RF

ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

VOL. LIII NO. 09 **P.O. BOX 3454, TUSTIN, CA 92781-3454** **September 2012**

The Prez Sez.....

by Paul W6GMU

Exiting August and dashing toward the cooler Fall days to come, we can look forward to such exciting Club activities as a fun Auction at October's meeting (great deals ARE the norm) and the terrific Holiday party in December.

At this month's General Meeting, we'll have a Speaker who, I must say, is my all-time favorite: none other than Chip Margelli, K7JA! The famous CW sharpshooter will be telling us about the 2012 WY7FD Field Day operation that was held high above Devils Tower, Wyoming. Chip and Janet, KL7MF, along with the rest of the WY7FD crew, battled high winds and lightning that nearly blew their antenna farm off their mountaintop QTH!

Also, if we're all really nice to Chip, he may consent (if available) to serve as "Auctioneer Extraordinaire" in October once again, along with Dan N6PEQ (dubbed "The Tustin DX & BBQ King").

See y'all at the Meeting on the 21st!

73 de Paul W6GMU
The "Prez"

Next Meeting

Friday September 21st.

"WY7FD Field Day Adventure 2012"

By

Chip Margelli K7JA

Operating FD from high above Devils Tower, WY has its challenges: 80 MPH winds, and lightning. How did their antenna farm survive? Don't miss this colorful prelude to the big W6ZE FD operation next June!

The next general meeting will be on:

Friday, September 21st
@ 7:00 PM

As usual, we will be meeting in the east Red Cross Building, Room 208. See you there!

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W6GMU@W6ZE.org

Monthly Events:

General Meeting:
Third Friday of the month
at 7:00 PM
American Red Cross
600 Parkcenter Drive
(Near Tustin Ave. & 4th St.)
Santa Ana, CA

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

Club Nets (Listen for **W6ZE**):
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

7.086 ± MHz CW **OCWN**
Sun- 9:00 AM – 10 AM
John WA6RND, 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 Jan thru Dec and are prorated for new members.

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

**There is a $1.50 charge if you'd like to have your badge mailed to you.

The ARRL Pacific Division and the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club Present:

PACIFICON 2012 - October 12-14, 2012

• The Great West Coast Ham Radio Convention!
• Proud Host This Year to the ARRL National Convention!
• Featuring ARRL EXPO -- ARRL's Big Exhibit Area!
• Largest West Coast Vendor Show of Amateur Radio Gear!
• More Than 75 Outstanding Technical Forums!
• Great Swap Meet!
and...much, much more!

Returning to the Magnificent Santa Clara Venue

Marriott Santa Clara Hotel
2700 Mission College Blvd.
Santa Clara, California

For Events, Latest Updates and Registration go to:

www.PACIFICON.org

If Hotel lodging is needed:

Call the Marriott Hotel Reservations Desk at 1-800-228-9290,
before September 26, 2012, to ask for the special Pacificon rate of $109/night.

PACIFICON 2012 Events, Forum Topics, and Exhibits Include:

• Friday All-Day Antenna Seminar • Friday Evening New Media Elmers and Podcasters • Saturday Morning Kickoff with Speaker Gordon West • More Than 75 Outstanding Technical Forums • Largest West Coast Vendor Show of Amateur Radio Gear • Saturday Amateur Radio and the Law Seminar

• Great Saturday Swap Meet • Ham License Exams • Daily Radio Prize Drawings • Direction Finding/Fox-Hunting, Beginner and Advanced • Great QRP Programs • Amateur Television (ATV/DATV) • HFpack Activities • Saturday All-Day Technician License Class • Working Satellites • DXpeditions • Contesting

• A Full Slate of Youth Projects and Activities • Kit Building • Emergency Communications • W1AW/6 Station Operation • Saturday Evening Banquet with Guest Speaker • ARRL EXPO • Annual ARRL Pacific Division Director's Forum • WG0AT "The Goatman" • Understanding the Physics of Radio • FCC Forum • Moon Bounce - EME • Antenna Theory & Construction

Come and Experience
the Many Facets of Ham Radio!

Pacificon Committee - pacificoninfo@pacificon.org
www.pacificon.org - (925) 945-8007

Hams on a Beach

Sunday, September 23, 2012
5:00pm to 10:00pm

OCARC members and families

Join your fellow club members for an evening bonfire in Huntington Beach

Details

Where: Huntington Beach City Beach; across the street from the Hyatt, near the overhead pedestrian walkway. Look for USA flag flying above an Easy-Up next to a fire pit. Nearest cross streets: Pacific Coast Highway and Beach Blvd. I will monitor 146.55 at the top and bottom of each hour starting at 5pm for assistance.

When: 5:00 pm until beach closes at 10:00pm. However, I (Doug, W6FKX) will reserve the fire pit all day, so come anytime.

Bring: firewood to share, dinner, snacks, beverages (HB does not allow alcohol on the beach), SMORES?, beach chairs, jacket (gets windy and chilly in the evening!).

Note! Parking in the lot is $15 per day (cash only)

See the following link for more HB city beach information:
http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/visitors/beach_info/

For parking information see:
http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/visitors/parking/beach_parking.pdf

Hope to see you there!

Doug Britton W6FKX, OCARC Activities Director

OCARC MEMBERS TO COMPETE IN CALIF QSO PARTY Oct 6 & 7

Quick! Mark the weekend of October 6th & 7th on your calendar and start planning for a weekend of radio fun . The first full weekend of October marks the annual running of the California QSO Party (CQP) – the most fun you can have with a radio if you live in the Golden State. This year marks the 46th running of CQP sponsored by the Northern California Contest Club.

Why contest? From an operating point of view, most aspects of Ham Radio from Public Service, Chasing DX to working contests have one thing in common – accurate and timely copying of Information often under stress. Entering a contest either casually to give some points or as a serious effort, is a great exercise in operating "under fire".

CQP provides a rare opportunity for stations in California because everyone else HAS TO WORK US. This is the one weekend a year that other hams want to work W6! We are the DX!

This is the second year that OCARC members are pooling their scores together for a club score in the club competition. Just submit your score with "Orange County ARC" in the club field. Remember – the Southern Calif Contest Club is ineligible to compete in the club competition, and your score is most appreciated.

The contest runs from 1600 UTC Oct 6 to 2200 UTC Oct 7 on the non-WARC bands. For rules and other info check the CQP website at www.cqp.org

If there any questions about CQP, or setting up software to log this contest, contact: Tim Goeppinger N6GP . N6GP@w6ze.org or 714-730-0395

KX6D ANTENNA EXPO - OCT 27TH

Dino and the Rio Hondo Amateur Radio Club invite all amateurs to the KX6D Antenna Expo 2012.

When: Saturday , October 27, 2012 (new date)
9 AM to 5 PM

Where: Parnell Park
15390 Lambert Rd., Whittier, California 90604

What: Antenna Topics; Guest Speakers; BBQ; Raffle; Tower Safety; Build and Test YOUR Antenna at the Event; Tower Trailer, On-Air Testing, Vendors; and MORE! Mark your Calendar! More info to follow!

Contact: Dino dino@kx6d.com

AUCTION !!!
AUCTION !!!
AUCTION !!!

It's that time of year again. The OCARC annual ham radio auction is Friday, **October 19th 2012** at 7:00 PM.

Bring your gear to sell. Come bid on other equipment.

This is always a fun event. Bring your ham radio friends too!

Location and a map to our auction are on the next page or visit our website for info.

The Orange County Amateur Radio Club "OCARC"
P.O. Box 3454
Tustin, CA 92781

Web: www.w6ze.org

Email: ocarc_info@w6ze.org

ANNUAL RADIO AUCTION

Friday, October 19, 2012

Auction Rules

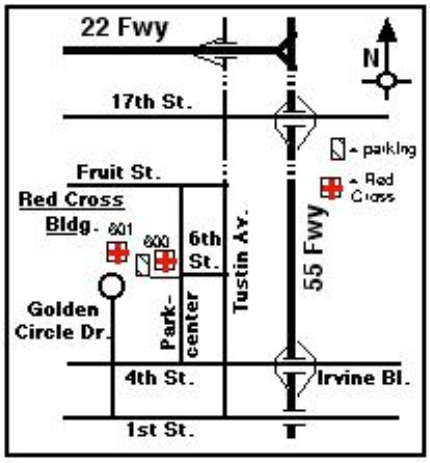
The OCARC Annual Auction will take place on Friday evening, October 19th, 2012, at 7:00 PM at the American Red Cross facility located at 600 N. Parkcenter Drive, Santa Ana. The room will open at 6:00 PM to allow registration, set-up and viewing. All buyers and sellers are welcome. The following rules for the auction will be in effect:

1. Only ham radio or electronic equipment / items will be auctioned (i.e.: no fishing equipment, etc)
2. Buyers and Sellers must register at the door with the OCARC Treasurer. **There is NO registration fee.**
3. Sellers should number each item in their lot. A tag should indicate the minimum bid they expect.
4. Only 3 items from a Sellers lot will be auctioned during each turn. After auction 3 items, the auctioneer will move on to the next lot. After the first 3 items from every lot have been offered for bidding, the auctioneer will start the second round of auctioning with the next 3 items in Lot #1.
5. Auction bidding will take place as follows:
   (a) $0.00-to-$5.00 bidding will take place in $0.50 increments.
   (b) Over-$5.00-to-$50.00 bidding will take place in $1.00 increments.
   (c) Over-$50.00-to-$100.00 bidding will take place in $5.00 increments.
   (d) Over-$100.00 bidding will be in $10.00 increments.
6. **Rules 4 and 5 may be changed at the auctioneer's discretion to expedite the auction**.
7. Payments for purchased items are due at the end of the auction and shall be by cash or check with the appropriate ID. No two-party checks or credit cards are allowed. Disbursements to the Sellers will be by OCARC check, only. Sellers will be charged 10% of the selling price for items sold by OCARC.

A special table will be set up for donated items. The proceeds of donated items will go to the OCARC.

The American Red Cross
George M. Chitty Building
600 Parkcenter Drive
Santa Ana, CA.
Second Floor, Room 208*
(Enter from the West Side.)
Note: The door locks after 7 PM. If no one is there to let you in call W6ZE on the talk-in frequency for admittance.
TALK-IN 146.55 MHz Simplex

* Room is subject to change.



TechTalk103 - The Second VK3RTV DATV/ATV QSO Party

by Ken Konechy W6HHC

Last year, Peter Cossins VK3BFG and the hams associated with the VK3RTV digital-ATV repeater organized the first world-wide DATV QSO Party in August 2011 to help celebrate the 100 Years of the Amateur Radio Victoria organization providing support for ham radio. This year, the Melbourne ATV Group organized a second QSO Party for DATV and ATV stations on August 24th and 25th GMT. The VK3RTV repeater is the second earliest DATV-repeater in Australia, and no longer has any analogue downlink.

Many Ways to Get Video to Australia VK3RTV

In south-eastern Australia, many hams had contact directly line-of-sight by radio frequencies with the VK3RTV DATV-repeater (near Melbourne). In other parts of Australia and the United States, hams relayed their video to Peter VK3BFG by SKYPE video-connections…who then uplinked the video and audio to the VK3RTV digital repeater using the DVB-S protocol for DATV. Let me detail out the many ways that hams participated in the VK3RTV QSO Party this year:

1. Line of sight 1.2 GHz RF DATV or ATV transmission to VK3RTV repeater
2. SKYPE video connection directly via internet to VK3BFG, who then uplinks the video to the VK3RTV repeater by 1.2 GHz DATV RF
3. USA ATVers connect to the ATN Analog-ATV Network by RF and the received RF signal from W6ATN repeater is then SKYPED by KE6BTX to VK3BFG, who then uplinks the video to the VK3RTV repeater by 1.2 GHz DATV RF.

Figure 1 – W6HHC 1.2 GHz DATV Video can be seen being received on SetTopBox/Notebook-Computer

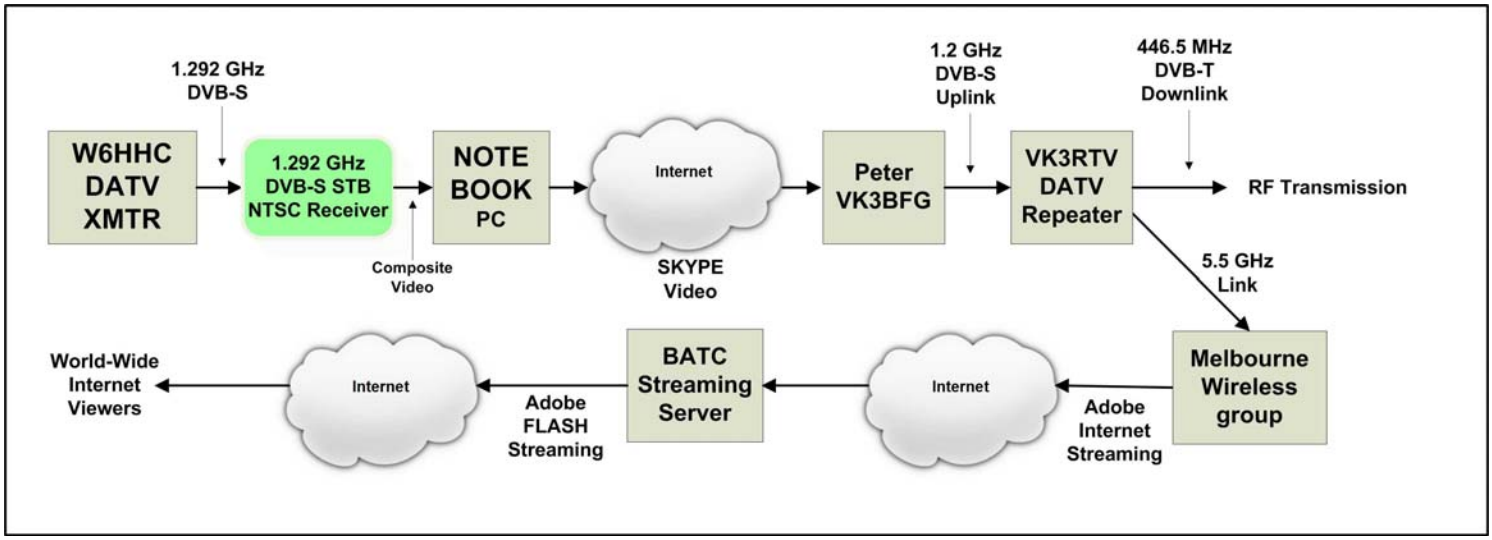
4. SKYPE video connection via internet directly to KE6BXT. Don will simultaneously send your video to the W6ATN ATV Repeater Network by RF and via SKYPE on the internet to VK3BFG, who then uplinks the video to VK3RTV repeater by 1.2 GHz DATV RF

Getting W6HHC 1.2 GHz DATV Signal to Australia

During the QSO Party, the W6HHC digital-ATV signal was transmitted on 1.2 GHz using DVB-S protocol for DATV. The signal was then received on a nearby satellite-SetTopBox receiver that sent the video signal over by USB to a Dell notebook computer to be displayed. See **Fig 1** of the W6HHC DATV video being received in Orange, CA on the notebook computer screen.

The next step was to take the video display on the notebook computer and send it over the internet by SKYPE video-connection (called “shared-screen” mode

Figure 2 – Block Diagram Showing W6HHC DATV QSO Straight to Australia VK3RTV



or “shared-desktop”) to Peter VK3BFG, the net control station. W6HHC chose method-2 in the “many ways list” to SKYPE his received DATV video signal to VK3BFG via the internet. See **Fig 2** for a block diagram explaining the complete video signal path. Peter VK3BFG then uplinked the received SKYPE video to the VK3RTV DATV repeater on 1.2 GHz using DVB-S protocol. The VK3RTV repeater in turn downlinked the W6HHC video on 446 MHz using the DVB-T protocol.

As shown in **Fig 2**, a nearby group called Melbourne Wireless also receive a 5 GHz link from VK3RTV and send the video over internet by streaming video to the BATC (British Amateur Television Club) server. Now the VK3RTV video could be seen all over the world through the www.BATC.TV/ internet URL. It was exciting to watch my DATV video come back from the VK3RTV digital-repeater via the BATC streaming server on the internet using my iPAD as a monitor! This was an interesting combination of ham radio and internet!

Success and Fun for the VK3RTV QSO Party

The following are some of the photos that I captured from the VK3RTV QSO Party.

Fig 3 – Typical VK3RTV Repeater Test Pattern seen over the Internet

Peter VK3BFG reported that a total 16 ATVers on Friday night (Australian time) and 18 stations checked in on the Saturday’s session. That included SKYPE DX check-ins from South Australia (VK5ADM), Tasmania (VK7OTC & VK7EM) and USA (KE6BXT & W6HHC).

Don KE6BXT in Mission Viejo, CA reported that he had about another 10 different ATV stations check into ATN via RF and about five stations checked in via SKYPE.

Figure 4 – Larger Picture is Peter VK3BFG testing with Don KE6BXT (smaller PIX in lower corner) (photo courtesy of KE6BXT)

Figure 5 – BATC Screen-Shot of QSO Party Announcement before the event.

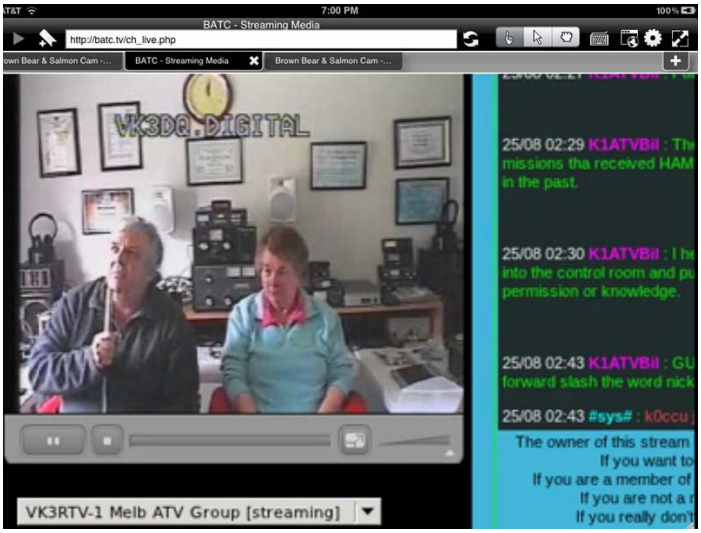


Figure 6 – BATC Screen-Shot of John Fisher VK3DQ and his wife Jean VK3VIP. Jean is also president of ALARA (the Australian Ladies Amateur Radio Association)

Fig 7 shows a video screen-shot from the "traveling portable DATV station" VK3WWW that visited and set-up DATV at many of the iconic scenic spots around Melbourne during the QSO Party. I am a bit suspicious that that some sort of "green screen" may have been involved with their transmissions? But, I certainly enjoyed a personal tour of Melbourne. Well done!!

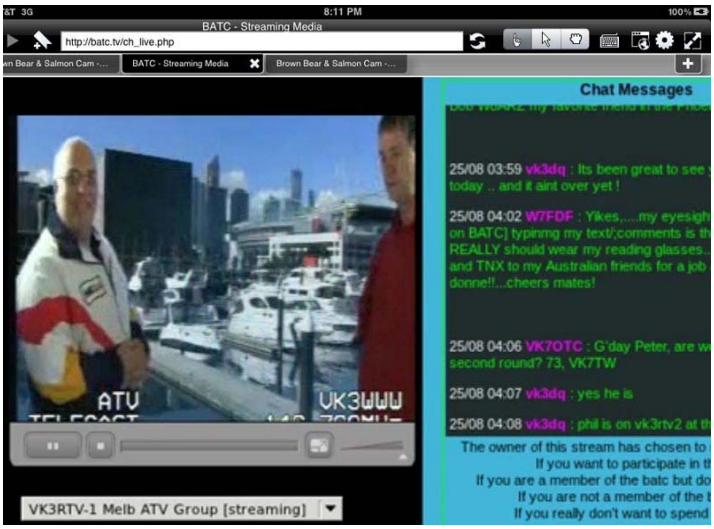


Figure 7 – BATC Screen-Shot of the "traveling DATV portable station" VK3WWW

Figure 8 – BATC Screen-Shot of Don VK5ADM checking in via SKYPE from South Australia

ATN video in **Fig 9** could be seen simultaneously on the ATN television network by RF and on VK3RTV via SKYPE. I also checked directly into KE6BXT by SKYPE (method-4 on the "many-ways-list"). I discovered this year that I could no longer do a SKYPE connection "screen share" with KE6BXT. That meant I could send a "video call" with KE6BXT but NOT a "shared screen". And…that meant I could not send the W6HHC DATV video received on my screen to Don….but I could send my web-camera video from my notebook computer to Don and on to the QSO Party using method-4. More will be discussed about this new "SKYPE issue" a little later in the article.

Figure 9 – BATC Screen-Shot of Don Hill KE6BXT at his controls during the VK3RTV QSO Party

Fig 10 – Typical W6ATN Repeater Test Pattern seen over the Internet

Solved some Problems – Found some Problems
Last year I had run into some problems with watching the BATC streaming that annoyed me.

Problem-1 (solved) I discovered last year that I could not use my iPAD to monitor the BATC streaming server. This is because BATC streaming uses ADOBE FLASH video and Apple will not allow

FLASH video to be viewed on either the iPAD or the iPHONE because of security concerns. In the **TechTalk96** article, I reported that I had discovered an "APP" that is sold in the Apple iTunes Store that solves the BATC streaming problem on an iPAD. The "APP" product is called Photon Flash Web Browser This APP is a specialized web browser for an iPad or iPhone and sells for US$4.99 on the Apple iTunes Application Store. This APP can handle Flash streaming video, as well as interactive Flash games, as well as pre-recorded Flash video like often used on Facebook.

Problem-2 (solved) A second problem with the iPAD I had known about was the AUTOLOCK feature that was shutting the iPAD down every 15 minutes (or sooner). That is a terrible limitation for a streaming QSO party. A friend of mine had an AUTOLOCK setting available for "Never". But, the "Never" setting did not show up on my iPAD? A long search of the Apple Knowledge Database for iPAD did not yield any answers to the problem. Thank goodness for the "brick and mortar" Apple Stores!! The Apple "geniuses" at the nearby Apple Store sorted out that because my iPAD was used in a corporate environment using Microsoft Exchange Server…Exchange had invoked a security policy that had mandated a password be used for iPAD AUTOLOCK. By eliminating the Exchange set-up (temporarily for the QSO Party) on my iPAD, I could now remove the AUTOLOCK password and I now could see a "Never" timeout setting.

Problem-3 (newly found and solved) This year I discovered that Don KE6BXT had changed around his SKYPE set-up in his station to make some improvements. But, Don's new set-up (or updates by Skype) was preventing me from setting up my SKYPE in the "share screen mode". My "no cost SKYPE" was obtaining a message that I needed to upgrade in order to use the "share screen mode" with Don's SKYPE. That meant that I could only send my web-cam video to KE6BXT…not the video on my computer screen (such as received DATV video or a PowerPoint presentation). SKYPE does offer a SKYPE PREMIUM product that allows all parties to be sending shared-screen. The SKYPE PREMIUM is relatively cheap. You can use it for one day for US$5 or subscribe to it for one month for US$9. After the QSO Party I used a free trial offered by SKYPE PREMIUM and confirmed the upgrade provides a satisfactory solution with KE6BXT to this new problem. [NOTE – my SKYPE screen-sharing video always has worked well with VK3BFG.]

Problem-4 (newly found) During this QSO Party I discovered another new problem. My iPAD monitoring the BATC streaming using the Photon Flash Web Browser would drop out of FLASH streaming after about 6+ minutes. My "work-around" to prevent drop-out was to move the iPAD screen around a bit every 5 minutes to keep the "APP" in the FLASH mode. I suspect this is a Photon "APP" setting or a technical issue. I plan to get in touch with Photon technical support and see if I can find a better solution to the drop-out.

Conclusion

The second VK3RTV DATV QSO Party was great fun!! I got to meet (see) a lot of DATV and hams. Combining DATV and SKYPE and internet allows a widespread group of participants and watchers in a QSO party. I think this event was great promotion of DATV!!

I think of the SKYPE function as an "amplifier", that is SKYPE and the internet allow RF video signals to go where they could not have reached before. Peter VK3BFG has a good philosophy to use "balance" during the VK3RTV QSO Parties. As Peter says "…The No 1 premise is to maximise the use of RF and amateur radio frequencies and minimise the use of the internet. We are amateur radio enthusiasts, using computers as tools when required."

I want to thank both Peter Cossins VK3BFG and Don Hill KE6BXT for inviting me to participate and taking the time to allow me to test SKYPE before the QSO Party started. Also, a special thanks to all the folks at BATC who provide the BATC-streaming server.

Interesting DATV Links

- VK3RTV Digital Repeater WEB site – see **www.VK3RTV.com**
- W6ATN Amateur Television Network (ATN) – **see ATN-TV.org/**
- Amateur Radio Victoria organization – see **www.AmateurRadio.com.au/**
- British ATV Club - Digital Forum – see **www.BATC.org.UK/forum/**
- British ATV Club – select from about 35 streaming repeaters – see **www.BATC.TV/**
- German ATV portal for streaming repeaters and forum – see **www.D-ATV.net/**
- OCARC TechTalk95 article on first VK3RTV World-Wide QSO DATV/ATV Party in 2011 – see **www.W6ZE.org/DATV/**
- Orange County ARC newsletter entire series of DATV articles – see **www.W6ZE.org/DATV/**
- Yahoo Group for Digital ATV - see **groups.yahoo.com/group/DigitalATV/**

2012 ARRL CONTEST SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

10 GHz & Up Contest - Leg 2:	Third full weekend of September, 6:00AM local time Saturday through 11:59pm local time Sunday.

OCTOBER

International EME Competition (2.3 GHz and Up)	0000z Saturday Oct 6 – 2359z Sunday Oct 7
School Club Roundup	Monday Oct 15 – Friday Oct 19th , 24 hours max

CQ MAGAZINE CONTEST SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

CQ Worldwide DX RTTY	0000Z, Sep 29 to 2400Z, Sep 30

OCTOBER

CQ Worldwide DX SSB	0000Z, Oct 27 to 2400Z, Sep 28

2 OCARC Members Win Certificates in the 2011 CQ WW DX RTTY Contest

Congratulations to Jeff Hall W6UX and John Schroeder N6QQ for winning certificates in their categories for California. John N6QQ won the Assisted High Power category with 1098 QSOs, and came in second place for all of Zone 3. Jeff W6UX won the very crowded Non-Assisted Low Power (19 entries total) with 696 QSOs. Also-ran was Tim K6GEP (N6GP) in 4th place in the Non-Assisted High Power category, also with 696 QSOs. The 2011 contest coincided with the peak (so far) of solar cycle 24, with a solar flux of 170 that weekend. It will be interesting to see what conditions are like this year.

CQ

The Radio Amateur's Journal

Takes pleasure in awarding this Certificate of Merit to

In Recognition of your participation in the 2006

World Wide RTTY DX Contest

for the SINGLE OPERATOR 20 METERS category

from Indonesia

A Total score of 77,532 was computed on a basis of

contact points and state/Canadian area/country multipliers and CQ

zones. In witness of this achievement, we hereby affix our signatures.

6 Meters from Anacapa - An Expedition within an Expedition

by Tim Goeppinger N6GP

Last year, when Jeff W6UX, Rick AE6RS and I went to Anacapa, we made a serious mis-calculation at the end of the expedition. We leisurely continued to operate on the air until after 9AM before we shut down, and packed up our tents. We had plenty of time to haul our gear across the island, and down the 157 stairs. Oh no we didn't! Everything took longer than expected, and we BARELY made it on the boat, with some help pitched in from some visitors from Central America.

Our team leader this year, Jeff W6UX made it clear we would not repeat that mistake. Rigs would be shut down by 7 AM, and we would begin to tear down. With 6 team members this year instead of 3, the work went very fast Everything was packed up and moved across the island to the top of the stairs by 12:30 PM. So, we had around 3 hours to kill.

Almost 3 hours. What to do? Get on the air, of course! Thankfully, I had asked Jeff to bring along his 6 meter Par Electronics end fed dipole on the trip, and he had it handy. Rick had his Yaesu FT-857 available, and we had plenty of battery charge left. So, we strung up the dipole as a sloper from my fiberglass fruit picking pole. The bench made a great operating table as our 'friends' the seagulls looked on.

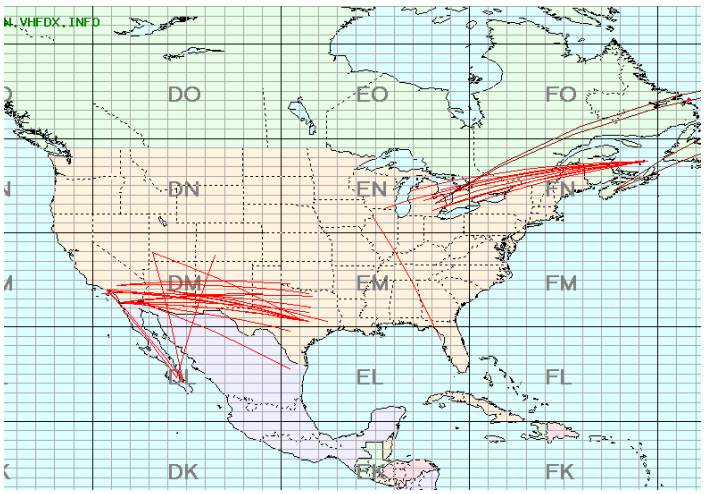
Tim N6GP on 6 meters **Photo: W6UX**

I turned on the rig, and tuned to the calling frequency of 50.125 – nothing. Only 1 beacon was heard in the beacon part of the band – the local beacon K7AZ (not Arizona) from Lompoc, CA. I scanned around a while, and CQed a bit. No response. I had my fingers crossed, but a Sporadic E opening just wasn't showing up. Late July is several weeks past the peak of the Sporadic E season, so I wasn't surprised at my bleak situation.

During this 3 hour wait, we still had to haul our hundreds of pounds of equipment down the 157 stairs, and I certainly wanted to do my fair share of the work. So, I took a load of stuff down and returned.

I returned to the rig again and scanned for beacons between 50.050 and 50.090. The local K7AZ was heard again at 50.077. I was hoping to hear N0LL/b in Kansas 1 KHz down. I continued to tune down the band. Around 50.060 I couldn't believe it. I heard CW! A beacon! The signal popped up out of the noise and I was able to copy K5AB/b, which I know is in Texas.

So, I spun the dial up to 50.125 and called CQ – "CQ CQ 6 Meters this is N6GP Portable November 6 Golf Papa Portable Anacapa Island" After calling CQ a couple of times, I had a caller! It was Bill N5WS from just north of San Antonio, Texas with a very nice, copyable signal. I asked him to spot me on the DX cluster, which is OK to ask for outside of contests. After that QSO, Steve N8DEZ gave me a call from his QTH in Sylmar CA. His signal was 20 over 9!



Map of 6m spots on July 29 from 2000 to 2100z
From www.DXmaps.com database (DX Sherlock)

I worked 4 more stations from Texas over the next 20 minutes. I heard Roy WB7BBI from Lubbock the loudest I've ever heard his 30 watt signal. Being 200 feet off the water on Anacapa is an awesome 6 meter location. It probably is too far offshore from O.C and L.A. for 2 meters and above in VHF contests, but 6m was great. Unfortunately, Anacapa is in the southwest corner of the very common DM04 grid square, but giving out an IOTA contacts on 6 was a thrill.

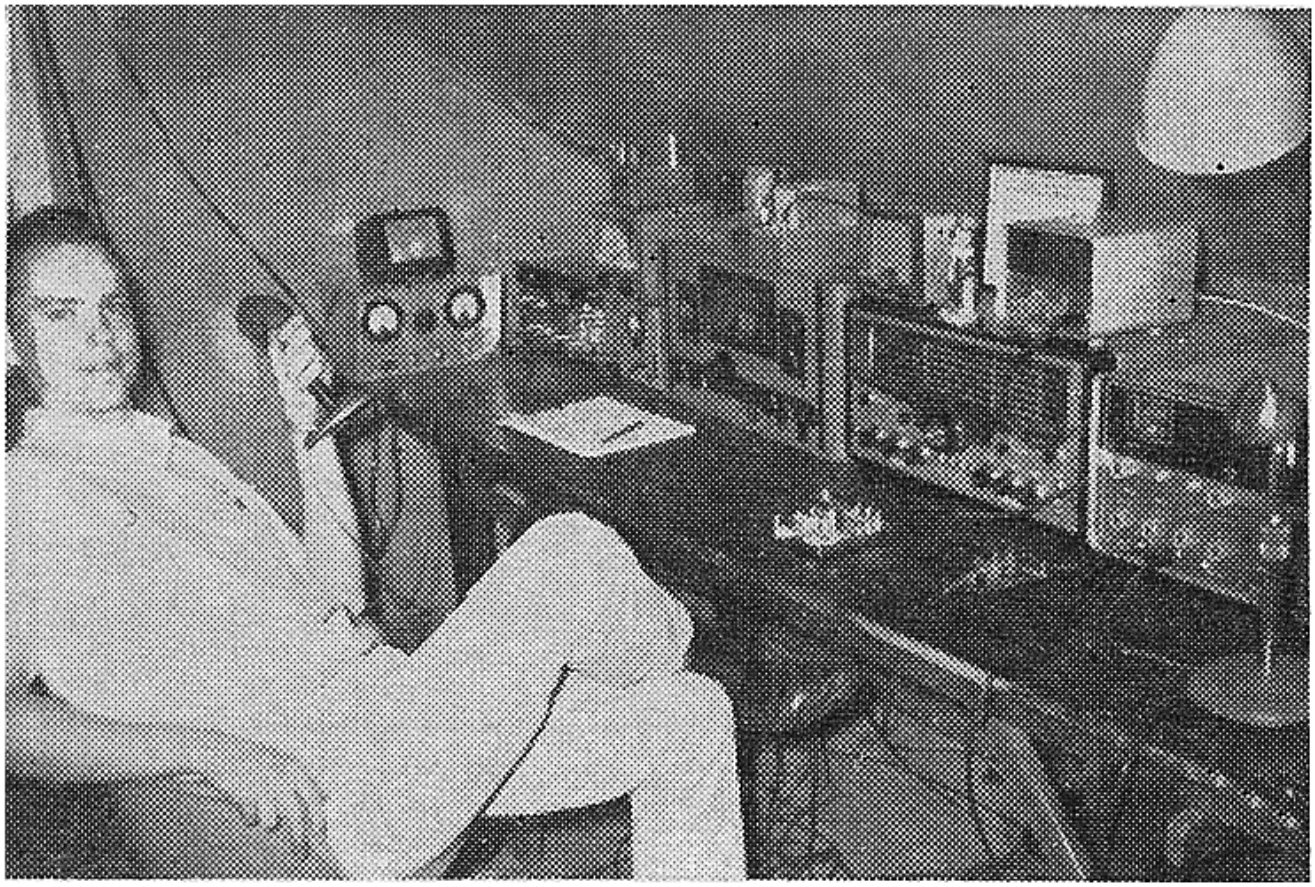
Some W6HK History!

In a pile of old radio books I picked up from a retiring ham were two ham radio magazines - the July 1970 issue of QST (75¢), and the December 1964 issue of CQ (50¢). While perusing the CQ issue I noticed the attached picture in *The VHF Column,* page 79. The name was familiar as we have a Ken Bourne - W6HK in the club and even the face looked like a younger version of the Ken Bourne I know; the only thing unfamiliar was the K9GHR call. Could this be our Ken? A quick search on the Internet found W6HK's home page and there it was: **"…formerly K9GHR…**"

So Ken, that's some spiffy mid-1960 era equipment you're sitting at. That looks like a Hallicrafter SX-101 receiver and HT-37 transmitter. And to the left of the SX-101, is that a post-war 1940's RME 45? Looks like a lot of homebrew equipment too. What is that below the CDR rotator control? How about giving us a rundown on your 1964 ham shack?

And, of course, let me congratulate you belatedly (by a mere 48 years) on taking top spot in Illinois in the 1964 CQ V.H.F. Contest! ***de Bob - AF6C***

Happy 49th wedding anniversary this month to Ken W6HK and Carol N6YL ! ***de Tim – N6GP***



Meet Ken Bourne, K9GHR, at his new v.h.f. equipped QTH in Lombard, Illinois. Ken puts out a mean signal on 50 mc and did a bang-up job in taking the Illinois certificate in the August CQ V.H.F. Contest.

OCARC
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

2012-08-11

The OCARC Board meeting was held at the JägerHaus Restaurant, 2525 East Ball Road, Anaheim, on 2012-08-11 at 8:15 AM. There was a quorum of board directors present with only Bob-AF6C and Kristin-K6PEQ absent.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

- **VP –** Robbie KB6CJZ is currently working on a list of possible club programs to line up the remainder of this year.
- **Sec –** Ken W6HHC explained that he would be on vacation during the September General Meeting. Doug W6FKX offered to serve as Secretary in September.
- **Activities –** Doug W6FKX has planned an OCARC Beach Party at Huntington Beach on Saturday, Sept 23. The charge for parking is $15. Bring your portable rigs!! Tim needs someone to handle the Opportunity Drawing for the August meeting, Tim KJ6NGF volunteered.
- **Technical –** John W6JOR reported that he had built a 160M receiving antenna using a 5-ft diameter loop of coax. The antenna receives much much less noise compared to a horizontal antenna that John is using for transmitting on 160M. He can now copy all the normal 160M stations much clearer.

OLD BIZ:

- **Newsletter Editors**
  - Sept – Tim N6GP
  - Oct – Ken W6HHC
  - Nov – Paul W6GMU

Ken reported that our new "rotating editor" in August, Jay KI6WZU, prepared a great newsletter for his first time!

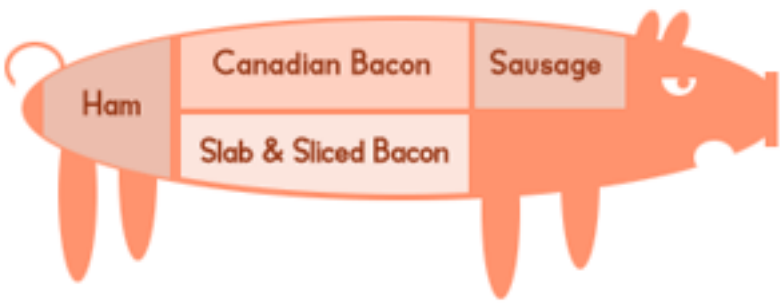
- **Field Day 2013** - President Paul W6GMU reported that he has asked Bob AA6PW to be the Field Day Chair for 2013 with Dino KX6D being the co-Chair. Both have accepted to serve the club. There was a suggestion made to formally reserve the Walter Knott Ed Center for FD soon, in order to avoid any possible scheduling conflicts.
- **OCCARO –** The club representative, Paul W6GMU reported that only 5 representatives showed up for the OCCARO meeting on 2012-08-08. No business was conducted.

NEW BIZ:

- **Sponsoring a "Tent" at WRTC -** There was further discussion about sponsoring a tent at the 2014 WRTC contest. The sponsorship was not brought up at the last OCCARO meeting because of a lack of attendees. There seemed to be NO interest in OCARC being a "full" sponsor.
- **AUCTION –** Ken explained that we needed to begin advertising the OCARC Auction in October soon. Ken will send out a draft of the Auction Flyer used last year at HRO to Tim N6GP, our Publicity Chair. Ken explained that he needed members to e-mail in a list of equipment, so that we can place the list on the WEB site.
- **CA QSO Party –** Tim N6GP reported that the California QSO party is scheduled to begin on Oct 6 at 16:00 GMT. The board decided to NOT try to operate as "Portables in the Park" style. All members will be encouraged to operate the contest from home and submit their score combined under OCARC-W6ZE.

GOOD OF CLUB:

- **IOTA Anacapa Island** - Tim N6GP and Jeff W6UX reported that they had a great time during the RSGB IOTA contest and worked over 500 QSOs. They had plenty of battery-power. Jeff displayed the "just printed" QSL cards created for the event. Tim and Jeff were encouraged to submit photos and perhaps a write-up for the club newsletter.



Ham Cuisine

by Kristin, K6PEQ

Ham BBQ Sandwiches

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup ketchup
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 ½ tablespoons sweet pickle relish
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoon prepared yellow mustard
- 1 lb chipped ham
- salt and pepper, to taste
- 1 dash garlic powder
- Cheddar Cheese slices
- Kaiser Rolls

Directions:

1. In medium saucepan, boil all ingredients except ham for 20 minutes.
2. Drop the ham into mixture and salt & pepper to taste.
3. Boil long enough to heat through mixing to cover the ham completely with the sauce. This should take about 5 minutes.
4. Serve on fresh Kaiser roll and add a slice of cheddar cheese!

Serving Suggestions:

Serve with a coleslaw salad and a few potato chips and a nice refreshing beverage. This is a great end of summer treat that all can enjoy!

OCARC
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
2012-07-20

The OCARC General Meeting was held at the Red Cross complex in Santa Ana on Friday evening, August 17th at 7 PM.

"Eliminating Interference…"

Fred Daniel, W6FNO gave us many pearls of wisdom that he has learned as a legendary amateur radio repeater owner, and from his many years in the commercial communications industry.

Fred made the point that coax cables used by amateurs are incredibly leaky, compared to the hard line coax used at commercial sites. He suggests to keep coax cables separated, in order to cut down on cross-coupling.

Other methods used to combat interference are:
:
Separating antennas physically - vertical separation 10 times more effective than horizontal

Use band pass filters or cavities for repeaters or field day sites.

Use of circulators in repeater sites to stop the back flow of RF.

Noise cancellers - receive the broadband noise, and invert it to cancel it out

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

Respectfully submitted by:
Tim Goeppinger N6GP, for Sec. W6HHC

JPL/NASA Sends Morse Code On Mars !

The engineers and scientists at JPL have come up with a clever design for the wheel of the Curiosity Rover. As the Rover makes tracks in the surface of Mars, it leaves behind the morse code letters for J P L. We wonder what the Martians think of this.

Wheel of Curiosity Rover with JPL in reverse.

NASA/JPL Engineer Bobak "Mohawk Guy" Ferdowsi with JPL Morse Code Haircut