



RF



ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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

December 2016

The Prez Sez.....

By Nicholas AF6CF



Ho Ho Ho! It is December now, and the last month of the year is when we again pause to look back and reflect on what we accomplished in the last twelve months as a Club and make plans and dream for a better future. Next year is certainly going to be better with a new (Club) President and new Board members. We had a great and safe Field Day event, many outstanding speakers and a fantastic auction. But also, this is the month to celebrate and party. With great opportunity drawing prizes, our Club this year had an excellent dinner event. The party was a GREAT event, the food was probably the best at least in my [See 'Pres Sez'cont'd, page 7]

Congratulations to the 2017 Board of Directors:

President:
Tim Goeppinger N6GP

Vice President:
Jim Schultz AF6N

Secretary:
Ron Mudry W6FPS

Treasurer:
Ken Konechy W6HHC

Activities:
Tim Millard N6TMT

Membership:
Bob Eckweiler AF6C

Publicity:
Dan Dankert N6PEQ

Technical:
Clem Brzoznowski W0MEC

Director at Large:
Greg Bohning W6ATB

Director at Large:
Nicholas Haben AF6CF

Next General Meeting

The next OCARC General meeting presentation is titled

"Emergency Preparedness in Your Community"

by Brenda Emrick KI6EXL

The next General Meeting will be on:

**Friday, January 20th, 2017
@ 7:00 PM**

ENTER from the WEST SIDE entrance of the Red Cross Building, Room 208
Take elevator to the 2nd Floor. See you there!

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Feedback & Corrections:
rf_feedback@w6ze.org

Submit Articles:
editors@w6ze.org

Monthly Events:

General Meeting:

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

Club Breakfast (Board Mtg.):

Normally First Saturday of month at 8am
Marie Callender's Restaurant
1821 North Grand Ave
Santa Ana, CA
(Between 17th & Santa Clara)

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
Ann K6OIO, Net Control



Club Dues for 2016:

Regular/New Members* - - - - - \$30
Family renewal/Join** - - - - - \$45
New Member Join Jul-Dec*** - - \$15
Replacement Badge**** - - - - - \$ 3

* New members Jan-Jun, w/badge.

** Two members or more, w/badge.

*** New members Jul-Dec, w/badge.

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

Orange County Sheriff's Department hosts county-wide Emergency Communications "Radio Rodeo"

by Ken W6HHC

On November 15, the OC Sheriff's Department conducted a "Radio Rodeo" for emergency communication Mobile Command Posts from agencies and cities all over Orange County. The "Radio Rodeo" allowed testing county and RACES radio inter-communications between about 15 Mobile Command Post vehicles that gathered at the fog-shrouded Huntington Beach City Beach parking lot.

I participated as the RACES operator for the City of Orange Police Department MCP (mobile command post) vehicle. Officer Ken Adams drove the huge OPD MVP and OPD Dispatch Supervisor Matt Windish handled communication at the county-agency-and-Sheriff level.

These events confirm that the OPD COAR radios and antenna still work, radio manuals are in place, and provide an opportunity to refresh on "how to reprogram a radio in the field". COAR RACES successfully performed role-call by OCARC RACES on the following frequencies

- OCRACES 2M repeater on Loma Ridge
- OCRACES 2M simplex
- OCRACES/CPRA 440 reptr on Santiago Pk
- OCRACES 440 repeater on Sierra Pk
- OCRACES 446 simplex



Fig01 – Officer Ken Adams (L) and OPD Dispatch Supervisor Matt Windish stand in front of the OPD MCP vehicle



Fig02 – Dispatcher Matt Windish handled communications with other county-agencies using four radios (mostly out of sight on right side). Three RACES radios were above left desk (see hanging mike cable).

The two largest and most impressive Mobile Communications Center vehicles are provided by Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) and the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA). See the following five photos.



Fig03 – outside of the huge OC Sheriff's Dept Mobile Communications Center (MCC)

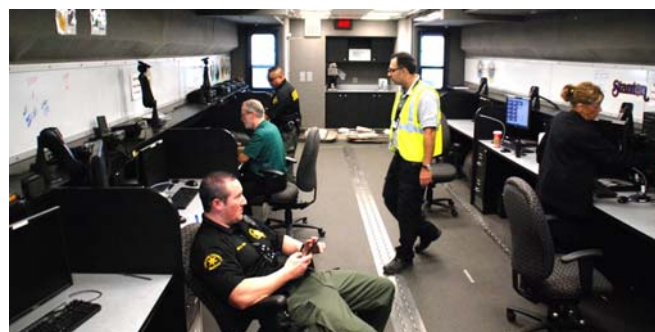


Fig04 - Operating positions inside OCSD MCC

Radio Rodeo – cont'd



Fig05 – racks of radios inside OCSD MCC vehicle



Fig06 – The OC Fire Authority uses a long trailer for their Mobile Communications Center (MCC)

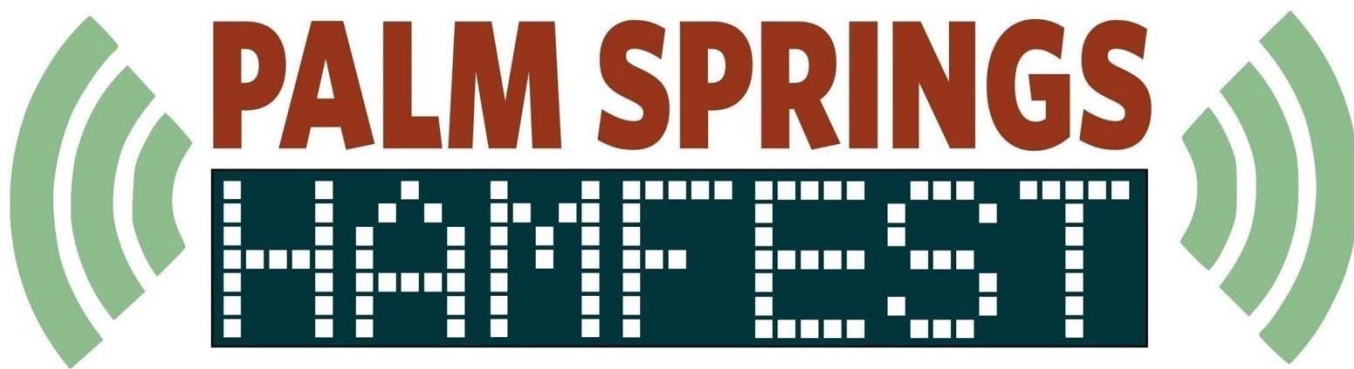
This was the fifth year that OCSD has organized a "Radio Rodeo" event. The OPD communications all took place on the 800 MHz trunk. Dispatcher Matt Windish explained to me that the County and OPD are planning to change to a new generation of agency and city radios in the near future. The frequency will still be 800 MHz...but will use new communications protocols and new digital modulation technology.



Fig07 – These are some of the operating positions inside the OCFA MCC.



Fig08 – the Mobile Command Post vehicles and equipment are very expensive and several cities came together to share the cost of this Urban Area Mobile Incident Command Post. The cities sharing this communications vehicle include Seal Beach, Cypress, and Los Alamitos. Known as the "West Cities", they also share a common Police Communications Center



FEBRUARY 4th 2017



**THE BIGGEST LITTLE HAMFEST IN THE WEST
HAS A NEW DATE AND A NEW LOCATION**

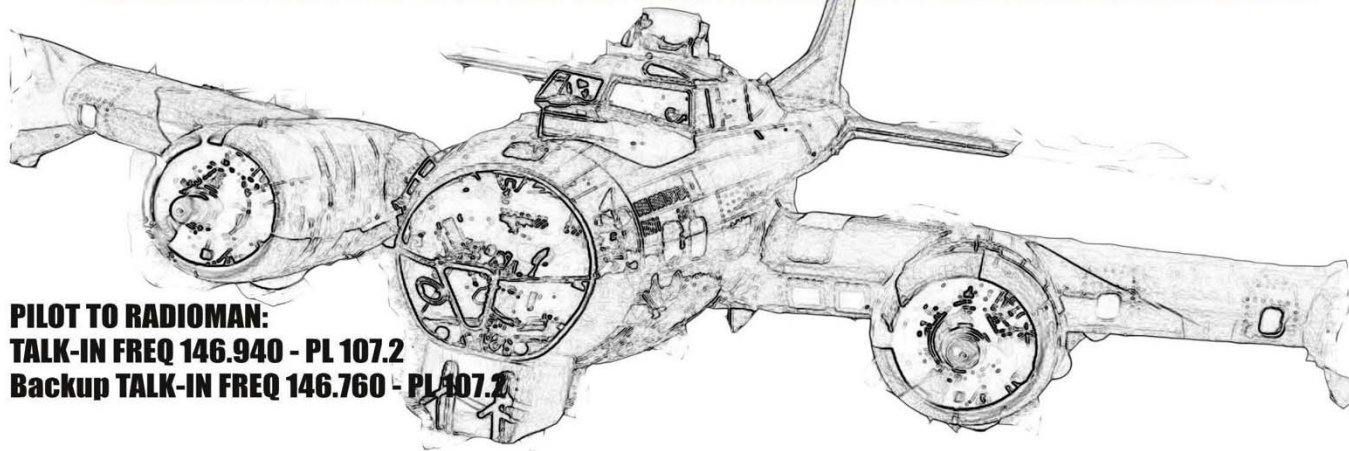
**MORE VENDORS. MORE FLEA MARKET / TAILGATERS. MORE FOOD VENDORS
MORE GUEST SPEAKERS. KIDS AREA, BRING THE FAMILY SPEND THE WEEKEND.
LOTS OF RV PARKING \$5 VE TESTING
AN ARRL SANCTIONED EVENT**

SEE US AT PALMSPRINGSHAMFEST.COM OR DESERTRATS.US

OPENS AT 9:00 AM WITH A RIBBON CUTTING BY PALM SPRINGS MAYOR MOON

NOW AT THE PALM SPRINGS AIR MUSEUM

**YOUR HAMFEST ADMISSION INCLUDES
ADMISSION TO ONE OF THE NATIONS FINEST AIR MUSEUMS**



**PILOT TO RADIOMAN:
TALK-IN FREQ 146.940 - PL 107.2
Backup TALK-IN FREQ 146.760 - PL 107.2**

OCARC BOARD MEETING MINUTES 2016-12-03

The OCARC Board meeting was held at the Marie Callender's Restaurant at 1821 N. Grand Ave in Santa Ana on December 3 2016. There were a total of thirteen club members and board members in attendance. There was a quorum with all officers present except: Tony N2VAJ and Bob AF6C.

Director Reports:

- **Treasurers Report** – Greg W6ATB provided an YTD financial report. Currently the club is close to break-even for the year with a surplus of about \$827, but still needs to payout the restaurant dinner bill and for Dinner-prizes.

OLD BIZ:

- **Newsletter Editors**

Dec - Don N6XBP
Jan - Greg W6ATB
Feb - Bob AF6C
Mar - Tim N6TMT
Apr - Tim N6GP

- **Program Speakers for Club Meetings**

Dec – **NO CLUB MEETING** (Christmas Party instead)
Jan – Brenda Emrick KI6EXL on “Emergency Preparedness in Your Community”

- **Newsletter Articles** – Doug had earlier reminded the Board that having club member shack pictures are a great addition to content of the club newsletters. Ken W6HHC has e-mailed a reminder to club members, 2 weeks before Dec Newsletter deadline. Jim AF6N volunteered to send his photos to the editor.

- **Christmas Dinner Ticket PayPal button** – Ken W6HHC reported that the dinner PayPal button on the club website has been working well. Twenty-one of the Dinner tickets were paid on-line via PayPal.

- **Club Historian Report** – Corey KE6YHX explained that he is in the process of making all hyper-links relative in order to create a “browser-able” DVD.

- **New Assistant WebMaster** – Don N6XBP explained that his life has become too busy to train as a new ass't web master in 2017. Ken explained that he will confirm interest by Lito KI9H.
- **Club Tri-fold Brochure** – A busy time-of-the-year has prevented Tim N6TMT from ordering 250 copies of the updated 8.5 x 14 brochures.
- **Elmering at Irvine HS** – The OCARC had received a request from Woodbridge High School in Irvine to help test equipment to be used to hear CubeSat satellites as part of the STEM program. Nicholas AF6CF has not contacted yet.
- **Membership PayPal buttons** – Ken reported that Bob AF6C had spent manweeks of effort to refine the PayPal buttons for the club web site. Now, the PayPal buttons for renewals, new members, and ordering a replacement badge are working online.

NEW BIZ:

- **New Board Members for 2017** – Copies of the description of officer duties (found in the OCARC Bylaws) were reviewed with the four new officers for 2017. Tom W6ETC will help Jim AF6N (new VP) to make contact with Red Cross for meeting location confirmation during 2017.
- **Special Budget Worksession** – Tim N6GEP presented ideas and led discussions to explore lowering dues to \$25/year. After discussions, it was agreed that there is no obvious way to lower dues and allow finances to stay close to break-even. No further action is planned.
- **Donation to club from W0WRH-estate** – the club board decided to offer the two main radios from estate of W0WRH for sale to club members. Nicholas AF6CF will prepare an announcement for Ken W6HHC to e-mail out.... Ten Tec Jupiter transceiver \$750 and Yaesu FT-8900R Quad Band mobile transceiver \$250.

**OCARC
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
2016-12-03**

**The Prez Sez.
cont'd from page 1**

By Nicholas AF6CF

- **“Honorary Members” for 2017** – The board passed a motion to recognize Chip Margelli K7JA and Janet Margelli KL7MF as Honorary Club Members during 2017.

GOOD Of The CLUB:

- Clem WØMEC reported that Bob WB6IXN, NCS on OCARC 2M net, appeared to be having microphone problems.
- Tom W6ETC reported that his EmComm-equipped Yukon truck was sold to Don KE6BXT.

submitted by *Ken Konechy W6HHC*
- OCARC Secretary

memory of recent times and we even had a couple of singing members to make it complete. Many thanks to those who helped make it happen; they did a very good job. Congratulations to Corey KE6YHX for winning a well deserved Good of the Club Award and Many thanks to Tim N6TMT who led the group of “organizers” and to his selection of the women’s gifts. My wife absolutely loved the chocolate cookies.

Many thanks too to Bob AF6C for helping with the website during the year. Even Secretary Ken W6HHC was happy to see so many friends and new members in attendance, with one joining the Club at the party. In his words: “A good time was had by all”. So HAPPY HOLIDAYS to everybody and we’ll see you next year.

73 DE AF6CF St Nick



OCARC Christmas Party Photos

by Ken W6HHC



Here are some of the people attending the OCARC Christmas Dinner. Standing on left is Tim N6TMT who did much to organize the dinner, standing next is Bob AF6C, then our new president Tim N6GP is seated to the right of Treasurer Greg W6ATB. Janet KL7MF is seen in the lower right.



A great collection of prizes are displayed for the opportunity drawing. The main prizes were gift certificates to the local HRO radio store.





The club's president for 2016, Nicholas AF6CF, thanked the members and the board for making 2016 successful and fun for the OCARC.



“El Prez” Nicholas

AF6CF announced the winner of the club’s “For the Good Of the Club” Award as Corey KE6YHX. Tom W6ETC is displaying the award that will be given to KE6YHX at next meeting. This award is presented annually to the club member who has made a most significant contribution to the club for the year. In 1997 this annual award was dedicated to the memory of Kei Yamachika, W6NGO, for his year-after-year contributions in support of our club’s activities.



Out-going VP Tom W6ETC presents Nicholas AF6CF with a plaque for doing a good job as OCARC president in 2016.



Out-going Pres Nicholas AF6CF hands over the “Presidents Gavel” to the in-coming Pres Tim N6GP.



Our new President Tim N6GP said he was delighted to have a strong board for 2017 and is looking for great member activities. Tim is also a talented karaoke singer and entertained the dinner party with “White Christmas”.



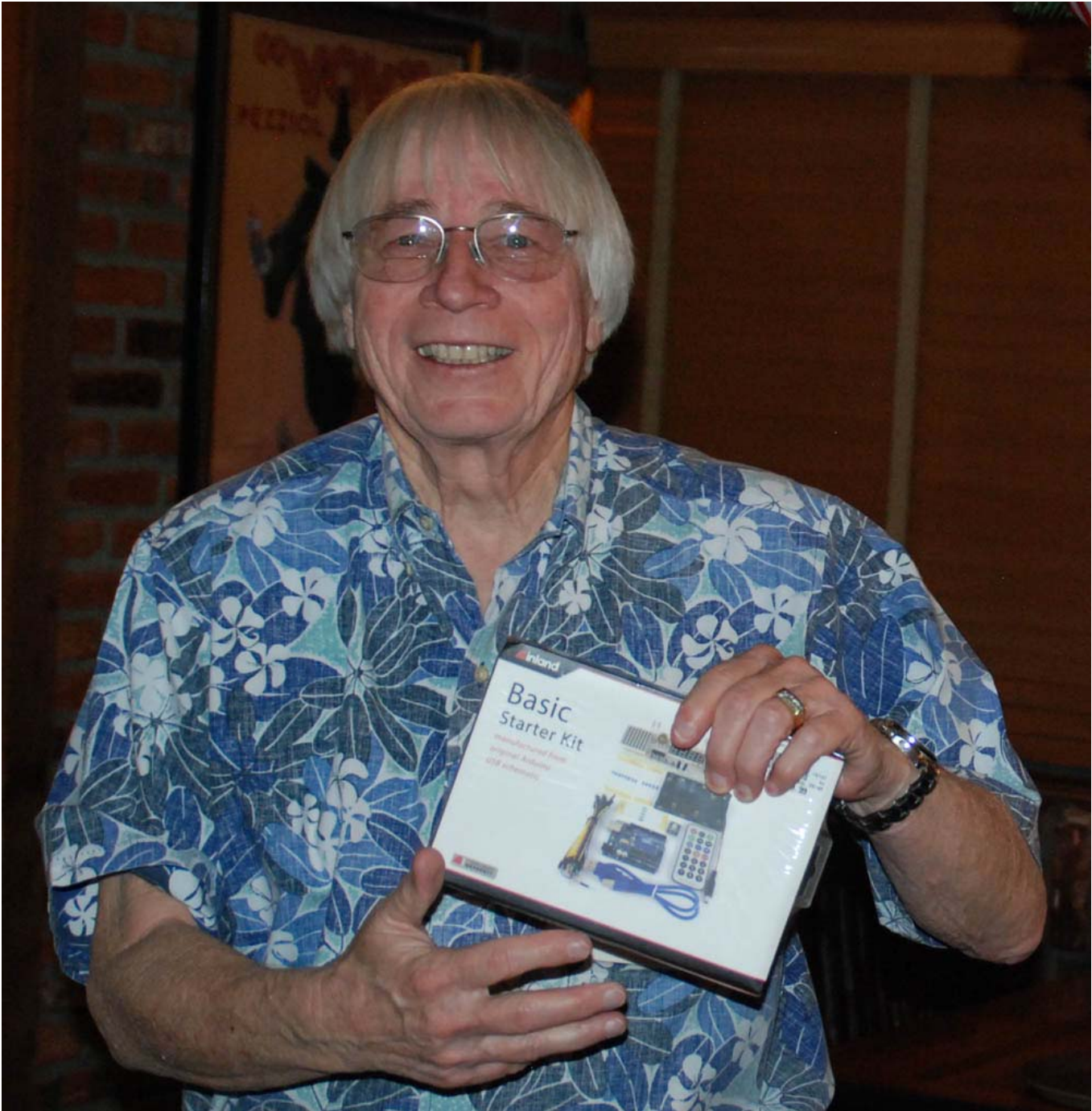
To help celebrate Tim N6GP's birthday and recognizing the Spanish heritage of Tim's new wife...Chip K7JA sang a "traditional Spanish birthday song" to Tim in Spanish!





**The first Ladies Gift was awarded to Debbie Violette...XYL
of Dan KI6X**





Ron W6FPS has a huge smile on his face after snagging the Arduino Starter Kit prize.



TechTalk122

- Using vMix software with Digital-ATV

by Ken W6HHC

The vMix software is a good companion software application program that allows the user to switch and mix between different cameras/video-files and also do special video-effects, including “green screen”. It works well with ham radio Digital-ATV (DATV) activities. Perhaps the best part is that the entry-level software package, called **vMix Basic**, is free to download for SDTV format video (Standard Definition) from vMix.com.

This TechTalk article is NOT a tutorial on how to use vMix (there are tons of tutorial-videos on YouTube to walk you through the steps)...but rather is an overview of the many concepts that vMix brings to the user. This article is written from my experience with the DATV-Express DATV transmitter product, but is also applicable to other ham radio DATV product lines that are compatible with vMix.

Which vMix Product to Get?

vMix Basic is a free video-mixer-editor software package for SDTV format video (Standard Definition) that is available from vMix.com. There are more-professional HDTV products that are available for sale, including the vMix Basic HD for US\$60. See **Figure01** for array of vMix products. The download you want is currently called vMix 17

The free video-editing software allows you to:

- 1) support one or two USB-cameras
- 2) use a JPEG file as a “Test Pattern” video source
- 3) switching between the two video sources (see Figure02)
- 4) adding a better-looking call-letters-overlay
- 5) try “green-screen” video tricks.

Important Note:
Please visit the [Download](#) page and try out vMix using our **FREE 60 Day Trial** before purchasing to ensure vMix supports your computer hardware.

vMix is available in six editions. Each purchase does not expire and includes **Free Version Updates for one year** from the date of purchase. Please visit our [Knowledge Base](#) for answers to common questions, including: [Which edition of vMix do I need?](#)

Click the button below to pay via Credit Card, PayPal, Bank Transfer or Purchase Order

Buy Now
by PayPal

	Basic	Basic HD	SD	HD	4K	Pro
	FREE	\$60 USD	\$150 USD	\$350 USD	\$700 USD	\$1200 USD
Total Inputs	4	4	1000	1000	1000	1000
Camera / NDI Inputs	2	3	1000	1000	1000	1000
Maximum Resolution	768x576	1920x1080	768x576	1920x1080	4096x2160	4096x2160
Overlay Channels	1	1	4	4	4	4

Figure01 – The array of vMix products – including free vMix BASIC

The vMix Main Screen

The screen-capture below in **Figure02** shows the normal screen to operate vMix. The large window in the upper left is called the Preview Window. The large window in the upper right is called the Live Video Window.

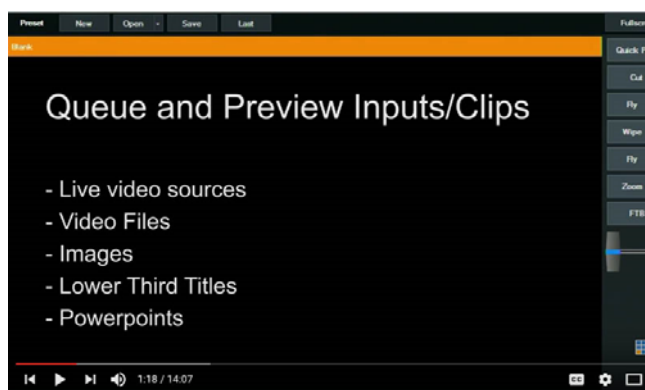


Figure02 – An example of vMix Basic video Main Screen with one camera (in Preview) and a “Test Pattern” JPEG (in Live Window)

The two smaller screens in the lower left are where you bring in new cameras and video to look at...and then select for Preview. The free **vMix Basic** only allows three video sources to be viewed in the lower-left. More-professional products available for sale can allow more video sources to be viewed here.

vMix Preview Window

The Preview Window allows you to queue up a number of video sources and have next selected video ready to become "Live" at the push of a button. What can be selected for display here can be cameras, video files, JPEGs, and PowerPoint slides for a slideshow video stream.



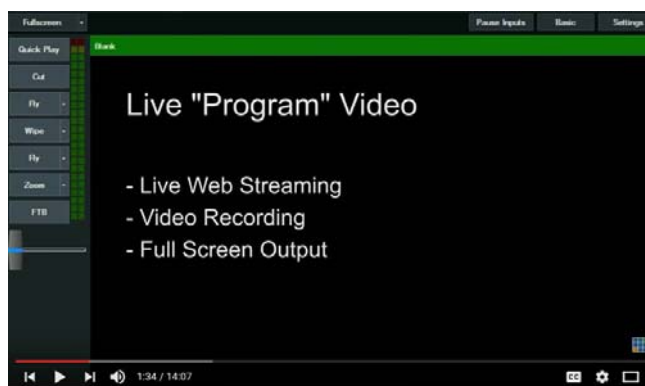
vMix Live Production Software - General Overview & Demonstration Tutorial

Figure03 – Main capabilities of the Preview Window

You will be able to switch from "Preview" to "Live" by clicking a single button.

vMix Live Program Video Window

The Live Video Window displays the actual video that you have chosen to transmit or stream out.



vMix Live Production Software - General Overview & Demonstration Tutorial

Figure04 – Main capabilities of the Live Program Video Window

vMix Input Selection List

When setting up a Preview Window for the

correct camera and microphone, the user just presses the **ADD INPUT** button in the lower left corner of the Main Screen. A long list of choices for video sources and audio sources will appear as shown in **Figure05**.

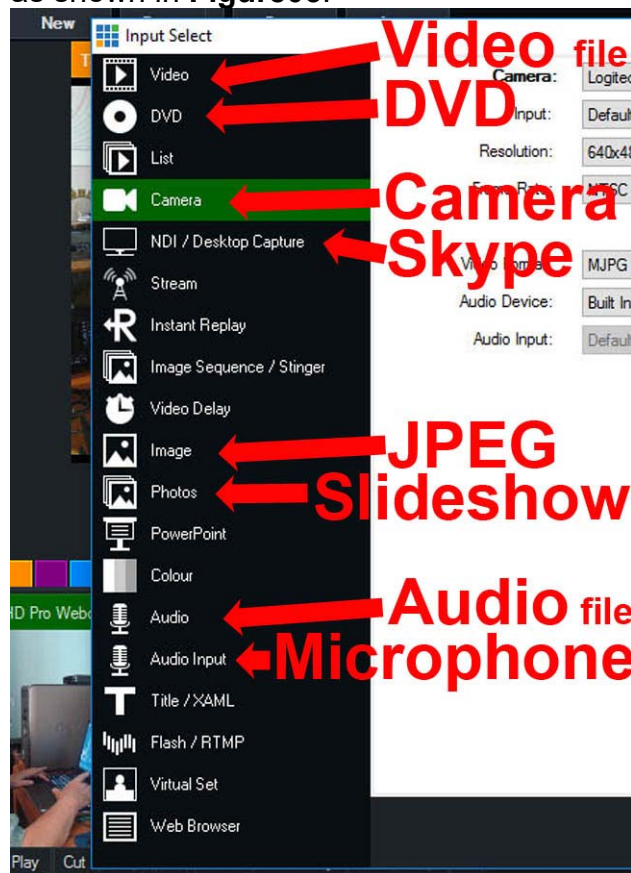


Figure05 – List of input sources available to be selected by DATV users.

Here is a partial list of inputs to vMix that can be selected:

- Video files
- DVD
- Cameras
- NDI allows Skype as input
- JPEG file (as Test Pattern, etc)
- A slideshow of JPEG files
- Audio files
- Microphones
- Adding Title overlays
- Your web browser

One important concept about configuring your camera in vMix is selecting the correct frame rate. The selected framerate for vMix is

ALWAYS set to equal the framerate being output from the camera...NOT what you want to transmit via DATV. The vMix tutorials on YouTube spend a lot of effort to explain that:

- PAL = 25p (progressive output fps)
- PAL = 50i (interlaced output fps)
- NTSC = 29.9p (progressive output fps)
- NTSC = 59.9i (interlaced output fps)

vMix Titles

vMix has the ability to allow you add a “title overlay” to your video. I personally do NOT like this feature very much, because it takes up too much room on the screen and is too fancy for my style.



Figure06 – Using the vMix Titles feature to overlay your transmitted video stream

Green Screen Effects

A neat feature of vMix is to create “green screen” tricks to combine a live camera shot (perhaps a talking presenter in the studio) with a video clip of a faraway place. As shown in **Figure07**. There are three parts:

- The studio camera video presenter in front of a actual green sheet (Fig07a)
- Using vMix to make the green sheet become transparent, leaving only the studio presenter remaining (Fig07b)
- Combining the transparent studio video with a video file.(Fig07c).

Conclusion

The vMix function makes a good companion software package for Digital-ATV. The cost of the entry level **vMix Basic** product (SDTV) is free. The cost of the **vMix Basic HD** product (HDTV) is reasonable at US\$60. vMix is very useful if you have more than one video camera being used for DATV transmissions. Or if you use one camera and want to switch to a Test Pattern sometimes or switch to a slideshow sometimes. vMix is a much better product than an old EMPREX model BMP-001 media box for producing DATV slideshows/test-patterns from JPEGs.

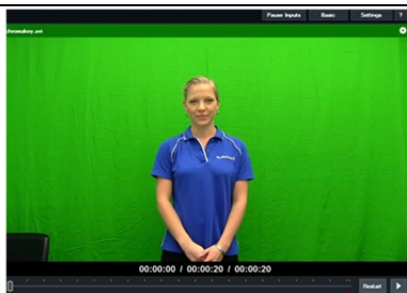


Fig07a – live camera video of presenter in front of green sheet

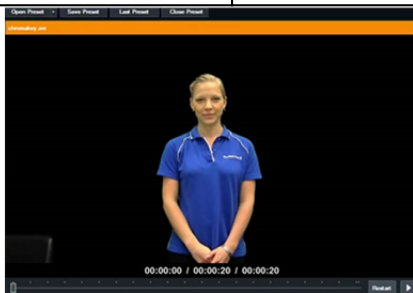


Fig07b – live camera video with green color made transparent

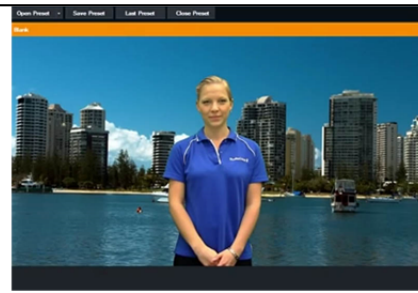


Fig07c – live camera video with transparency over-laid on a separate video stream

Useful URLs

- vMix Product descriptions, prices and downloads – see www.vMix.com
- vMix tutorials (including YouTube) on how to use features
 - see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESWTcbtWq7U&list=PLrm0RX9U0Mzxq-uJeE5Em3DAsqBHHaY8P>
 - see <http://www.vmix.com/support/training-videos.aspx>
- British ATV Club - Digital Forum – see www.BATC.org.UK/forum/
- CQ-DATV online (free monthly) e-magazine – see www.CQ-DATV.mobi
- Orange County ARC entire series of newsletter DATV articles and DATV presentations
 - see www.W6ZE.org/DATV/

Nate Brightman - K6OSC, Queen Mary radio operator, SK at 99



Nathen “Nate” Brightman, the friendly and always smiling amateur radio operator [after whom the Queen Mary Wireless Room](#) was named, died Friday from pancreatic cancer. He was 99.

Born Oct. 9, 1917 in Cleveland, Ohio to Irving and Celia Brightman, he was one of six children and the last surviving. While growing up in Cleveland, Brightman lived in the same apartment house as Joe Shuster, the cartoonist who created Superman. It was an era when family entertainment consisted of listening to a Victrola record player, and later the radio, when Brightman enjoyed listening to music and Jewish comedians.

After graduating Glenville High School, Brightman worked as a film developer, earning \$6 for a 48-hour work week during the Great Depression. He married Evelyn Loeb on Nov. 26, 1939.

The family moved to California in 1944, with Brightman working as an electrician in the San Pedro shipyards. Their son, Howard, was born in 1946. During the 1950s, Brightman ran Lou’s Stationers in North Long Beach, with his brother-in-law, Lou Ozan. The store became a go-to spot for local teachers in need of supplies.

Howard Brightman said his father was a “wonderful, warm, very people-oriented” man who always encouraged his children to do the best they could in any endeavor. When Howard Brightman was around 10 years old, he asked his father if he could take up amateur, or HAM radio, as a hobby. “He did the studying with me, and we passed our radio license exams together,” Howard Brightman said. “He fell in love with it, and I moved on to other things. Dad stayed with it.” Indeed, Nate Brightman operated under the call letters K6OSC for nearly 60 years. He was an expert to the degree that he helped Navy sailors speak to relatives and loved ones during the Vietnam War, and helped with disaster relief efforts in various parts of the world.

For many years, Brightman served as president on the Board of Directors of the Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach, and earned a national award for his service in amateur radio from the Dayton Ohio radio organization.

Brightman worked to place HAM operators onboard during the Queen Mary’s voyage from England to Long Beach in 1967, an effort that involved a request from the U.S. State Department to British Parliament. “When he heard the Queen Mary was being purchased by Long Beach, he just went ga-ga,” Howard Brightman said.

Radio club station W6RO opened for operation on April 22, 1979, and Nate Brightman managed it until his 2013 retirement. During his 90th birthday party aboard the Queen Mary in 2007, former ship operator Joe Prevratil announced the renaming of the radio room as the “Nate Brightman Wireless Room.” Prevratil described Brightman as “the little engine that could,” with boundless energy and a warm smile. “He was tenacious,” Prevratil said. “He had a great wit and was a strong supporter of those he believed in, and I would say it was one of the most enjoyable relationships I had in business. He really knew how teamwork worked, and he really had the respect of all the operators. He was one of those rare guys who made major contributions to the history of the Queen Mary.”

Brightman remained active in Long Beach well into his 90s, serving as president of the Long Beach IBM Computer Users, and teaching Photoshop to senior citizens and to nonprofit groups. He loved spending time with his great-grandchildren. Howard Brightman recalled how his father always made people smile. “Dad just had a magic about him,” he said. Brightman was preceded in death by his wife, Evelyn. He is survived by his children Lynne and Howard; his grandchildren Kim, Jeff, and Paul, as well as their spouses Stephen, Rachel, and Devin; and three great grandchildren Aveline, Zachary, and Tara.

Services will be held 10 a.m. Tuesday (Nov 02) at Congregation Shir Chadash, 6440 Del Amo Blvd. in Lakewood. The public is invited. Burial will follow the services and will be at Forest Lawn; 1500 S. San Antonio Dr. in Long Beach. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Brightman’s memory to the Long Beach Chapter of the American Red Cross, 3150 E. 29th St., Long Beach, CA., 90806.

Ham Shack Photos



First licensed in 1978 at 15, operated for about a year as a novice then upgraded to a drivers license...that was the end of amateur radio until 2007. Thanks to the support OCARC and a few of its members, I was back on the air.

Doug Britton W6FKX



Here is a "shack" photo from N6NB/KH6. This setup travels in two large suitcases plus a "roll-aboard." It was used to set world DX records on the 2.3 and 3.4 GHZ bands in 2015. The photo was taken at the 8,000-foot level on the Mauna Loa volcano, with the big island's other 13,000-foot volcano, Mauna Kea, in the background. The car was rented on the island.

73, Wayne, N6NB



This is my ham station at my home in Big Bear Lake, CA It's a K3 line, transceiver and amplifier(K3/KPA500) and a MFJ antenna tuner (MFJ-986). For VHF/UHF and DStar the radio is an Icom ID5100. Antenna is G5RV Jr. I have a similar ham station in Tucson AZ where I spend the winter season I was first introduced to SWL and Amateur Radio in 1955 with the help from my father (SK) and W8LKH (SK) who both worked for WJW in Cleveland. It was not until 1966 that I got my first license, WA6FIT and then W6ZQ, 30 years later.

Additional bio on QRZ.com

Ron Cade W6ZQ

ARRL Awards Manager, K7RST, WS7DX

Field Card Checker DXCC WAS VUCC, SW Division Arizona



My operating station which was formally the office for my engineering and tax preparation businesses.



A view of my homebrew wire Moxon for 10, 15, and 20 meters. The spreaders are 15 ft Black Widow crappie poles.

Jim Schultz AF6N



An ARRL Specialty Convention

QUARTZFEST 2017

20 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

The largest ham radio gathering bringing together:

- ✓ Mobile Antenna Systems
- ✓ Mobile Radio Systems Education
- ✓ Portable and Mobile EMCOMM
- ✓ Daily 1-Hour Ham Radio Seminars
- ✓ Alternative Energy Technology
- ✓ RVs and Off-the-Grid Living
- ✓ Mobile Ham Shacks
- ✓ Activities for the Whole Family

January 22 to 28, 2017
Quartzsite, Arizona, USA

and So Much More! ...

What is QuartzFest?

QuartzFest 2017 is an ARRL Specialty Convention being held January 22 to 28, 2017. No other hamfest in the world brings together in one gathering so much innovation in mobile antenna systems, mobile ham shacks, recreational vehicles, portable and mobile EMCOMM systems, off-the-grid living, alternative energy and radio education.

QuartzFest is special in part because it comes to life each year, rising from nothing in a remote area of the Sonoran desert in the southwestern USA. Hundreds of Hams and their families and friends choose to unplug from their daily lives, travel to and setup this desert community, and immerse themselves in this week-long one-of-a-kind ham radio, camping, learning and living event.

The educational classes at QuartzFest offer something for everyone including those new to ham radio or even the most seasoned veteran. They give participants the chance to put hands-on the latest technology, learn ham radio for the first time, study advanced radio theory and to even take a glimpse into the future of radio science. The learning also continues well-beyond the technical lectures all the way from morning coffee... through social events, music, arts and crafts classes during the day... and into the evening while sitting around the campfire or while star-gazing.



We hope you decide to join us in 2017 for our 20th Anniversary which promises to be one of the most exciting editions of this very unique and special ham radio gathering. 73,

The QuartzFest Planning Committee

An ARRL Specialty Convention

QUARTZFEST 2017

... and Much More!

Quartzfest is a "must-see" activity for anyone in ham radio but its unique desert setting and warm climate offers much more for the entire family:

- ✓ Stargazing
- ✓ Rock Hounding
- ✓ Off-Roading
- ✓ Geocaching
- ✓ Group Dinners
- ✓ Campfires & Music
- ✓ Arts & Crafts
- ✓ Hiking & Tai Chi
- ✓ Cooking Classes
- ✓ Children's Programs

other nearby attractions

- Quartzsite Sports, Vacation & RV Show
- International Rock, Gem & Mineral Show

Where is it?



Quartzfest is held every year in the Sonoran desert on government land just south of the city of Quartzsite, Arizona in the USA. Participation is always **FREE** and camping is **FREE** for up to 14 days!

Learn More

www.QuartzFest.org



Big Fish (In a small pond)

By Ron Mudry W6FPS



If you are like me, I'm always looking through QST at the various contest results. I wonder what it takes to be one of the "Big Guns" with scores in the six digits. There always seems to be reasons I didn't reach those lofty heights and destined to find my call down among the masses of "also runs". The reason can be geographical or antenna/tower limits or maybe not having a kilowatt of power to blast the competition out of their shacks. It might even be due to the lack a "Killer Instinct" or heaven forbid a lack of skill.

Last summer I hatched a plan to level the playing field. Starting with power. I decided to enter the next contest as QRP. I know I could crank out 5 watts on CW and 10 watts on SSB and match the best of them. Those with the big amps would have to get down into the mud with me. So good so far. My next consideration was the antennas in my arsenal of weapons. Well, I do have a little hex beam and a short portable mast, but that's not much of a threat to those with all that aluminum glittering high in the sky. I think most everyone uses a dipole on 40 meters and that's something that I could do even if it was at a lower elevation. Not so good here. Now, for geography. Being on the West Coast it's not like all those European multipliers are next door and remember, I will be running QRP. So as for geography I am stuck where I am. Huntington Beach really isn't a bad QTH unless you're talking ham radio.

I checked the contest calendars to find an event where I could (and you too) make the competition fight on my terms. There it was, on August 27th the Hawaiian QSO Party! The one thing that I couldn't change is going to work in my favor, GEOGRAPHY!!! My QTH is about as close as you can get to Hawaii. All those other guys in the Midwest and East Coast are going to have to use most of their measly 5 or 10 watts just to get to my back door. I can already see my radio waves bouncing off the saltwater waves that are within view of my antennas. Revenge is sweet. The HQP isn't a huge event like the California QSO Party so I hoped the competition would be manageable.

Now for a game plan. The HQP scoring favors bands higher and lower than 20 meters and modes other than SSB. You get twice the points for CW and 5 times the points for Digital. With that in mind, I did search and pounce using SSB, CW and PSK31. I was also able to find a few stations on 15 and 40 meters, but as always the majority of the stations worked was on 20.

Well you all are probably wondering, how did his plan work out? When the results were posted there were 92 non-Hawaiian station logs submitted. In the QRP Class, W6FPS placed first in California and first overall (QTH is everything). And despite QRP not counting for extra points and when including the Low Power Class, W6FPS placed third overall (QTH is everything). And W6FPS placed fifth overall when the High Power stations were counted. Now I feel like a "Big Fish", if only in a **very** small pond.

There's another small pond on the calendar where everyone can try to make a splash. It's Winter Field Day on the last weekend of January. Come on in the water is fine and have a great time!

73, Ron W6FPS

OCARC Cash Flow - Year To Date

1/1/2016 through 12/15/2016

Category	1/1/2016- 12/15/2016
INFLOWS	
ARRL Membership Dues	39.00
Auction In	1,233.75
Badge Income	6.00
Battery-Box-Kit	150.00
Christmas - Opportunity Drawing 2016	273.00
Christmas Dinner 2016	839.23
Dues, Membership 2016	1,670.00
Dues, Membership 2017	60.00
Dues, Membership 2017 (PayPal)	204.72
Dues, New Member 2016	180.00
Dues, New Member 2016 (PayPal)	14.26
Dues, New Member 2017	30.00
Dues, New Membership 2017 (PayPal)	28.83
Field Day Food Advance	428.50
Food Snacks Donations	91.20
Old Generator Sold	100.00
Opportunity Drawing -Monthly	180.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	5,528.49
OUTFLOWS	
ARRL Membership Expense	34.00
Auction Payout	828.00
Bank Svc Chg	60.00
Battery-Box-Parts	166.25
CA Statement Of Info filing	20.00
Christmas Dinner 2016 Food Exspense	789.58
Club History Archive	4.00
Coffee Supplies Expense	76.73
Door Prize	100.00
Field Day Food	612.50
Food Snacks	264.95
LIABILITY INSURANCE	300.00
Money Back For Change	10.00
OCARC Historian	176.37
Op Drwg - Christmas Women's 2016	73.85
Opportunity Drwg - Christmas Prizes 2016	108.32
Opportunity Drwg - Christmas 2016	500.00
PAYPAL Testing Reimbursement	2.80
PO Box Rental	60.00
Postage	39.16
Promotional OCARC Pens	136.70
Storage Locker	887.00
Web Site Hosting	89.94
Web Site SSL Fee	29.99
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	5,370.14
OVERALL TOTAL	158.35

OCARC General Meeting Minutes

2016-11-18

The OCARC General Meeting was held at the Red Cross Complex in Santa Ana on November 18th 2016. There were a total of 35 members and visitors in attendance. There was a quorum of officers, with all directors present except W6ETC, W6ATB, and N2VAJ.

PROGRAM:

The main program was presented by Clint Bradford - K6LCS on **"How to Work Satellites with your own HT!"** Clint gave a very informative and excellently presented talk on operating through the amateur satellites using a handheld FM radio and a small handheld yagi antenna. For more information, go to Clint's website: <http://work-sat.com>.

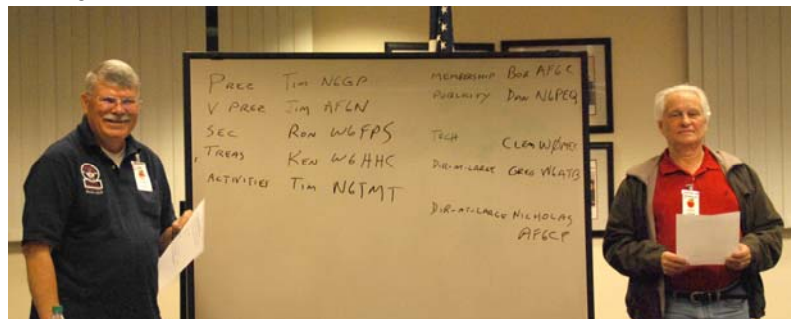


Clint K6LCS carefully explained what handheld equipment is needed to work ham Satellites ("birds")

Clint explained that many small satellites are being launched with high school students as the audience. See Astro Pi Mission and Principia Mission at www.Astro-Pi.org.

CLUB ELECTIONS:

After a short break the meeting reconvened to cover club business. The first item of business was the 2017 Board Of-ficer elections. Each of the following officers and directors were duly elected, by a show-of-hands vote to serve during the 2017 term.



President Nicholas AF6CF (R) and Club Secretary Ken W6HHC conducted the elections process.

The newly elected OCARC officers for 2017.

Position	Call Sign	Name
President	N6GP	Tim Goeppinger
Vice President	AF6N	Jim Schultz
Treasurer	W6HHC	Ken Konechy
Secretary	W6FPS	Ron Mudry
Activities	N6TMT	Tim Millard
Membership	AF6C	Bob Eckweiler
Publicity	N6PEQ	Dan Dankert
Technical	WØMEC	Clem Brzoznowski
Director at Large	W6ATB	Greg Bohning
Director at Large	AF6CF	Nicholas Haban

OTHER BUSINESS:

- **Christmas Party planning** – Ken reported that you can now pay for the Dinner by PayPal button on the club web site. Tim N6TMT reviewed the menu choices and explained that we need to make reservations (even by e-mail) to make sure we have enough seating.
- **No General Meeting in Dec** – because of the Christmas Dinner in December...no General Meeting will be held in December. The next General meeting will be held on Friday January 20th.
- **Baker-to-Vegas planning** – Ken W6HHC explained that the City of Orange COAR RACES group is looking for few good hams to help out during the Baker-2-Vegas race event. The B2V race is scheduled for March 24, 25, 26. if you can help, contact W6HHC@W6ZE.org.



Activities Chair Tim N6TMT (L) presents newly elected VP Jim AF6N the winner of an ARRL HANDBOOK prize in the Opportunity Drawing.

Submitted by Ken W6HHC
OCARC Secretary

Digital Amateur TeleVision Exciter/Transmitter

Now available from

DATV-Express



- A more affordable DATV exciter can now be ordered
- Fully assembled and tested PCBA
- DVB-S protocol and DVB-S2 protocol for DATV transmissions
- Can operate all ham bands from 70 MHz-to-2450 MHz
- RF output level up to 10 dBm (min) all bands (DVB-S)
- Software Defined Radio (SDR) architecture allows many variations of IQ modulations
- “Software-Defined” allows new features to be added over the next few years, without changing the hardware board
- Symbol Rates from 100K to 8000K Symb/sec allows RB-DATV
- Requires PC running Windows or Ubuntu Linux (see User Guide)
- Price is US\$300 + shipping – order using PayPal

For more details and ordering
www.DATV-Express.com

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to be able to see
the PURCHASE page