful when you start to search *QST* archives for the answer to a simple question—it can become an obsession! That's the lesson I learned when, following my participation in Field Day this year with the Potomac Valley Radio Club (W3AO—7A MDC), I was asked whether I thought we had set a new Field Day record. Because I volunteer at the Historical Electronics Museum in Linthicum, Maryland, which happens to have a nearly complete set of *QST*s in its library, I figured I would spend a lunch hour at the museum and dig up the 7A and overall Field Day records. In pursuing this goal I quickly learned that: (1) this is *not* a simple question; (2) the history of Field Day reflects the history of communications technology in general and ham radio in particular; and (3) old *QST*s are fascinating!

Here is a chronology of Field Day starting from the first outing in 1933. In the process of piecing this together, I learned (or relearned) much about what has happened to ham radio in the past 66 years.

### 1933: Field Day #1 QSO Leader Uses 1x4 Call Sign to Save Time

Great ideas often have humble beginnings, and Field Day is no exception. A one-column announcement in the June 1933 *QST* states that, for 27 hours starting the second Saturday in June at 4 PM local time (no daylight savings yet!), there would be an opportunity for "portables" to go into the field to contact as many stations as possible. Says

F. E. Handy, W1BDI, in the announcement, "The real object of this contest is to test 'portables' wherever they may be available.... If successful, we want to make it an annual affair." To score the event, each QSO with fixed stations will count 1 point, contacts with other portables count 2 points, and DX contacts count 3 points. Multiply QSO points by the total number of ARRL sections, plus countries worked. No mention is

made of a required exchange, which clearly must include an ARRL section!

The September 1933 *QST* announces that the winner of the First Annual Field Day is a non-club group signing W4PAW. Club members made 62 QSOs and had a multiplier of 28 sections/countries for a grand total of 1876 points. The Central Illinois Radio Club, W9ZZAL, tops the QSO totals with 98! What's the "ZZ" all about? Until 1933 it had been necessary to get a special license to operate portable, and these licenses all had suffixes starting with ZZ. In 1933 the FCC allowed portable operation under a home call sign. Why did the CIRC use their old call sign? Well, operating portable under the new rule called for an even longer station ID—your call sign followed by the break sign (double dash) *three times*, followed by the call area (1 through 9)!

### 1934: 60 W is QRO!

It looks like Handy's wish is coming true—there *will* be a Field Day number 2! The Field Day period remains the same, although the chosen weekend in June will range from the first to the third for a long time to come, eventually settling on the fourth full weekend of the month.

The characteristics of today's competition are beginning to be established. Emphasis is shifted to the total number of stations contacted—the multiplier for sections and countries has been removed. At this point, multi-band contacts are not permitted. DX contacts, while still allowed, receive no special point advantage. The scoring system begins to resemble Field Day as we now know it,



By the '50s Field Day had grown into a major event worthy of its own *QST* cover.

28 December 1999 *QST*



### International Field Day— June 10th–11th

**C**LUBS, 56-mc. operators, all hams with licenses for portable stations, attention!! Starting Saturday at 4 p.m. local time (June 10th) and ending Sunday at 7 p.m. local time (June 11th), all U. S. A. and Canadian station owners are invited to schedule "field activities," excursions with concentrated operation of portable transmitters and receivers. Only portable stations, actually in the field, away from the "home" address are eligible to submit field day scores.

The object will be for each "portable" station to work as many other amateur stations as possible—each to count one point toward a score. Any or all amateur frequency bands may be used, voice or c.w. telegraph likewise. The "total" of such points may be multiplied by the number of A.R.R.L. Sections worked. Contact with another portable station at any point except its base, or home address, will "rate" double credit, or two (instead of one) points. Two-way work with a foreign station shall entitle the operator of the "portable" to triple credit, or three (instead of one) points, in addition to which each foreign country (prefix) may be added to the number of Sections to increase the "multiplier." The R.S.G.B., N.V.I.R. and R.B. are sponsors of similar national field days in Europe, and we hope this may assume an international complexion. All amateurs with licensed portable stations are invited to take part . . . each such station will please report its power and frequency band used, and its log of operation and score for the period given, within the week following the Field Day. Also, gang, don't forget to comply with F.R.C. regulations for portable station operation. Notify your Radio Supervisor of the approximate location and time of intended operation of the "portable" by postal or letter, just in advance of the "field" radio work. We shall be interested to know how many clubs plan outings, and also suggestions for a similar activity for 1934 (if you want one) will be welcomed.

Besides offering an opportunity to get out in the open in this fine spring weather, the real object of this contest is to test "portables" wherever they may be available. If successful we want to make it an annual affair. — F. E. H.

The first Field Day was announced in the June 1933 QST by F. Edward Handy, W1BDI.

with 3-, 2-, or 1-point multipliers per QSO depending on power output. The technology of the '30s is highlighted by the fact that the breakpoints are set at 20 W and 60 W! As technology changes these breakpoints are modified many times throughout the years to come.

The desire to encourage operation independent of public mains is also expressed by a 2X multiplier if either the receiver or transmitter is independent of public mains (3X if both are independent). The 3X multiplier is destined to last 37 years until it's removed in 1971! No special exchange is needed. The ops must simply indicate whether their sta-

tions are portable. At this early time in Field Day history, only portables are listed in the scores.

### 1936: The Year with Two Field Days!

The June 1936 Field Day is so popular a second one is held on August 22-23 with identical rules. Participation in both Field Days is about the same, as winning contact totals in June and August are 143 and 136, respectively.

### 1937: The "Field Day Message" is Born

The special Field Day of August 1936 apparently becomes Field Day number 4, as the Fifth Annual Field Day is announced for June 19-20. In a battle that continues to the present between creative rules interpretation and the "spirit of the law," the League outlaws "manufactured contacts with stations of the same field group." The Field Day message bonus, another venerable Field Day tradition, is born as 10 points (before multiplier) are awarded for a single properly formed and serviced message to League Headquarters stating the number of ops, location, "conditions," and power. Multipliers and QSO points are unchanged. For the first time, the winning QSO total exceeds 200 (204), with a breathtaking average rate of 7.5 QSOs per hour.

### 1938: I'm Not Ready to QRT!

The contest period is extended to 26 hours—from 4 PM Saturday to 6 PM Sunday.

### 1939: Everyone Form a Circle

For the first time, the area within which all equipment must be located is defined as a restrictive 100-foot radius. Do they mean this to include your 160-meter dipole?

### 1940: Modern Field Day Rules Emerge

Significant changes are afoot. For the first time, a station can be contacted on multiple bands. Results are grouped by the number of simultaneous transmitters used. The 100-foot circle expands to 500 feet, giving those multi-transmitter teams a little breathing room. Home stations are encouraged to work Field Day stations, and their scores will be listed, but no multipliers are allowed (a rule that never changed). The Field Day message to ARRL HQ now earns 25 points, points are given for Field Day handling of other teams' messages, and both home and portable stations get one point for each message copied and one point for a message passed on. From 1933 to 1980 message points will be changed no less than 12 times!

### 1941: Field Starts Simultaneously Across the Country (by Accident?)

The Field Day period now starts at 4 PM EST across the country. Strangely, this change may have come about by accident. To smooth the FCC approval every portable station needs for Field Day operation, the League

### HIGH CLAIMED SCORES — 1946 FIELD DAY

As this issue goes to press, Field Day logs have been received from 104 club groups, 53 nonclub groups and individuals, and 45 home stations.

We are passing along the highest claimed-scores so far reported. These are subject to checking, and should not be considered a final tally.

#### CLUB GROUPS

(Listing shows club name, call used in FD, claimed score, and number of simultaneously-operated transmitters.)

Jersey Shore Amateur Association . . . . .	W2FC/2	9621-8
Frankford Radio Club . . . . .	W3BES/3	8568-7
Tri-County Radio Association . . . . .	W2KHK/2	6921-8
Northwest Amateur Radio Club . . . . .	W9IT/9	6363-5
Monmouth County Amateur Radio Association . . . . .	W3AC/2	6237-7
Motor City Radio Club . . . . .	W8ONK/8	4500-3
St. Paul Radio Club . . . . .	W9KYC/9	4338-6
Greater Cincinnati Amateur Radio Assn. . . . .	W8JIN/8	4320-2
Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club . . . . .	W9BNX/9	4239-3
Somerset Hills Radio Club . . . . .	W32D/2	3978-5
York Road Radio Club . . . . .	W3IU/3	3879-5
Steel City Amateur Radio Club . . . . .	W8TUD/3	3870-5
Palomar Radio Club . . . . .	W6BKZ/6	3756-6
Mountaineer Amateur Radio Association . . . . .	W8BOK/8	3555-6
Mon Yough Amateur Transmitters Association . . . . .	W8OC/8	3267-2
Amateur Transmitters Assn. of Western Pa. . . . .	W8BSO/3	3249-4
Wisconsin Valley Radio Association . . . . .	W9RQM/9	3080-2
Narragansett Assn. of Amateur Radio Opns. . . . .	W1LWA/1	3051-1
Minneapolis Radio Club . . . . .	W9OBM/9	2961-3
Northern Nassau Wireless Association . . . . .	W2J3V/2	2907-5
Tulsa Amateur Radio Club . . . . .	W5IAS/5	2873-4
Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club . . . . .	W8DM/8	2817-3
Beacon Radio Amateurs . . . . .	W3ATR/3	2707-2
Lancaster Radio Transmitting Society . . . . .	W3LN/3	2664-1
Delaware Valley Radio Association . . . . .	W3AQ/2	2538-3
Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club . . . . .	W9SYT/9	2538-3
Cuyahoga Radio Association . . . . .	W8GW/8	2529-2
York Radio Club . . . . .	W9GY/9	2502-3
Bridgeport Amateur Radio Club . . . . .	W1MWN/1	2457-3
Cahokia Amateur Radio Club . . . . .	W9TCK/9	2427-3
So. Lyme Beer, Chowder and Propagation Soc. . . . .	W1EH/1	2371-1
North Newark Amateur Radio Club . . . . .	W2PY/2	2322-3
Greater Cincinnati Amateur Radio Assn. . . . .	W8SLO/8	2313-1
Racine Megacycle Club . . . . .	W9PWJ/9	2214-3
Joliet Amateur Radio Society . . . . .	W9HVZ/9	2181-3
Fort Worth Kiloyde Club . . . . .	W5AA/5	2142-2
New Haven Amateur Radio Association . . . . .	W1GB/1	2106-4
South Hills Brass Pounders and Modulators . . . . .	W8BK/3	2061-2
Toledo Radio Club . . . . .	W8ARF/8	2061-3
Iowa City Radio Club . . . . .	W9IFB/9	2040-3

#### NONCLUB GROUPS & INDIVIDUALS

(Listing shows call used by each group, number of operators, claimed score, and number of simultaneously-operated transmitters.)

W9ERU/9 . . . . .	10-2574-3	W1BDI/1 . . . . .	5-1428-1
W9ROQ/1 . . . . .	1-2115-1	W7RT/7 . . . . .	1-1424-1
W6PNU/6 . . . . .	4-1978-2	W8KYW/3 . . . . .	9-1368-2
W6STA/6 . . . . .	3-1876-2	W9VPD/9 . . . . .	4-1233-2
W2FBA/2 . . . . .	2-1827-1	W8UPS/4 . . . . .	5-1170-2
W9FEK/9 . . . . .	11-1512-2	W8VMF/3 . . . . .	4-1134-1
W9FBC/8 . . . . .	9-1467-1	W1GEJ/1 . . . . .	4-1116-1
W9AVE/9 . . . . .	7-1431-8	W1JWG/1 . . . . .	2-1057-1
WILLX/1 . . . . .	2-1428-1		

High claimed scores from the first post-World War II Field Day.

informs the FCC of the Field Day period. In aptly numbered announcement 73-D, the FCC refers to a single operating period for all stations. My guess is that the League's communication to the FCC lists the period from 4 PM EST June 7, to 6 PM EST June 8, inadvertently establishing a single starting time.

Last year's change to allow contacts on multiple bands was apparently unclear, so this year's rules make a point to state that phone and CW are separate "bands" for the purposes of Field Day contacts. Also, even in these early days stations must be complaining about being in "black holes" as far as contesting is concerned. In response, an overall 1.5X mul-



tiplier is established for the Northwest, Pacific, Rocky Mountain, Southwest and West Gulf areas "to assist in equalizing contact opportunity...in these less populous areas." This West Coast handicap remains until 1950.

#### 1942-1945: "Closed for the Duration"

As is the case with so many activities, Field Day posts a "Closed for the Duration" sign during WW II. In fact, so does all ham operating.

#### 1946: The Post-War Era—A VHF-Only Category Debuts

Field Day returns after the war with virtually no changes. Starting time is back to local time (more evidence that the 1941 change was inadvertent). For the next three Field Days there is a VHF-only score listing designed "to lend point to the participation of VHF Emergency Corps networks that may wish to arrange special activities or simulated tests on these dates."

#### 1948: CQ Field Day on 11 Meters?

Eleven meters is now available to hams (for a while) and it counts as a Field Day band. There are no CW/phone subbands on 11 meters, but phone and CW count separately here, too. The period is shortened to 24 hours, starting at 4 PM local time. Each station worked is now worth one point (regardless of whether fixed or portable). The 2X multiplier for transmitters that are independent of commercial mains is dropped. Battery operation now is recognized with a 1.5X multiplier.

#### 1949: Field Day Mobile Operation Comes of Age

The growing interest in mobile operation results in some significant rules changes. This year, four categories are recognized: (1) Club and group (no battery multiplier); (2) One or two operators; (3) Mobile; and (4) Home stations. Also, the Club Aggregate Mobile listings are established whereby clubs can compete with teams of mobile stations. This special listing will last until it's quietly dropped in 1978. In other changes, a specific exchange of signal report and ARRL section is required for the first time, and the Field Day message now goes to the Section Communications Manager (today's SM) or the SEC rather than to HQ.

#### 1950: Modern Field Day Classes are Established

The four classes offered last year are modified and labeled with letters for the first time: A—Club or non-club portable; B—Unit or individual portables (1 or 2 ops); C—Mobile; and D—Home. The Field Day "circle" is increased to 1000 feet. The wording last year said "25 points for each such [Field Day] message." What was meant, we learn, was 25 points for each team's *single* Field Day message (some stations, not unexpectedly, had cranked out a pile of Field Day

messages looking for 25 points *each*).

#### 1951: Duck, Cover and Turn on Your CONELRAD Monitor

Says June 1951 *QST*: "At a time when civil defense is organizing, the Field Day provides an unparalleled opportunity for mass testing of our emergency facilities." To encourage emergency preparedness, home stations on emergency power will be listed separately as Class D, while home stations on commercial power will be listed as Class E.

#### 1952: "Having a Wonderful Time, Wish You Were Here"

The 1950 rule that allowed one point for any message originated during Field Day has resulted in some groups cranking out meaningless "rubber stamped" messages during Field Day to generate points. Because the emphasis is on contact totals and not message generation, the League responds by eliminating the bonus points for message origination after a trial of only two years.

#### 1957: Simultaneous Start Returns

Field Day starts at 4 PM EST and ends at 4 PM PST, as usual, but now everyone can operate any 24 consecutive hours of the 27-hour period. The purpose of the change is to "encourage long-distance QSOs." For the first time, more than 10,000 hams participate, a 430% increase over the first postwar event in '46.

#### 1963: Will "Manufactured" Contacts Ever be Eliminated?

Although contacts with other members of a Field Day group were outlawed way back in 1937, some creative types have determined that the rules don't ban those who are not "Field Day operators" from using the Field Day transmitters to work the group for points. The League counters by allowing a



If you think computer logging is a modern development, check out the key-punching station at the 1966 K2INO/3 Field Day effort. The cards containing the contact data were processed by an IBM 1401 computer at Johns Hopkins University after the event. K0OVZ is shown operating the key punch while WA2BUJ hunts for contacts.

Field Day transmitter to be used only under one call sign.

#### 1966: The Modern "Bonus Era" Begins

The simple Field Day message bonus concept, around since nearly the first Field Day, is expanded, bringing the beginnings of a wonderful aspect that one wag, who shall remain nameless (KE3Q), has characterized as "part radio contest, part scavenger hunt." Publicity is emphasized and 100% freedom from commercial power is stressed by a 500-point post-multiplier bonus for achieving at least two of the following three: (1) Use of no commercial power anywhere; (2) Publicity; or (3) Originating a message to the SCM or SEC.

#### 1968: The Field Day Period is the Field Day, Period

A major change is adopted that makes setup within the 27-hour period *mandatory*, and the starting time is advanced two hours to 1900Z to accommodate the change. All home stations, emergency powered or on commercial mains, now compete in a single D category. The 1.5X multiplier for battery power now applies to categories A, B and C. Bonuses provide for 200 points each for publicity, 100% emergency power and/or message origination. Lastly, and largely ignored, the exchange is now section only—but in practice many can't resist sending a signal report anyway!

#### 1969: An Idea Whose Time Has Not Come

Last year's mandatory setup within the 27-hour event period was not popular, so it is now optional (that is, ops can use the entire 27 hours if they start setup within that period). (Personal note: This was the year of my first Field Day victory—1A with WA3EPT/3, Johns Hopkins University Students and Alumni.)

#### 1970: Increasing Novice Participation

To further encourage beginners, a "free" Novice station (set up and run by Novices) is allowed for groups running three or more transmitters. The League continues to battle with creative rules interpretation (or, depending on your viewpoint, technology advancements) by outlawing "octopus" hardware for interleaving transmissions to avoid moving to a higher transmitter category. (We had made great use of that technique in our '69 1A win.) On another note, I guess we are getting better at setting up, because the starting time is advanced yet another hour to 1800Z.

#### 1971: Why Old-Timers Can't Remember Whether Home Emergency Power is Class D or E

After three years of being combined, Classes D and E are separate once again. The designators, however, are reversed. Class D is for home stations on commercial power,



while Class E encompasses home stations on emergency power. (I guess the feeling is that E for Emergency makes more sense.)

Major changes in the scoring system reduce points across the board. The 3X multiplier for 100% emergency power is eliminated and replaced by a requirement that all A and B transmitters now *must* be on emergency power. The 1.5X multiplier for battery operation is eliminated and replaced with limiting the QRP multiplier to battery operation only. The power multiplier now applies to the maximum power used at any time during the period. The four-QSO multiplier categories are reduced to three with a maximum of 3X for QRP/battery. Bonus points are now as follows: 100 points per transmitter for 100% emergency power; 50 points for publicity; 50 points for message origination; and 5 points per message relayed. Last, in a surrender to habit, the signal report is returned to the exchange!

#### 1972: Batteries are on Their Own

Ops using battery power no longer compete with ops using non-battery sources. Scores are listed separately.

#### 1973: The Space Age Comes to FD

The repeater rule is waived for OSCAR 6 contacts and a 50-point satellite bonus is instituted.

#### 1974: The Energy Crisis Strikes FD

A 100-point bonus is added for making natural power QSOs. The 15-minute rule for band changes further discourages tricky techniques for counting two transmitters as one.

#### 1975: Is SSB Taking Over?

SSB is demonstrating its superiority to "conventional" AM, and phone QSO rates



In 1976 the Indianapolis Power & Light ARC made a natural-power contact. Gary, K9LNX, operated the radio while Ron, WB9DKL, supplied the muscle. Mike, WA9BWY, assisted by holding the bike in place.

are so high that the mode threatens to dominate Field Day. To compensate, the 2X rule for CW QSOs is instituted on a trial basis (personal note: Hooray!).

#### 1976: The 10,000 QSO Mark is Broken

Field Day results show the many unusual prefixes permitted by US amateurs celebrating the Bicentennial. W1VV/I celebrates with 10,010 contacts! In doing so, the group surpasses the 1933 QSO record in its first 15 minutes of operation.

#### 1977: Bring on the Techs!

Technician amateurs are now permitted to set up and operate the Novice station. Also, we have apparently solved the energy crisis because the natural power bonus is gone! The 2X rule for CW is "permanent."

#### 1980: 1A CT

RST is replaced with category and class in the exchange. FCC and Field Day rules no longer require portable call sign designators. Set-up time is tightened—nothing can be installed prior to 24 hours before the start of the Field Day period. Natural power was judged to be politically correct and too much fun to be eliminated—so it's back as a 100-point bonus. The satellite and Field Day message bonuses advance to 100 points. Copying the W1AW message is worth 100 points for the first time.

#### 1981: 1001001

Computers are becoming ubiquitous and, as a result, packet radio is soaring in popularity. Field Day enters the digital era by providing a 100-point bonus for a single packet QSO, permitting one "free" packet station and waiving the repeater rule for packet to allow digipeaters and nodes to be used. The 15-minute rule is eliminated at VHF and above. The Yankee Clipper Contest Club and The Wireless Institute of the Northeast combine using call sign W2RQ to turn in a QSO total of 11,201—unbeaten 18 years later!

#### 1984: We Finally Get it Right

Over the years we've had a heck of a time settling on the best way to score battery, low, medium and high power categories. Here's another try: The power breakpoints are adjusted so that the 5X multiplier applies to 5 W instead of 10 W (for battery or equivalent), and 2X applies to <150 W rather than <200 W. (These definitions will stick for at least the next 16 years! In particular, the 5X multiplier for QRP/battery turns out to be a good equalizer—the change will result in overall first place finishes by the entrants in this category in eight of the next 16 Field Days.)

#### 1993: VHF Becomes a Major Field Day Factor

The growing influx of Technician licensees changes Field Day in a big way—



Another Field Day retrospective graced the December 1989 QST.

there is now a 100-point bonus for making 10 VHF/UHF contacts and one "free" VHF/UHF station is permitted for Classes A and B.

#### 1994: I Guess They Don't Need a 1.5X "Equalizer" Anymore

K6CAB (Conejo Valley ARC) logs the modern Field Day record score of 30,150 by operating in the 15A battery category with 3460 5-W QSOs!

#### 1998: No More "Zero A" Entries

This year digital modes go from special handling to "mainline" modes. Although the "free" packet station and packet bonuses are eliminated, digital modes (including RTTY and PSK31) are added as a third mode on every band. Perhaps motivated by the "0A" tongue-in-cheek entry made by one station working exclusively on packet via the internet (thus no transmitters!), nodes and digipeaters are now outlawed for Field Day contacts. Finally, VHF/UHF has become such a mainstay that the 100-point bonus for 10 contacts is no longer needed.

So, that brings us up to date. Oh, I nearly forgot why I started all of this. Scores are fairly comparable from 1975 on—the year that the 2X multiplier went into effect for CW. With that definition, the Potomac Valley Radio Club team *did* set a modern record for 7A. In fact, our 26,324 claimed score is the highest non-battery score ever recorded in any category under the modern rules—beating N1FD's record set in 1998 by the narrow margin of 50 points!

Now, I wonder how the DX Contest got started...

You can contact Rol at 6021 Lawyers Hill Rd, Elkridge, MD 21227-5207; [anders@erols.com](mailto:anders@erols.com).

## The \$10,000 Radio

or: "The Radio Club Does the Right Thing!"



The \$10,000 Radio

In early June of 2006, the club was offered the opportunity to auction -- at a very generous commission -- a large collection of radios from the estate of a New Jersey collector. The club was asked if we would be interested in auctioning the entire collection of over 80 pieces for the estate, including many nice examples dating back to the 1920s. A team was dispatched to pick up the radios. The collection filled two vans, and was transported to our cottage museum on Marconi Road at the [InfoAge Science/Learning Center](#) for inspection and cataloging.

Upon opening one of the radios (an unusual "Crawford" model, pictured above), club trustee Ray Chase discovered something wrapped up in paper towels inside. Unwrapped, the bundle revealed it's contents: ten thousand dollars in cash! As Ray called out "Hey, I need a witness over here!" others dropped what they were doing to see what all the commotion was about.

Stunned, the members passed the envelope around "to see what it felt like to hold \$10,000" and then immediately called the owner to inform her of the situation.

Ray drove many miles to return the money to the owner the next day. He accepted a small reward from the owner as a further donation to the club's efforts in appreciation of our honesty. The



money, and the commission from selling the radios will be put to good use, providing much-needed financing of our museum and ongoing educational programs at the InfoAge site.

When this radio is put up for auction, although the opening bid will doubtlessly be a bit lower, it will of course be listed as "The \$10,000 Radio"!

# Radio holds a big surprise — \$10G

## Members of club return money to donor

By **CAROL GORGA WILLIAMS**  
COASTAL MONMOUTH BUREAU

**WALL** — Phil Vourtsis of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club says it is not unusual to find a little something left behind in an old radio, but usually it's a dead rodent curled up in an old nest.

But, said the Manalapan resident, on May 24, tucked under the lid of a donated old Crawford three-dialer from the 1920s, fellow club member Ray Chase of Plainfield found \$10,000. The money was mostly twenties and fifties.

Vourtsis said three club members had driven to the female donor's house to pick up her brother's collection of antique radios, which the club was going to auction off for her. The club maintains a museum and headquarters at the InfoAge science/history learning center at 2201 Marconi Road.

The donor's brother, who had recently died, was known

for keeping money around the house. But he apparently stopped keeping money inside a dresser drawer after a robbery, Chase said.

"She said it didn't surprise her too awfully much," Chase

**The donor's brother, who had recently died, was known for keeping money around the house.**

said about the discovery of the money, which he returned the next day to the woman, whom the club would not identify.

All three members who worked with the collection that day held the

envelope just to feel what it was like to hold that much cash, Vourtsis said.

"Great," said Chase when asked how it felt.

The auction will be announced on the club's Web site — [www.njarc.org](http://www.njarc.org) — where photographs of the "\$10,000 radio" also can be viewed.



## The Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler

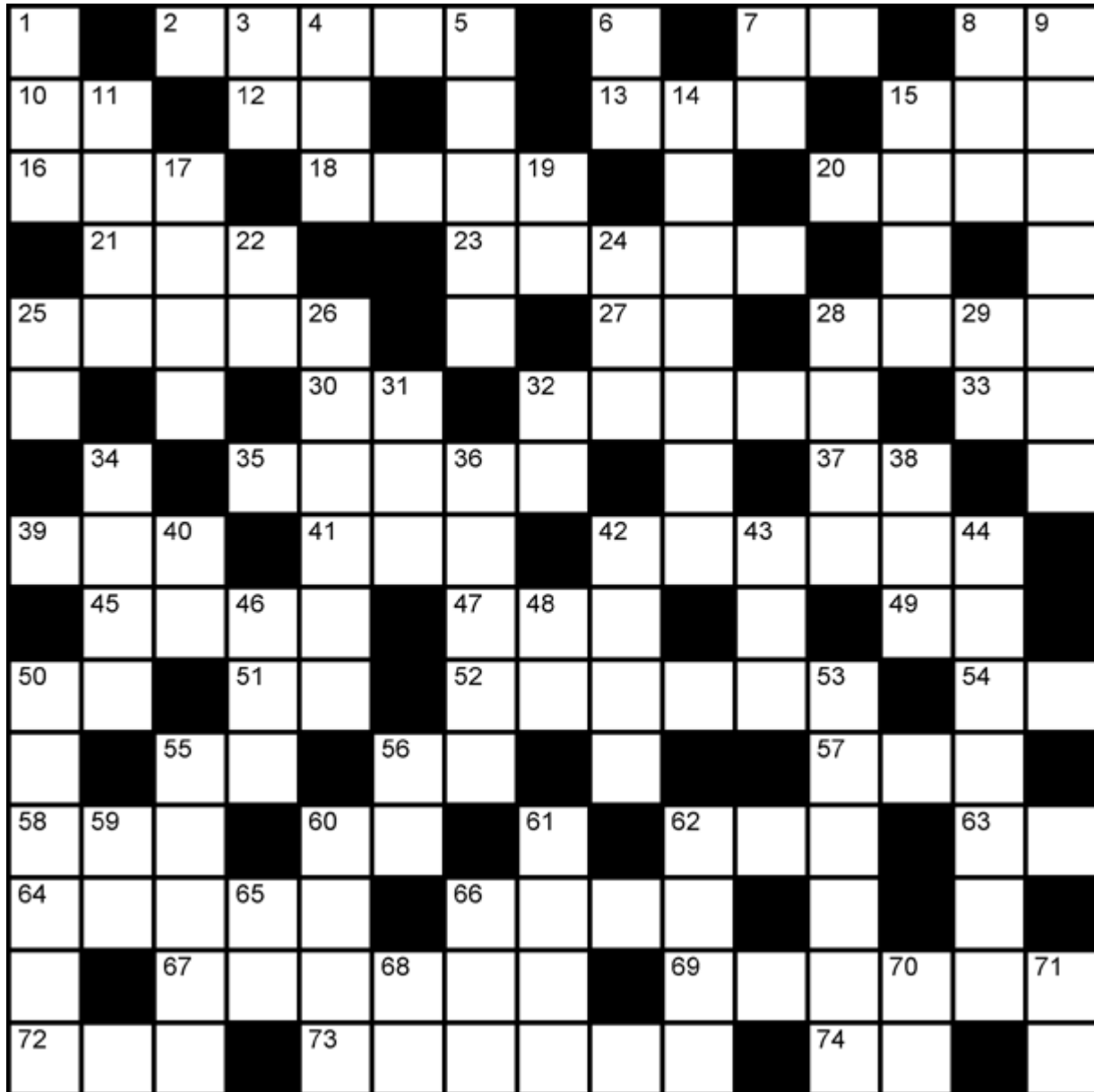
*By H. Ward Silver, N0AX*  
*June 9, 2006*

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*"Say What?"*

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Maybe you're a new ham and you'd like to sound like a pro before Field Day rolls around? This puzzle about ham jargon will test your understanding of those obscure terms every hobby seems to collect. You may need to open a "cold 807" before you're through, but don't pull the "big switch!"



**Across**

2. 100 percent reception
7. CW prosign for "Stand By"
8. Prefix meaning "again"
10. A voltage drop from current flow
12. Prefix of country where lots of US military are serving
13. Above VHF
15. Hidden transmitter
16. Maximum transmitter output
18. Control tones
20. Without tension or pressure
21. Popular ham store (abbr)
23. Typewriters
25. Noise seen at the bottom of a spectrogram
27. Prefix for World Cup host
28. External tooth lockwasher
30. Common Novice prefix
32. Set of equipment
33. Prefix of a southern neighbor
35. Goes with "Roger"
37. Shares the A prefixes
39. An up and down path
41. Didn't get logged
42. Nickname for radio operator
45. Signal reflected from meteor trail
47. Permanent or invisible
49. Prefix for Damascus
50. Prefix for Beijing
51. After the signature
52. What an unstable CW oscillator does
54. Unmarried woman
55. Oscillator used for tuning
56. CW prosign for interruption
57. Battery energy rating
58. Commotion about nothing
60. Opposite of NE
62. Symbol for conductivity
63. Male ham
64. When a program stops working
66. Capital of OA
67. Big mistake
69. Small adjustment
72. Message handling organization (abbr)
73. Used with a keyer
74. Battery power

**Down**

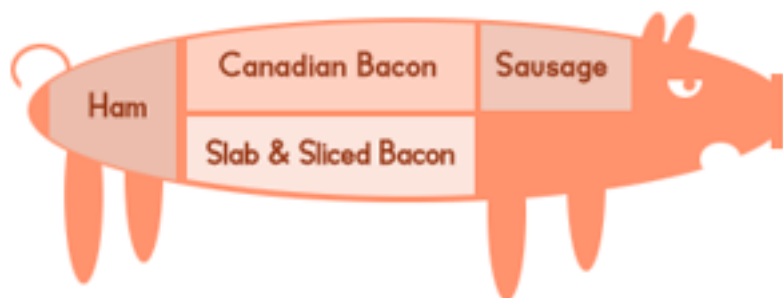
1. Tune for a minimum
3. Prefix for the Orkney Islands
4. Poor operator
5. Simulated or test load
6. CW for thanks
7. Means the same as volume
8. Permanent memory
9. A lapsed license
11. In the back
14. Best place for a ham station
15. Style of sending CW
17. Tune for a maximum
19. Goes with Wi
22. November contest abbreviation
24. Signals that come back later
25. Abbreviation for a vertical antenna
26. Syncopated CW does this
28. Unwanted output
29. Puzzle author's favorite suffix
31. Smallest Hudson Division section
32. Start
34. Receive a signal
36. What you get from too-sharp CW signals
38. Where you look for satellites
40. How many radians in a semicircle
42. Ionospheric propagation
43. Increases signal power
44. An antenna
46. Capacitor whose value is stable with temperature
48. The Granite State (postal code)
50. Station used to gauge propagation
53. An overheated component
55. An antenna that readily accepts power
56. Bandwidth (abbr)
59. Medical professional (abbr)
60. Search for something to buy
61. Satellite
62. Speed at which contacts are made
65. One operator (abbr)
66. Colorful semiconductor
68. Tirana is the capital of this country (prefix)
70. Wall socket power
71. Prosign sent to end a contact



**Solution**

1	D		2	S	3	O	4	L	I	5	D		6	T		7	A	S		8	R	9	E
10	I	11	R		12	Y	I			U		13	U	14	H	F		15	F	O	X		
16	P	E	17	P		18	D	T	M	19	F			I			20	L	I	M	P		
	21	A	E	22	S				23	M	I	24	L	L	S			S				I	
25	G	R	A	S	26	S			Y		27	D	L			28	S	T	29	A	R		
	P		K		30	W	31	N		32	G	E	T	U	P			33	X	E			
	34	C		35	W	I	L	36	C	O			O			37	U	38	S			D	
39	H	O	40	P		41	N	I	L		42	S	P	43	A	R	K	44	S				
	45	P	I	46	N	G			47	I	48	N	K		M		49	Y	K				
50	B	Y		51	P	S			52	C	H	I	R	P	53	S		54	Y	L			
	E		55	L	O		56	B	K		P				57	M	A	H					
58	A	59	D	O		60	S	W		61	B		62	R	H	O		63	O	M			
64	C	R	A	65	S	H		66	L	I	M	A			K			O					
	O		67	D	O	O	68	Z	E	R		69	T	W	E	70	A	K	71	S			
72	N	T	S		73	P	A	D	D	L	E		74	D	C							K	

This article has been reprinted from the ARRL web-



## Ham Cuisine

*by Dan Dankert N6PEQ  
n6peq@dxer.com*

The following recipe for "Apple-glazed Pork Kabobs" was found on "The Other White Meat" website. This dish is perfect for revving up those barbecues for the summer!

### Apple-glazed Pork Kabobs

#### Ingredients:

1 pound boneless pork loin, cut into 1 inch cubes  
2 tablespoons of lemon juice  
Salt to taste  
1 cup of apple jelly  
2 tablespoons of lemon juice  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
2 tablespoons butter

#### Cooking Directions:

Sprinkle lemon juice and salt evenly over pork cubes. In small saucepan, make glaze by mixing together the jelly, lemon juice, cinnamon and butter. Simmer until well blended. Thread pork onto skewers and spoon glaze over all. Grill over hot coals 10-12 minutes; turning frequently

Serves 4

Serving Suggestions: To make cutting pork cubes easier, partially freeze the loin before cutting.



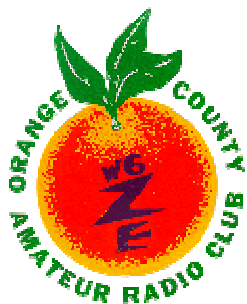


## Renew Your OCARC Membership

It's that time of the year again. Time to renew your OCARC membership for 2006, if you have not already done so.

Help continue to support your growing club. There are many entertaining monthly meetings, speakers and events planned for this year. But it can't happen without your support for OCARC.

Dues can be paid at the monthly club meetings, club breakfasts or via snail mail. Regular dues are only \$20. Additional family members are \$10 (Total). Membership for teenagers is only \$10 as well. What a deal!



OCARC

P.O. Box 3454

Tustin, CA 92781

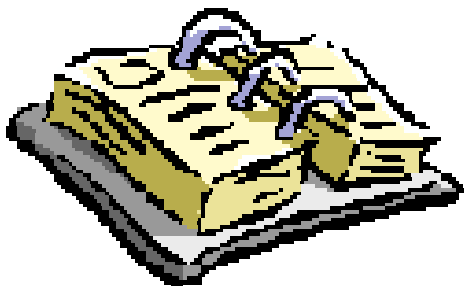


Do you have an idea for a newsletter article? Maybe you have acquired a new piece of equipment, designed or constructed a new antenna, took a trip focused around ham radio, want to share an amateur radio related experience or discuss a technical topic. Why not write an article for the monthly RF newsletter? The article can be short or long, simple or elaborate, and can even include pictures!



The RF newsletter relies on articles from our members. So why not give it try? Write an article and send it to the newsletter editor. It's fun, and at the same time, your contribution helps support our club and hobby!





## Upcoming OCARC Events!!!

(Check the club website for updates and additions  
<http://www.w6ze.org>)

**June 16<sup>th</sup>** (Friday 7:00pm) General Meeting: Bill Scholz W1HIJ will give a presentation on the role of HF in Emergency Communications.



**July 21<sup>st</sup>** (Friday 7:00pm) General Meeting: The FCC visits OCARC! Catherine Deaton from the Los Angeles office of the FCC fills us in on the latest FCC happenings affecting amateur radio!

**August 18<sup>th</sup>** (Friday 7:00pm) General Meeting: Bob Grimmick N6OX will give a presentation on the DXpedition to Peter1.

**July 12<sup>th</sup>** (Wednesday) & **July 29<sup>th</sup>** (Saturday): OCARC's days running the Ham Radio booth at the Orange County Fair!

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>**

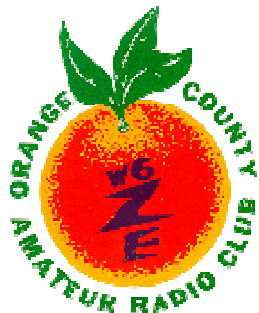


ARRL Field Day! Get ready for Fun, Antennas & Food. Oh yeah, we're going to make some QSO's too!!!! Bring the family and friends for this weekend event. Don't forget to order your Field Day shirt.



**October 20<sup>th</sup>** (Friday 7:00pm)

Annual Club Auction ...Bring your gear to sell! Spread the word. Tell your friends!



The Orange County Amateur Radio Club "OCARC"

P.O. Box 3454, Tustin, CA 92781

Web: <http://www.w6ze.org>

Email: [ocarc\\_info@w6ze.org](mailto:ocarc_info@w6ze.org)

## OCARC 2006 Field Day Information

**Field Day Location:** The **Orange County Amateur Radio Club** will hold its 2006 Field Day, the 24-hour simulated emergency communications operation, at the Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB).

The main gate to the base can be reached by

- taking the Valley View exit from the 405 FWY and
- head north on Valley View St. until you reach Katella Ave.
- then turn left (west) on Katella Ave.
- and finally turn south onto Lexington Dr. from Katella Avenue and
- continue to the JFTB gate.
- Tell the guard at the JFTB gate that you are visiting the amateur radio Field Day event at the EOC.

**The Following is a map of the inside of Los Alamitos, the base where Field Day is being held:**



## OCARC General Meeting Minutes

**2006-05-18**

The OCARC May General Meeting was held at the Red Cross complex in Santa Ana at 7PM on Friday evening, May 19<sup>th</sup>. There were a total of 22 members and visitors present. A total of five directors were present to provide a quorum. President, Willie-N8WP, was home sick and Ken-W6HHC acted to direct the meeting (since VP Kristin-K6PEQ was away visiting the Dayton HAM Convention,).

The program was presented by Larry McDavid – W6FUB, a member of the Fullerton Radio Club, the Anaheim Radio ARA, and the Orange County Astronomy Club. Larry provided a very informative presentation on the technologies of Sun Dials, and specifically on the very complex sundial to be found in nearby Claremont, CA.



**A Photo of the Larkin Memorial Sun Dial in nearby Claremont with OCARC Guest Speaker, Larry – W6FEB**

### Old BIZ:

- Cheryl-KG6KTT did not have a current financial statement at the meeting. Cheryl agreed to have a copy of the report printed in the June issue of RF Newsletter.

- Rich-KE6WWK passed around order form for OCARC Field Day Shirts that could be ordered.
- Rich-KE6WWK also reported that the manufacturer of the OCARC Cups that had been chosen, discovered that our cup style was out of production. A further search was underway.
- Ken-W6HHC conducted a “straw vote” to see how many would buy a cup, and determined that the club would only sell about 15 cups (including members who were missing).

### New BIZ:

- Bob-AF6C said that he would plan on laminating radio licenses for a \$1 fee at a coming OCARC meeting.
- Bob-AF6C, our membership chairman, reported that both John-KE6JYD and Steve-KI6DDE had joined the club that evening. John lives in Placentia and Steve lives in north Orange.
- New member, John-KE6JYD, explained that the “blue” color of text on the left side of our WEB front page contrasted very poorly with the “orange background”. Asst WEBmaster, Bob-AF6C, promised to investigate and try to improve the readability.

### Good-of-the-Club:

Don-KC6ONZ announced that the everyone in the club was invited to the high school graduation of his daughter, club member Melissa Hughes - KG6CJJ, Class of 2006. Graduation for Savanna HS in Anaheim, Monday evening, June 19th will be held at Glover Stadium.

Submitted by Steve-N1AB and Ken-W6HHC  
Secretary



**OCARC Board Meeting Minutes****2006-06-03**

The OCARC Board meeting was held at the JagerHaus Restaurant at 8AM on Saturday, 2006-06-03. There were a total of 10 members and visitors. All directors were present, except Steve-N1AB, Tom-K6CCD, and Kenan-N6CCE.

**NEW BIZ:**

- President Willie N8WP reported that Steve-N1AB needed to resign his director position as OCARC Secretary.
- Ken-W6HHC accepted an appointment from the President to be the new club Secretary for the remainder of the year.
- Willie-N8WP discussed that he wants to explore selling the club's old generator/trailer unit as a package. He hopes to be able to obtain as much as \$500 from the sale. The intent is to use the proceeds from the sale to purchase a new trailer (perhaps around \$200) for the club's newer generator unit.

**OLD BIZ:**

- OCARC Treasurer, Cheryl-KG6KTT, reported that the club currently has \$3,421.09 in the bank. (see financial report details elsewhere in RF newsletter)
- Kristin-K6PEQ reported that the OCARC was planning to staff the Ham Radio Booth at the Orange Count Fair on Wednesday July 12<sup>th</sup> and Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup>. She passed a sign-up sheet at the club breakfast. She asked that any OCARC interested in helping should contact her to add their name to the sign-up assignments.
- Willie reported that no progress had been made to implement the "pay pal" functions to the OCARC WEB site, yet. During discussions, Nicholas-KI6AUL said he "might" be able to help complete that project.
- Field Day discussions:
  - Willie-N8WP is finalizing details for the shipment of one new 40-ft tower in time for FD.
  - Willie-N8WP will make arrangements with Kenan-N6CCE to get access to the clubs stored equipment, about one week before FD.
  - Willie-N8WP reported that a FD Planning Meeting will be held with the Band Captains and interested members at Noon on June 03.
  - A work party will help Chris-W6KFW deliver the club's newer generator to the QTH of Willie-N8WP

Respectfully submitted by – Ken W6HHC, Secretary

**OCARC - W6ZE**  
**5/31/2006**

**Current Month Income & Expense****Financial Report for 2006 YTD****Receipts:**

ARRL BPL	
ARRL Membership Income	
Auction In	
Badge Income	9.00
Badge Mailing	1.00
Christmas Dinner Tickets	
Donations - Misc	2.00
Dues Family	10.00
Dues, Membership	90.00
Field Day Shirts	182.29
Interest	0.45
Kai Yamachika Trust	
Raffle Reg Income	48.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$342.74</b>

**Disbursements:**

ARRL BPL	
ARRL Membership Expense	
Auction Out	
Awards & Plaques	
Badges Expense	
Bank Service Charges	
Brochure Printing Expense	
Christmas Dinner Deposit	
Coffee Mugs	616.72
Donations O.C. Fair	
Donations Newline	
Equipment Expense	
Field Day Food	
Field Day Other	
Field Day Shirts	
Insurance	
OCARC Brochures	
PO Box Rental	
Program Speaker Expense	
Raffle Expense	101.02
Christmas Raffle, Womens	
Refreshments	
RF Printing Expense	
Supplies	
Trailer Expense	
Web Page Exp	
World Radio AD	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$717.74</b>

**Net** **- \$375.00**

**Receipts:**

ARRL BPL	
ARRL Membership Income	
Auction In	
Badge Income	15.00
Badge Mailing	2.00
Christmas Dinner Tickets	
Donations - Misc	2.00
Dues Family	50.00
Dues, Membership	630.00
Field Day Shirts	342.76
Interest	1.79
Kai Yamachika Trust	
Raffle Reg Income	421.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$1,464.55</b>

**Disbursements:**

ARRL BPL	
ARRL Membership Expense	
Auction Out	
Awards & Plaques	
Badges Expense	
Bank Service Charges	
Brochure Printing Expense	
Christmas Dinner Deposit	
Coffee Mugs	616.72
Donations O.C. Fair	50.00
Donations Newline	50.00
Equipment Expense	
Field Day Food	
Field Day Other	
Field Day Shirts	274.76
Insurance	
OCARC Brochures	
PO Box Rental	
Program Speaker Expense	
Raffle Expense	502.39
Christmas Raffle, Womens	57.90
Refreshments	
RF Printing Expense	
Supplies	
Trailer Expense	
Web Page Exp	59.94
World Radio AD	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$1,611.71</b>

**Net** **- \$147.16**

**Cash - Beginning Balance - January 1, 2006**

Checking Account	2,795.50
Savings Account	772.75

**Cash - Beginning Balance** **\$3,568.25**

**Cash - Ending Balance - May 31, 2006**

Checking Account	2,646.55
Savings Account	774.54

**Cash Ending Balance** **\$3,421.09**