

VOL. L NO. 2 P.O. Box 3454, Tustin, CA 92781-3454 February 2009

*The PREZ Says:*



Hello to all! One month has passed so far and what have we accomplished? We have a top notch Board of Directors in place, to guide the club thru these times of economic turmoil (according to the media...) Last month we had a great turnout for our General Meeting, with an excellent presentation. We hope to have this repeated at every one of the meetings for the rest of the year. I know that the VP is working tirelessly at this and we will not be disappointed. And yes, it's that time of the year again to prepare for the Baker to Vegas race and as usual. several of our members will be supporting this event.

It has come to my attention that Bob Buss KØBWH, a long time club member and former President is now an SK. On behalf of the club, I pass our condolences, to his friends and family.

That's about it for now from my end, see you at the meeting.--

73 DE AF6CF

**Upcoming Meeting: Friday, Febraury 20<sup>th</sup> - Join writer and explorer John Haslett for an evening filled with images, video, and adventure tales highlighting two expeditions he led in the late 1990s.**

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**THE ORANGE  
COUNTY  
AMATEUR RADIO**



**Club Dues:**

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

Dues run from Jan. through Dec. & Are prorated for new members.

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

\*\* There is a \$1.50 charge for the badge being mailed to you.

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**MONTHLY EVENTS:**

**General Meeting:**

Third Friday of the month  
at 7:00 P.M.

**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  
Jaugerhaus  
2525 E. Ball Road  
(Ball exit off 57 freeway)  
Anaheim, CA

**Club Nets (W6ZE):**

7.086 ± MHz CW OCNW  
Sunday 9-10 a.m.  
John WA6RND, Net Control

28.375 ± MHz USB  
Wednesday 7:30-8:30 p.m.  
Bob AF6C, Net Control

146.55 MHz Simplex FM  
Wednesday 8:30-9:30 p.m.  
Bob, WB6IXN, Net Control

**Heathkit of the Month**  
**AC-1 Antenna Coupler.**  
by Bob Eckweiler – AF6C

**More Heath History:**

Heathkit's ham radio beginnings started with a simple 35-watt CW transmitter, the AT-1. AT evidently stood for Amateur Transmitter. The three-tube transmitter first appeared in 1951 and remained in production into 1956. The transmitter covered 80, 40, 20, 15, 11 and 10 meters (Eleven meters was a ham band back then). When the AT-1 was introduced, the only shortwave receiver Heath offered was the AR-1 that had come out in 1949. The AR-1 only covered up to 20 MHz so it was a poor companion for the new Heath transmitter. In late 1951 Heath replaced the AR-1 receiver with the AR-2. It featured increased coverage to 35 MHz and better bandspread capabilities. In late 1955 the AR-2 was replaced with the AR-3 that incorporated further improvements, but the upper frequency range was lowered to 30 MHz. The AR-3 remained in production into 1961.



Heathkit AT-1

The AT-1 Transmitter used a link coupling scheme to feed the antenna that was designed for 52 ohm coax. It could not feed random wire antennas, which made operation on multiple bands difficult unless multiple antennas were erected. Heath solved this problem by introducing the Heathkit AC-1 Antenna Coupler.

**The Heathkit AC-1:**

The Heathkit AC-1 antenna coupler first appeared in 1953 as an accessory for the AT1, as well as other non-heath transmitters of the time. It was capable of handling up to 75 watts. The AC-1 is housed in a small cabinet 8" W x 4-3/8" H by 4-7/8" D excluding knobs and connectors. The antenna coupler features a copper plated chassis. The AC-1 sold for \$14.50 in the 1956 Heathkit catalog.



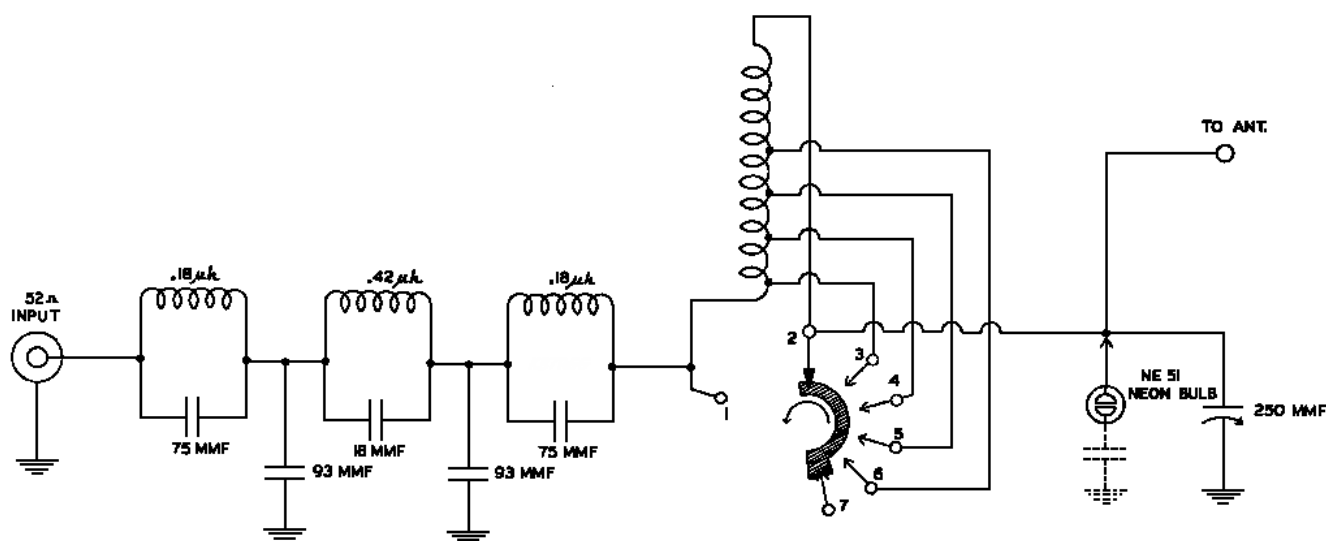
Heathkit AC-1 Antenna Coupler

## Orange County Amateur Radio Club

The circuit of the AC-1 is shown in figure X. Input from the transmitter is applied to 52 ohm input connector. After passing through a three-section low pass filter with a cutoff frequency of about 36 MHz to reduce TVI causing harmonics, the RF is fed into a simple 'L' matching network consisting of a tapped inductor and a variable capacitor. A five-position switch selects the inductor tap. One side of an NE-51 neon lamp is connected to the output of the 'L' network. The other side relies on stray capacitance to complete the path to ground. The relative brightness of the neon lamp is used as a tuning indicator. The output of the 'L' network is also directly connected to a feed-thru output terminal on the front of the AC-1. The end of the single wire antenna connects directly to this terminal.

The single item on the rear of the AC-1 is the 52 ohm input, an SO-239 UHF connector. The front panel contains two controls, a neon lamp used for tuning, and a feed-thru output terminal for connection of an end-fed wire antenna. The two controls are a switch marked **Coarse** that selects the tap on the matching coil, and a 250  $\mu\text{f}$  variable capacitor marked **Fine**.

Heathkit continued production of the AC-1 until the end of 1956 when the AT-1 ended production. By then Heath had started on their DX line of transmitters that were the topic of the April and September Heathkit of the month articles.

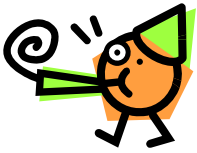


**AC-1 ANTENNA COUPLER**

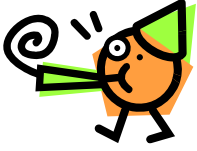
Heathkit went on to produce more antenna tuners, some basic and some sophisticated including the HFT-9 (and 9A), SA-2040, SA-2060 (and 2060A), automatic SA-2500 and remotely controlled SA-2550. Perhaps these will be discussed in detail in an upcoming column.

de AF6C





**THANK YOU!**



We want to thank all the people who helped O.C.A.R.C. make this year's Holiday party a huge success! We appreciate your generosity and support of our club.

Heil Sound

NCG-Comet

Hamstore.com

DX Store

HRO

M2 Antenna Systems

ADI/Pryme

Clever Embroidery

MFJ

GlobalQSL

Nifty Accessories

Universal Radio

www.photoqsl.com

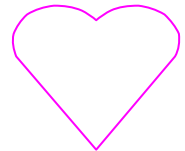
WA6WZN & WA6WZO

KI6APH & KE6WKK

A&A Engineering

Elecraft

Lido Mobile Mounts





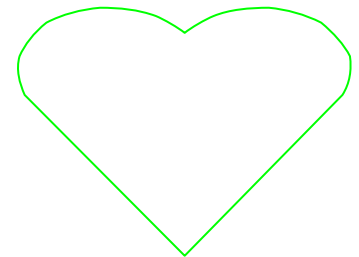
# Attention Members!!!

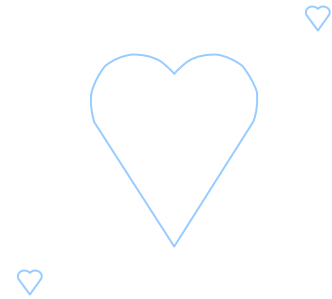


Do you know a fellow ham that would be interested in joining OCARC? Do you have a friend that is curious about ham radio and wants to learn more about our hobby? Why not invite him or her to one of our exciting monthly meetings?!?! The meetings are fun, informative and entertaining. And don't forget about the raffle prizes too. So bring a visitor to one of our meetings, and help **your** club expand! Make sure to inform your friends of our club's website, which is always kept up to date. Information on club meetings, activities and our newsletter archive make it a worthwhile site to surf! <http://www.w6ze.org>

## 2009 ARRL CONTEST SCHEDULE

- February  
21 - 22 ARRL International DX Contest (CW)
- March  
7 - 8 ARRL International DX Contest (Phone)
- June  
13 - 14 ARRL June VHF QSO Party  
27 - 28 ARRL Field Day
- July  
11 - 12 IARU HF World Championships
- August  
1 - 2 ARRL UHF Contest  
15 - 16 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
- September  
12 - 13 ARRL September VHF QSO Party  
19 - 20 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
- November  
7 - 8 ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)  
21- 22 ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone)
- December  
4 - 6 ARRL 160 Meter Contest  
12 - 13 ARRL 10 Meter Contest





## Renew Your OCARC Membership

It's that time of the year again. Time to renew your OCARC membership for 2009, if you have not already done so.

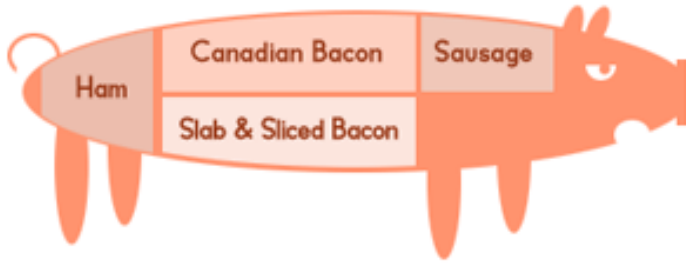
Help continue to support your growing club. There are many entertaining monthly meetings, speakers and events planned for this year. But it can't happen without your support for OCARC.

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





## Ham Cuisine

*by Kristin Dankert K6PEQ*

### Pork Tostadas

Makes 8 servings

#### Ingredients:

4 cups shredded, cooked pork loin\*  
1 tablespoon Mexican seasoning (blend of cumin, cayenne and garlic powder)  
1 tablespoon vegetable oil  
8 tostadas  
2 cups refried black or red beans  
1 / 2 cup thinly sliced red onions  
1 / 2 cup thinly sliced radishes  
4 cups shredded lettuce  
2 tablespoons crumbled queso fresco cheese  
2 tablespoons finely chopped cilantro  
4 limes, cut into wedges  
Hot sauce, if desired



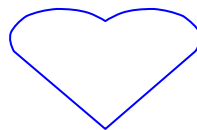
#### Directions:

\*Cook 2-inch pork loin chunks in boiling water for one and a half hours or until tender and easy to shred when cooled.

Stir together cooked pork and Mexican seasoning. Heat oil in large skillet over medium-high heat. Add pork to skillet and sauté for about 2 minutes to brown.

Lay tostadas onto plates and spread each with 1 / 4 cup of beans. Top each with 1 / 2 cup of shredded pork. Toss together vegetables and mound a generous 1 / 2 cup on each tostada. Sprinkle all with cheese and cilantro. Serve with lime wedges and hot sauce, if desired.

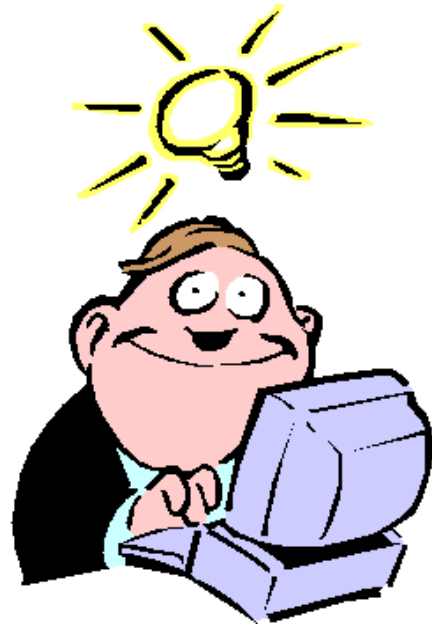
Great meal for those rainy days!!





## Submit an Article

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!



## ORANGE COUNTY FAIR - 2009

I need your help! The O.C. Fair is fast approaching and the planning has begun. The theme for the fair this year is "Think Big." We need a theme for the Ham Radio booth that ties in to this theme. Do you have any ideas? If so, please contact Kristin Dankert at [k6peq@w6ze.org](mailto:k6peq@w6ze.org). We want to make this fair the biggest and best yet!



Orange County Amateur Radio Club



Valentine Word Search



D	X	I	G	N	E	L	M	E	S	R	M	E	E	T	I	N	G	S	F
X	E	M	M	A	H	E	V	M	B	T	C	A	D	G	H	E	A	U	N
I	A	C	F	Z	M	H	L	E	U	C	L	O	V	R	O	T	O	P	E
O	C	O	U	T	E	A	H	M	I	F	U	D	S	U	S	H	G	P	V
I	T	U	A	R	M	M	T	B	X	A	B	Y	U	O	R	A	N	G	E
D	I	N	H	H	V	S	M	E	C	F	H	E	A	R	G	N	T	G	L
A	V	T	E	L	F	F	A	R	U	D	H	S	U	P	P	K	J	D	B
R	I	L	L	W	U	B	D	H	E	R	R	O	P	P	U	S	A	C	T
Q	S	U	T	E	X	A	U	L	E	F	N	T	I	N	R	E	M	L	E
V	A	L	E	N	T	I	L	E	C	V	L	D	F	E	I	H	R	F	V
H	A	M	Q	U	E	D	C	O	U	N	T	Y	R	T	H	A	N	S	E
A	R	T	S	O	R	A	N	R	V	J	B	S	U	L	C	L	U	V	N
S	H	N	D	E	I	R	F	A	I	E	E	M	E	E	T	I	G	N	T
D	R	C	N	C	L	U	H	G	V	V	L	S	H	G	A	U	M	B	S
V	A	L	E	N	T	I	N	E	O	E	F	R	E	I	N	D	S	N	U
J	F	U	I	D	N	R	A	F	L	N	J	A	L	B	U	I	L	C	F
O	F	S	R	U	F	A	T	R	C	P	E	H	E	L	O	F	X	F	U
R	E	B	F	B	M	F	D	A	C	T	I	V	I	T	I	E	S	D	B
A	I	N	H	C	J	F	V	H	L	O	V	D	W	X	O	R	A	N	H
N	H	E	A	R	T	L	H	E	A	R	S	U	P	P	O	R	T	Y	M

LOVE  
ORANGE  
DXING  
COUNTY  
RADIO  
AMATEUR  
HEART

CLUB  
MEMBER  
VALENTINE  
EVENTS  
FRIENDS  
ACTIVITIES  
THANKS

HAMS  
RAFFLE  
SUPPORT  
HELP  
ELMER  
MEETINGS  
FUN

## Heathkit Manuals: A Sad Story



America is losing its greatness. What was once the industrial capital of the world is now the home of many business models that work their 'service' into the middle of an existing informational or monetary stream and take profit from their new position. These 'parasitic' businesses often provide little or no real benefit, and occasionally are supported by laws or complex legislation written specifically for their benefit, or use current poorly thought out legislation to legalize their business.

After Heath went out of the kit business they kept a small department that sold their old manuals as supplies lasted. This business must have been a burden to Heath, who has moved into the educational market, and was run as a service for former customers; I doubt that it provided any profit to Heath's bottom line. More likely it ran as a loss. During that time it appears that Heath never enforced the copyright on its manuals, nor felt the need to. Many Internet sites popped up that offered copies of radio and test equipment manuals, partial manuals, modifications, information, and schematics, including Heathkit's. Many sites charged a fee for a manual copy and others offered them for free via download.

Recently Heath sold their remaining inventory of forty filing cabinets full of old manuals on eBay. Disputably, they also sold the copyright to the Heathkit manuals along with the manuals (with the possible exception of their computer line). Possibly some of the early Heathkit manuals are now out of copyright unless Heath renewed their rights.

The purchaser of the manuals, Data Professionals [<http://www.d8apro.com>] began selling the manuals on their website which is fine. They also continued to sell copies of Heathkit manuals as they were doing prior to the purchase, and as were numerous other manual sources.

Once the purchase was complete Data Professionals began contacting websites that were carrying free copies of Heathkit manuals, partial manuals and schematics and demanded that they be taken down. One very famous FTP site, BAMA (Boat Anchor Manual Archive), had to take down its entire large contributed Heath manual library. So have almost all the other sites that had Heath material for free download. So far the only exceptions are sites in countries that either haven't gotten the word or don't honor U.S. copyright.

Businesses that were selling Heathkit manuals copies were evidently also contacted. An agreement was made with W7FG, a longtime seller of Heathkit and other manuals (and a place I've used with good results), the right to continue selling Heathkit manuals. Terms of the license agreement are unknown to me. They also are extending licensing offers to other sellers of manuals, probably either cutting into their profit or causing them to raise their prices.

Whether Data Professionals really did buy the copyrights and whether they can legally enforce them after such a long period when Heath didn't, and whether the older manuals are out of copyright or not, are questions that are in the domain of lawyers. But, until there is a challenge you will find it hard, if not impossible, to download a free Heathkit manual, partial manual, or even a schematic off the Internet.

When you have a valued Heathkit, you'd like to have the manual, preferably an original, and you should be willing to buy it at a reasonable price. If an original is not available then you may be willing to buy a QUALITY copy of the manual. However if you are trying to get that Heathkit you bought at the swapmeet or auction for a dollar going, paying \$20 - \$50 is a bit extreme. Especially when you used to be able to find a free schematic or partial manual on the

## Orange County Amateur Radio Club

Internet. Usually these were not complete and not the best of quality, often with only the schematic and maybe the parts list and operating instructions, but enough to get you started - and enough to perhaps make you willing to pay for a full manual when you get the kit functioning. However, if you are a Heathkit historian or want to learn a little more about a certain kit to, for instance, write a *Heathkit of the Month* column, you either have to give up or pay a stiff price to get the information to make the column of value to the reader.

Data Professionals has created a lot of bad will for themselves on many Heathkit blogs with their 'takedown notices'. Perhaps with a little more thought to their business model, they could have established their manual service in a way that benefits the Heathkit aficionados instead of charging them for something that was available for free to them for so long.



### The COAR RACES HAMS Prepare For Baker-2-Vegas Relay Race – 2009



COAR RACES held a planning meeting for the upcoming Baker-2-Vegas race in March to provide communications for the Orange Police Department running team.

Kneeling in front (L-R): Mike KI6QJC, Kathleen-K6IBH, Robbie-KB6CJZ, Bob-AF6C, Rich-KR6BA, Dieter-N6ZKD (behind), Beverly-KI6APH, and Mike-KF6WRM.

Standing (L-R): Rich Whited-KG6JKJ (from B2V Race Communications), Joy Matlack-KD6FJV (B2V Race Communications Director), Bruce-KC6DLA, Nicholas-AF6CF, Bill-W6VKO, Cam-WV6V, George-KK6KN, Rich-KE6WWK (COAR Radio Officer) Gerry-KD6JBL, Susan-N6ROR, Dick-N6ISY, Mike-KG6KWJ, Les-KM6SQ, Steve-KB6ROL, Ken-W6HHC, Phil-KI6VEN, Steve-KI6DDE, Jay-KK6OZ, Mike-KF6QFY, Jane-KI6RJO, Mike-WA6OUE, Debbie Klein (OPD Volunteers Coordinator), Sam-W6RDS, Leon-KK6AB, and David-KG6RWU.

Photo by Ken-W6HHC

# Help Wanted

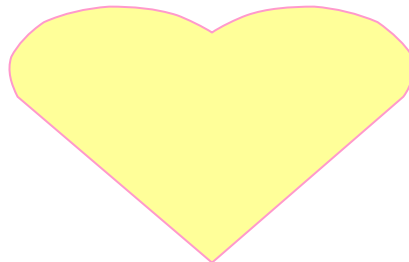
## Braille Institute in Anaheim needs Cassette Reader Repair Volunteers

The Braille Institute in Anaheim currently has volunteers Bob Eckweiler (AF6C), Elmer Thomas (WA6PFA) and Bruce Creager (KC6DLA) repairing talking book machines. The talking book machines are owned by the Library of Congress. Braille Institute and other organizations are responsible for the distribution and repair of the players. For several years the main Braille Library in Los Angeles has not had enough repair people to repair their own machines and the Anaheim Library has had more repair people than needed for their own machines. Therefore, LA has been sending their excess machines to Anaheim for repair. In the last few months, Anaheim has lost several repair people and is no longer able to keep up with our own players much less LA's. We need more repair people!

These machines play standard audio cassette tapes. The machines provide no record capability. They are monaural and play at both standard speed (1 7/8 ips) and half speed (15/16 ips). Normally cassettes are recorded in stereo at 1 7/8 ips. By recording in monaural and at half speed, a cassette that would normally play for 30 minutes per side is capable of playing for a total 4 hours per cassette by making use of all four tracks and the slower speed. Some new solid state machines are due at the Anaheim Library near the end of the year. It will take several years to replace all of the tape machines.

The Anaheim Library has a complete set of repair parts and tools. More time is spent cleaning the machines than the actual repair. Some machines need all their rubber parts replaced and occasionally the playback head or a circuit board needs to be replaced. All machines are checked for proper operation and a new or recharged battery is installed. The most complex repair is normally the replacement and alignment of a playback head. If you can't find what is wrong, just put it back on the shelf and let some other sucker repair person get it.

The Braille Institute is located at the corner of Dale and Crescent in Anaheim. If you think you might be interested, or if you would like to see the facility just call or see Bruce Creager (714-538-8259 [BCreager@socal.rr.com](mailto:BCreager@socal.rr.com)) or Bob or Elmer "Tom". We normally work just one 4 hour morning a week and then go have lunch.



What is an  
**“Instruct-o-graph”**  
Morse Code Training Machine??

by Ken W6HHC

A few months ago, while doing some clarification on the OCARC History Series with Bob Evans WB6IXN, the OCARC Historian, and Bob Eckweiler AF6C, I stumbled across a piece of old OCARC history that I had forgotten. An OCARC ex-member, Ron Toering KB6EZP (now living in Perris CA), sent an e-mail that clarified instructors for an OCARC license training class that was held in 1987. Ron-KB6EZP reported that... “Ron Toering KB6EZP taught the theory portion of a Novice class, while Bob Evans WB6IXN taught the Morse Code portion using the club’s old paper tape code unit (called an “**Instruct-o-graph**”) for code practice.”

You might ask.....“What is an Instruct-o-graph?”



Fig 1 – An Ad from the 1950’s



The Instruct-o-graph was a paper tape based machine used for the study of Morse Code. The Instruct-o-graph feed the paper tape code (that had holes punched as dots and dashes) through a spring loaded set of contacts to an audio oscillator to generate the tone. By varying the speed of the paper tape, you could adjust the speed of Morse Code audio from 3 WPM to 40 WPM. A variety of paper tape code lessons could be purchased. The InstructoGraph was built by **The Instructograph Co.** and was in production from about 1920 through 1983.



## Orange County Amateur Radio Club



**Fig 2 – A close-up of InstrutoGraph, courtesy of Wikipedia**

The OCARC had owned an InstructoGraph Morse Code training machine when I first joined the radio club in 1967. This machine was the pride-and-joy of the club, and was loaned to members who wanted to advance their ham radio license. It also provided the perfect Morse Code training device for OCARC license classes. Over the years, the competition for this bulky machine came from cassette tape recorders and then computer software programs and even MP3 audio files and players.

Technology marched on.....and the Instruct-o-graph got left in the dust. The last record of the OCARC using the machine is probably Ron- KB6EZP's recollection of the 1987 Novice training class. I remember the club Instruct-o-graph finally being auctioned off at an OCARC radio auction in the early 1990's. The OCARC Instruct-o-graph had served a very useful purpose when Morse Code was very important and audio players were not so common.

## Morse Code Alphabet

### INTERNATIONAL MORSE CODE

A	• —	N	— •	1	• — — —	Ñ	— — • —	N with tilde
B	— • • •	O	— — —	2	• • — —	Ö	— — — •	O with umlaut
C	— • — •	P	• — — •	3	• • • —	Û	• • — —	U with umlaut
D	— • •	Q	— — • —	4	• • • • —	,	— — • • — —	comma
E	•	R	• — •	5	• • • • •	.	• — • — — —	period
F	• • — •	S	• • •	6	— • • • •	?	• • — — • •	question mark
G	— — •	T	—	7	— — • • •	;	— — — • —	semicolon
H	• • • •	U	• • —	8	— — — • •	:	— — — • • •	colon
I	• •	V	• • • • —	9	— — — — •	/	— • • • —	slash
J	• — — —	W	• — —	0	— — — — —	-	— • • • • —	dash
K	— • —	X	— • • —	Á	— — — • —	'	• — — — — •	apostrophe
L	• — • •	Y	— — — — •	Ä	— • — —	Å	— — — — • —	parenthesis
M	— —	Z	— — • •	È	• • • • •	É	• • — — • —	underline



## OCARC General Meeting Minutes January 16, 2009

The OCARC January General Meeting was held at the Red Cross complex in Santa Ana at 7:00 pm on Friday evening, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009. There were a total of 43 members and visitors present. All of the club officers were present for a quorum.

The program was presented by Chip K6JA. The presentation was a Russian made video documentary “The Lost Islands – RI0B and RS0B/P”. This DXpedition to remote islands in the frozen Russian Arctic was fascinating; this group of Russian DXers braved the elements and Polar Bears to accomplish a great DXpedition. It was warmly received by our entire group. (I personally checked out their website and it was interesting as well).



Chip K7JA introducing the Russian Video on RI0B DX-pedition



A Scene of Frozen Arctic Landscape in an Abandoned Camp.



After seeing this DX-pedition chase off Polar Bears, OCARC realized that Gopher Holes at FD are not such a bad thing.



Announcements were made regarding volunteers needed for communications for the upcoming Fullerton Tennis Tournaments – Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> as well as Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> - asking for volunteers to contact Gene Thorpe KB6CMO by Robert KG6WTQ.

## Orange County Amateur Radio Club

The February speaker will be John Haslett - Join writer and explorer John Haslett for an evening filled with images, video, and adventure tales highlighting two expeditions he led in the late 1990s. In his new book, *Voyage of the Manteño: The Education of a Modern-Day Expeditioner* (St. Martin's Press), Haslett recounts how he built a series of giant rafts, similar in design to Thor Heyerdahl's famed *Kon-Tiki*, and then sailed them on the open sea. Haslett's work has been featured in *National Geographic Adventure*, *Archaeology*, and others. Haslett's expeditions were supported by the ARRL, The Northern California DX Foundation, Yaesu Radios, and Hustler Antennas.

Motion to adjourn at 8:40 pm by K6PEQ, seconded by N6PEQ. Followed by the raffle.

Submitted by:  
Kristine Jacob KC6TOD  
OCARC Secretary



### CQ Magazine

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 13, 2009  
CQ to Accept eQSL Confirmations for Award Credit

(Hicksville, NY and Bedford, TX, January 13, 2009) - CQ magazine will accept contact confirmations made on the eQSL.cc electronic confirmation system for its operating awards effective immediately, CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, and eQSL Founder and Webmaster Dave Morris, N5UP, announced today.

For more information on eQSL, visit <http://www.eQSL.cc> <http://www.eqsl.cc/> . For more information on CQ awards, visit the awards page on the CQ website at <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/> . Please note that the award rules posted on the website have not yet been updated to reflect the acceptance of eQSLs. This will be done as soon as possible, but the policy takes effect immediately.

source Daily DX



## Orange County Amateur Radio Club

### Silent Key: Bob Buss - KØBWH (ex-KD6BWH)

Very sad news. Former club member and twice past club President Robert A. (Bob) Buss - KØBWH (ex-KD6BWH), 57, became a silent key (SK) on January 28th 2009 at his home in Sheldon, North Dakota. The cause of death was not given; he was fighting colon cancer which was diagnosed late last year.

Bob held an interest in ham radio since he was in high school in Sheldon. Unfortunately, his small town had no Elmers to help him get started. In 1979 Bob moved to California after doing duty in the Army. Some years later, around 1990, he happened to visit the ham radio booth at the Orange County Fair. That was all he needed; with the help of a class and CW instruction from Cindy - KC6OPI and Frank - WA6VKZ, Bob became a radio amateur and a valuable asset to the hobby.

Bob joined the Orange County Amateur Radio Club around 1992 and quickly became an active member. He was club president in 1998 and again in 2001, and also held many other Board positions during his tenure with the club. He was very active at our Field Days and other club events. Bob was one of the participants when the Orange County Radio Club sponsored the Wouff Hong on the Queen Mary at the 1999 ARRL SWD Convention, taking on one of the primary roles in the ceremony.



Bob operates VHF at the 2003 Field Day from the back of his pickup.



Bob often operated the Red Cross net from his mobile.

Bob's interest in ham radio was focused towards public service and disaster communications. He was active in HDSCS (Hospital Disaster Communications), Red Cross Communications, and Anaheim RACES. When there was an event that needed communications support, Bob was usually there. He was involved, first with Garden Grove police and later with Orange police, in supporting communications for the grueling 120 mile Baker-to-Vegas law-enforcement relay race that is run yearly. On Tuesday night February 3rd., at the 2009 City of Orange Baker-to-Vegas planning meeting, Bob and his contributions to the event were remembered.

Bob was a regular check-in on the OCARC Wednesday night nets. He broadcast the Amateur Radio News for the two-meter net - rarely missing a beat. After moving to Sheldon he still often participated



## Orange County Amateur Radio Club

in the nets over Skype. When he wasn't on Skype, he sometimes listened to the nets over a local Internet monitor system.



Bob chats with a Highway Patrolman who came to checkout our 2004 FD at Portola Park.

In 2005 Bob got an opportunity to buy a fuel distribution business in his hometown from a longtime friend. He, and his wife Linda - KØHQP (ex-KD6HQP) moved back, leaving warm Southern California for the frozen lands of North Dakota (or as Bob put it so brilliantly in his Skype Hello Message - *Hello from the land of Cool and Crisp.*) Shortly after the business got running, Bob and his wife Linda learned the only local grocery store in Sheldon was closing down. They bought the inventory and fixtures and a large contingent of the 200 Sheldon residents helped move the business (literally overnight) to Bob's building that he now called "The Trading Post". You can hear Bob talk about this during a short video on our website (You'll need a QuickTime player plug-in):

[http://www.w6ze.org/videos/bob\\_buss.mov](http://www.w6ze.org/videos/bob_buss.mov)

On August 30th of 2005, when Bob's departure to North Dakota was imminent, the club held a dinner at Marie Callender's to honor him and another member who was departing for the east coast. Ironically, the other member was Frank, WA6VKZ who helped Bob learn the code.



Bob's wife Linda - KØHQP and Bob - KØBWH at their farewell dinner before moving to North Dakota.



Bob accepts a certificate recognizing his contributions to the Club from Ken - W6HHC.

## Orange County Amateur Radio Club

When Bob and Linda arrived in Sheldon, ND the ham population of Ransom County suddenly tripled to three. Unfortunately, with all the work of getting the business up and running, Bob never got his station set up to take advantage of operating from a rare county in one of the rarer states. Still, Bob could often be found on Skype; usually late at night after finishing fuel deliveries. Last fall he got his web cam hooked up, and through video Skype was able to show some ND scenery.

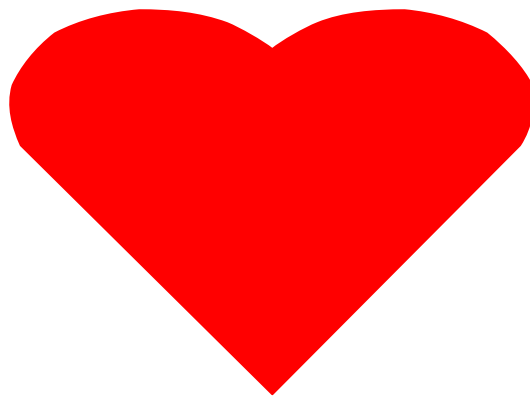
Bob enjoyed gardening and since a lot of farming goes on in North Dakota, Bob had a small garden where he grew crops; that is 'small' in ND terms but still tens of acres and large to most of us. Crops were shared and traded in the small and close community. Bob and Linda also hosted the weekly Sunday coffee gathering of locals at the Trading Post.

Many Field Day participants remember Bob as a teacher who showed us how to roll up a long length of thick coax so it won't kink or tangle, and can be put back down without difficulty. He did it so gracefully; this author still has to think hard to do it right, but is amazed how well it works.

Bob still had interest in the Baker-to-Vegas races, even after moving to North Dakota. His first "how goes it?" phone call to the Pahrump, NV hotel room, where the team had a race operations center, came as a pleasant surprise. Bob called us for status each following year. It was always good to hear his voice.

Even living as far away as North Dakota, Bob continued to make a valuable impact on the club. Bob we're going to miss you.

73 to Bob Buss,  
de W6ZE



## Orange County Amateur Radio Club

### A HISTORY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Part 12

by Bob - WB6IXN, Club Historian

#### \*\*\* THE MODERN ERA – cont'd \*\*\*

### 1990

In 1990, Chris Breller, KJ6ZH, received the president's gavel for a second time. Past President Dave Hollander W6COJ lost his tower in the Santa Ana Winds. At February Club meeting, David WA6TWF, gave a presentation about 'Repeaters & Advanced Remote Base Stations'.

In Feb., Club OPs helped out with the 'TET Festival' in Westminster. Ted, K6LJA, a past President and responsible for helping the OCARC reorganize in the 1950's, becomes a Silent Key in February. Later, the Ted Glick K6LJA estate donated \$200 from the sale of his radio station, to OCARC!

Some Club OPs enjoy THE CONDOR CONNECTION on 224 MHz. The March Club meeting featured packet radio, and May's meeting found the YAESU folks telling us what was new!

In June, Ken W6HHC presented his annual slide show on past OCARC Field Days activities. Field Day was held in Prospect Park in Tustin. We had 1,657 contacts for 3,454 points in the Contest. The Club thanked Jane Breller NØNE for good FD food, and thanked Kei Yamachika W6NGO, for tower, generator, and antenna storage.

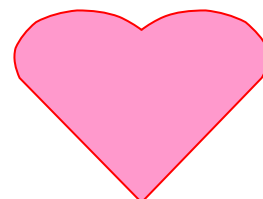
The Club started a SWAP TABLE at the July Club meeting. The 'RF' newsletter announced a Club Pizza Bust for July 21, at Roma D'Italia Ristorante in Tustin. W6RE, Ralph (Alex), was airing the Newline Tapes on the OCARC weekly nets.

The OCARC Historian, Bob WB6IXN, received copies of old 'NARSMEN' newsletters from Larry, K6VDP, which have been filed for reference. The Newport Amateur Radio Society (NARS) formed in the early 1950s, by hams that worked for the Helipot Division of Beckman Instruments, then located in Newport Beach. NARS folded in 1974 and a lot of NARSMEN members migrated into the OCARC.

In October, OCARC members provided communications for a very successful California Classic Carriage Driving event. Ten Club members participated under the leadership of Bob Tegel KD6XO included: W6RE, KJ6ZH, N6XQR, KC6DLA, AF6C, W6HHC, WA6VKZ, WA6PFA, and KB6WLO.

The Club Holiday Banquet was held on Sunday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Black Angus Restaurant in Garden Grove.

The FCC announced a no-code Tech. Class License on Dec. 13, 1990!



## Orange County Amateur Radio Club

### 1991

President Ken Konechy, W6HHC, took control of the OCARC gavel for a third time in 1991. The Club lost its meeting room at Security Pacific Bank in January - March. Finally, April found the OCARC meeting in (now gone) Republic Federal Savings Bank then located at 17th Street and the 55 FWY, in Santa Ana.

Jane Breller, NØNE, passed her codeless Tech License and in early April becomes KC6TAM. Jane lost no time and checked into the OCARC 2M Net on April 3! Kei, W6NGO donated a beam antenna to the Club for use in Field Day. The Heels & Wheels (horse) Driving Club donated \$100 to the Club for past participation in the California Classic Carriage Driving event. In 1991, Charter Member Shelley Trotter W6BAM had moved to Firebaugh, CA.

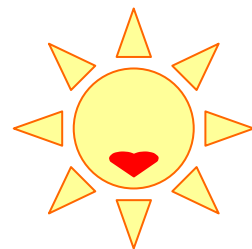
Field Day was held on June 22-23 at the USMC Air Station (H) in Tustin with Frank WA6VKZ as Field Day Chair. Don, KC6ONZ, was Food Chair, and no one went away hungry! FD scores were the 2nd best for the Club to date: 2,626 QSO's for 7,828 points! OCARC, Class 6A, placed 2nd in California for FD.

The OCARC Christmas Party was held on Dec 8, at the Officers Club at the Marine Corp Lighter-Than-Air Base in Tustin, with a gift exchange.

On Dec. 13 & 14, the Club sponsored the 'Icebreaker Contest' during the ARRL 10M Contest. Purpose: To give new hams a chance to get some contest experience. A Novice/Tech station & a General/Advanced/ Extra station were set up. The stations operated under Don Hughes' call, KC6ONZ. K6VDP was station captain for the G/A/E station, and the novice station captain was KC6ONZ. The parking lot behind the Electronic Times store housed the stations. Besides those already mentioned, 20 other OPs visited & operated. The Novice/Tech station contacted 22 states, and the G/A/E station made about 200 contacts, a very successful Club event!

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

### A SUNSPOT



A Sunspot was spotted this week, but unfortunately it is an old Solar Cycle 23 spot. Down near the Sun's equator, sunspot 1012 has been seen the last few days but this area is typical for spots from a previous cycle. So, we are still out of luck for any activity from the new Solar Cycle 24. Of course we are not going to complain and we will enjoy the one we have but it looks like we are going to have to stay patient and keep waiting for the sunspots to spot and the propagation to boom!



## Orange County Amateur Radio Club

### OCARC

### Board Meeting Minutes

2009-02-07

The OCARC Board meeting was held at the JagerHaus Restaurant in Anaheim at 8:15AM on Saturday, 2009-02-07. There were a total of 11 members and visitors attending. There was a quorum of directors present, with the following officers absent: Kris-KC6TOD (at Hamfest) Dan-N6PEQ (working) and Hank-W6HTW (vacation).

#### DIRECTOR REPORTS:

- **Vice President** - Kristin K6PEQ reported that the following programs are planned:
  - February is John-KI6MCB on rafting in Pacific
  - March is Jim Newcomb on "Mobile Antennas without holes".
  - April is a new Digital Radio DVD Tutorial
- **Treasurer** – Paul-W6GMU reported that the club had ~\$3,750 in the bank accounts and that the club had made \$300 profit on the raffle prizes at the Christmas Dinner.
- **Secretary** – acting-secretary Ken-W6HHC reviewed the published minutes. The board approved the minutes as published.
- **Membership** – Bob-AF6C led a discussion on improving the age-old problem of thoroughly communicating new member info and renewals on a timely basis. It was agreed that who ever picked up a new member form or renewal check at PO Box, would broadcast that info to all the board members by e-mail.

#### OLD BIZ:



- **RF NewsLetter "Rotating" Editors**
  - February is Kristin K6PEQ
  - March is Paul-W6GMU
  - April is Nicholas-AF6CF
- **Financial Audit Committee**

The audit committee for 2008 Financial Report prepared by Paul-W6GMU will meet before the February meeting..
- **Club QSL Design Contest**

The club has a contest to design a new QSL card for use by the OCARC. Designs will be submitted at February General Meeting where the winner will be picked.
- **Morse Code Class**

Kristin-K6PEQ and Larry-K6YUI announced that a Morse Code Class is planned for Saturday, March 7 at the QTH of N6PEQ/K6PEQ.
- **2009 Field Day**
  - Paul-W6GMU, FD Chairman, report-ed that he has been able to secure the Los Alamitos JFTB for the club's 2009 Field Day efforts through the ACS (under OES).
  - Kris-KC6TOD has volunteered to be in charge of FD food.
  - The board approved having a tune-up for the club's generator.
  - The first FD planning meeting will be held Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, after the OCARC Breakfast.

## Orange County Amateur Radio Club

### NEW BIZ:



- **OCARC Post Office Key**  
Paul-W6GMU, Treasurer, (who lives far from PO Box) turned over his PO Box key to Kristin-K6PEQ (who lives nearby).
- **OCCARO Representative**  
Steve-N1AB was appointed to become the current OCARC representative to OCCARO, the Counsel of Radio Clubs in Orange County.
- **OCARC Info for Meeting Hams**  
Ken-W6HHC, Publicity Chair, was tasked with preparing OCARC business cards that could be handed to a ham during any meeting to tell him OCARC contact info.
- **Review of General Meetings Agenda**  
President, Nicholas-AF6CF, led a discussion of improving the agenda of the club general meetings.
  - It was agreed that all board members are responsible greeting visitors and to make them feel welcome.
  - It was agreed that before the break, the Membership Chair would introduce the visitors to let the club membership know who they are and how they found the OCARC

### GOOD OF THE CLUB:

- **ARES**  
James-AF6DE showed an ARRL book on ARES Emergency Communications organizations.

Submitted by: Ken Konechy W6HHC  
Acting-Secretary

## FROM THE EDITOR

I want to thank all of the members who contributed to the newsletter this month. Contribution is what makes a great newsletter and the newsletter editor job so much easier! I am very excited about our club and what we can bring to our hobby this year. I hope you have a great February! Happy Valentines Day and see you at the meeting!

73 – Kristin, K6PEQ

