



RF



ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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

March 2017

The Prez Sez.....

by Tim N6GP



St. Patrick's Day is this month, and it so happens that it coincides with our General Meeting on March 17. So, don't forget to wear green, and maybe we will have green cookies for snacks. With St. Patrick's Day, we think of 4 leaf clovers and good luck. What does luck have to do with amateur radio? Lots! Roman philosopher Seneca said "Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity". I would add perseverance to that equation as well. Last month during our superb program by Wayne N6NB and Greg W6IT, we learned of the 2-meter distance record set by Ralph Thomas, KH6UK, and John Chambers, W6NLZ way back in

1957, long before Tropo ducting was known and understood. KH6UK and W6NLZ each had powerful kilowatt stations with large antenna arrays. They tried nightly for 9 months to make that QSO from Calif to Hawaii with no success. Finally, on July 8, 1957 their preparation met with opportunity in the form of a tropo duct, and they made a record shattering 2600 mile QSO! They blazed a trail for Southern Calif and Hawaiian hams to keep making QSOs on 2 meters and above for the last 60 years.

What is some challenge that you want to conquer in ham radio? If you prepare yourself, and have an opportunity appear, luck will shine on you. Field Day planning is underway. The FD Triumvirate of Ron W6FPS, Jim AF6N and myself had a meeting, and we will meet with the band captains in a couple of weeks. Keep your calendars marked for June 23-25. We look forward to having a similar size effort this year as last, at our same location next to Knott's Berry Farm.

73,
Tim Goeppinger N6GP
President

Next General Meeting

The next OCARC General meeting presentation is titled "Ascension Island – South Atlantic Outpost"

By Art Goddard, W6XD/ZD8G
Continued page 8

The next General Meeting will be on:

**Friday, March 17th, 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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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 2017:

Regular/New Members* - - - - - \$30
Family renewal/Join** - - - - - \$45
New Member Join Apr-Jun*** - - \$23
Replacement Badge**** - - - - - \$ 3

* New members Jan-March, w/badge.

** Two members or more, w/badge.

*** New members April-June, w/badge.

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



BOUVET ISLAND DXPEDITION 2018

ANNOUNCING THE BOUVET ISLAND DXPEDITION 2018

The Team

The Bouvet Island DXpedition 2018
3YØZ
The Most Remote Island on Earth

www.bouvetdx.org

Logos: NORSEKPOLARINSTITUTT, INTERNATIONAL DX ASSOCIATION, INDEXA

Team members (Call Signs):
 Top Row: DJ9ZB - Franz, EY3MM - Nodir, HK1R - Jorge, KØIR - Ralph, K4UEE - Bob, K9CT - Craig, LA6VM - Erling, N4GRN - George, N6HC - Arnie, N9TK - Jim
 Bottom Row: NM1Y - Jeff, LA3DL - Just, PA5M - Michael, UA3AB - Andy, VA7DX - Neil, VE7CT - Steve, W0GJ - Glenn, W6JZT - Gregg, W6HC - Ted, WB9Z - Jerry

An experienced DXpedition team of 20 operators are in the advanced planning stages of a DXpedition to Bouvet Island (3YØZ). The DXpedition is scheduled for early 2018. This DXpedition may be the most expensive DXpedition ever! Bouvet Island is known as “The Most Isolated Island on Earth”, and is currently ranked #2 on the ClubLog’s “most wanted” list.

The DXpedition leaders are: Erling – LA6VM, Bob – K4UEE, and Ralph – KØIR. This is the same leadership team that brought you 3YØX-Peter I Island, K5D-Desecheo Island, HKØNA- Malpelo Island, FT5ZM-Amsterdam Island and, most recently, K1N-Navassa Island.

We have an extraordinary international team of 20 operators. These team members collectively have been part of scores of DXpeditions and have handed out an amazing 4,600,000 QSOs. The Antarctic and harsh climate experience of this team includes Heard Island, South Sandwich (twice) South Georgia (twice), the South Orkneys, and Peter I (twice). Non-Antarctic DXpeditions with these team members include places like Amsterdam Island, Malpelo, Navassa, Desecheo, Bhutan, Saba, Easter Island, Wake Island, Palmyra, Reunion, Midway, Kure, Fiji, Swains, Baker Howland, Conway Reef, Kingman Reef, Eritrea, Lakshadweep, Svalbard and others.

We have all the permits necessary for landing on Bouvet Island, establishing a camp and setting up our ham radio equipment and antennas. We first applied for a permit after 3YØX, so we have been working on this project for ten years. We now have the right combination of a ship, a helicopter, and a workable financial plan. Everything is in place except our financing. This is where we need your support---the support of your Club and individual members.

The DXpedition team expects to be away for about 7-8 weeks. The voyage to Bouvet will require about two weeks as will the return. We plan to be at the island for three weeks and weather permitting, expect to be on the air for 14-16 days. We will transport our team and equipment ashore by helicopter, setting up on the Slakhallet Glacier at approximately 200 meters ASL. This location is on the northeastern part of Bouvet. This area will maximize our ability to work all continents. We have deliberately chosen not to do a beach landing and operation, since beach landings are extremely hazardous and beach locations do not give clear, unobstructed paths to major population areas. Also, the Nyroysa site used by previous DXpeditions has been declared off-limits by the Norsk Polar Institute.

This will be an all-band, all-mode DXpedition with stations on every open band. Antennas will include Yagis for the high bands and verticals for the low bands. We will run maximum legal power.

Our primary station and hardware sponsors are Flex Radio Systems and DX Engineering. We are aware that the low bands will be of great importance, therefore Nodir – EY8MM is working with other low band enthusiasts from around the world to maximize our footprint on these bands. At a minimum, our station count will be nine with reserves in place. We believe we will be able to do EME without compromising resources on the HF bands.

Our QSL manager will be N2OO and his SJDXA crew. We will have an on-line log and submit our logs to LOTW within six months after our return.

Our total budget for this DXpedition is \$610,000. As with our previous DXpeditions, the team is committed to paying 50% of the expenses. The upfront cost for each operator is projected to be a minimum of \$15,000 plus travel to and from our embarkation and disembarkation point, likely to be Punta Arenas, Chile.

Club/Foundation and individual donors can be seen on our website: www.bouvetdx.org

All donors will be acknowledged on our website. Clubs will have their logos posted with major contributors receiving proportionately more space. The contribution required for your logo on our QSL card is a minimum of \$500. For your club's name on the QSL the minimum is \$250. Individual DXer's contributions of \$100 or more will be listed on the QSL card.

We encourage you to visit the Bouvet Island website (<http://www.bouvetdx.org>) and donate via the PayPal link. It's free and easy -- and you can contribute with a major credit card, even without a PayPal account. If that is not convenient, you may make a check or money order payable to DX Expeditions, Inc. - Bouvet and mail to Bob Allphin-K4UEE the address shown below. Remember to put your club's name or your callsign on the "for" line.

Please make your check to: *DX Expeditions, Inc. – Bouvet*

and mail the check to:

Bob Allphin-K4UEE

4235 Blackland Dr.

Marietta, GA 30067

If any members of your club have questions, I would be happy to address them personally. Our team would be honored to be considered for your support of the Bouvet Island DXpedition-2018.

73 and great DXing,

Bob Allphin-K4UEE

OCARC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 2017-02-17

The OCARC General meeting was held at the Red Cross Complex in Santa Ana on February 17, 2017.

Club Officers: There was a quorum with all officers present with the exception of Dan N6PEQ and Greg W6ATB.

Attendance: There were a total of twenty-three club members, two guests (Tai W6TAI, Tony W6TNY), and two guest speakers (Wayne N6NB, Greg W6IT) in attendance.

Meeting Started at 7:08 pm

Program:

This month we were fortunate to have two speakers whose presentations were both informative and entertaining.

Greg W6IT first spoke on the recent construction of his 6 band microwave station.



OCARC co-speaker Greg W6IT described how he built a portable suitcase with transmitters and transverters for 6 microwave bands (just add antennas).

Wayne N6NB followed with a presentation on Microwave DXing via tropospheric ducting. Wayne and Greg have collaborated on several QSOs that resulted in world records on the 902, 2304 & 3456 MHz bands.



OCARC co-speaker Wayne N6NB explained the effort conducted to create new DX record on 902 MHz band in 2016 from Hawaii

World tropospheric DX records as of June		
BAND	DX (km)	CALLS OF STATIONS
144	4,754	KH6HME (BK29go) - W1LP/mrm (DL51oe)
144	4,333	KH6HME (BK29go) - W7FI (CN87we)
222	4,150	KH6HME (BK29go) - XE2N6XQ (DL29ox)
432	4,150	KH6HME (BK29go) - XE2N6XQ (DL29ox)
902	4,095	KH6/N6NB (BK29hq) - W6IT (DM14kf)
1296	4,150	KH6HME (BK29go) - XE2N6XQ (DL29ox)
2304	4,024	KH6/N6NB (BK29hq) - W6IT (DM13cs)
3456	4,024	KH6/N6NB (BK29hq) - W6IT (DM13cs)

OCARC Wayne listed the current Microwave DX records (see yellow-highlighted records)

For more information on amateur radio microwave communication visit www.N6NB.com and www.W6IT.com
Intermission was taken from 8:25 pm to 8:53 pm

From the membership:

- Clem W0MEC displayed his "Slim Jim" antenna for 2 meters. The antenna was made totally from recycled materials, part of which was the metal rods found in ubiquitous election signs found in your neighbor's front yard.



Clem WØMEC did show-and-tell on his "Slim-Jim" 2 meter antenna made from wires from political signs stuck into neighbor yards.

- Nicholas AF6CF shared his latest go-box that housed a 100W Yaesu FT857, a vintage field strength meter and miscellaneous "treasures" from his collection.



OCARC Nicholas AF6CF did show-and-tell on his new "HF Station in a Box" (including rechargeable battery)

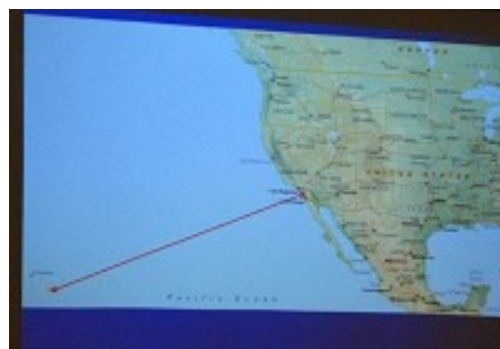
Good of the Club:

- Tom W6ETC was presented an award of appreciation for his continuous work for the "good of the club".
- Bob AF6C requested information regarding Rodger ZL2KK, a new OCARC member, sitting for a licensing test.

- Jim AF6N provided handouts with information on the upcoming International DX Convention in Visalia on April 21-23, a list of 27 CERT organizations in Orange County and upcoming CERT classes.
- Chip K7JA said Bob Beebe GU4YOX will be the banquet speaker at Visalia. He also mentioned that there is over \$50,000.00 in prizes already committed that will be won by attendees (good odds).

Meeting Adjourned at 9:22 pm

Submitted by Ron Mudry W6FPS
- OCARC Secretary



OCARC Wayne N6NB illustrated that distance from Hawaii-to-OC (about 2500 miles) by micro-wave is same as OC-to-Hartford CT

DUES are DUE!!!

Just a reminder that 2017 OCARC DUES must be paid by the end of March to keep your membership active.

If you have not paid for 2017 yet, then you can renew three ways:

- 1) Pay at next meeting
- 2) Send check to PO Box 3454
- 3) Pay by **PayPal** on club web-site



OCARC BOARD MEETING MINUTES 2017-03-04

The OCARC Board meeting was held at the Marie Callender's Restaurant at 1821 N. Grand Ave in Santa Ana on March 4th, 2017.

Meeting Called to Order: 8:00 am

Roll Call:

Pres.: Tim N6GP, Present	Vice Pres. Jim AF6N, Present
Sec.: Ron W6FPS, Present	Membership: Bob AF6C, Present
Tech.: Clem W0MEC, Absent	Treasurer: Ken W6HHC, Present
Activities: Tim N6TMT, Present	Publicity: Dan N6PEQ, Absent
Directors at Large: Greg W6ATB, Absent	Nicolas AF6CF, Present

Members Present: Corey KE6YHX, Club Historian
Rodger Kerr ZL2RR, Bryan Turner K6AJY, Vijay Anand

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

- ☐ **Vice President** – Jim AF6N has arranged for Mike Rick-ey AF6FB to be the November guest speaker. Mike will be speaking about D-STAR. Art Goddard W6XD will be the March speaker.
- ☐ **Secretary** – Ron W6FPS forwarded a letter from DX Engineering to Jim AF6N. DX Engineering is offering to make skype presentations to amateur radio club meetings on a variety of subjects. The presentations can be followed by a "live" question and answer session.
- ☐ **Membership** – Bob AF6C reported we now have 56 2017 members (payed and honorary) and he will update the membership roster. Bob will be sending reminders to pass members who have not yet renewed their memberships.
- ☐ **Treasurers Report** – Ken W6HHC provided a current "Year to Date" Cash Flow report. Ken indicated that the club cash flow is in good shape without any unforeseen expenses. The PayPal method for the payment of dues is working out very well.
- ☐ **Activities** – Tim N6TMT said he had resupplied Ham Radio Outlet with the new tri-fold brochures. He also handed out the new brochures to those present at the board meeting. Tim brought wire from a few election signs for those who wanted to make the 2 meter "Slim Jim" antenna that was demonstrated by Clem W0MEC at the February general meeting. Tim demonstrated a CW speaker that he constructed. The speaker was featured

in the February edition of QST, page 43.

- ☐ **Director at Large** – Nicolas AF6CF thanked Ken W6HHC, Bob AF6C and Tom W6ETC for helping him to put erect a new antenna at his QTH.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Newsletter Editors**
Mar- Tim N6TMT Apr- Tim N6GP May- Jim AF6N
- **Program Speaker for March General Meeting – Art Goddard W6XD**
- **Club Historian Report** – Corey KE6YHX handed out a report on his continuing work to archive databases and making a self-browsable M-Disc of the OCARC Web Site for the Santa Ana Library.
- **Repeater for Net use** – Bob AF6C suggested a script on conducting to Wednesday night nets. A lengthy discussion followed on the merits of using a repeater or operating simplex. Bob will explore options for using a repeater verses simplex and report back to the board.
- **June 2017 Field Day** – "Co-chairmen" Jim AF6N, Ron W6FPS, and Tim N6GP conducted their first planning meeting February 25 at Tim's QTH. A list of potential band captains was drawn up. The next FD planning meeting will be on March 14 again at Tim's QTH where we will try to get commitments for various FD positions.
- **New Assistant WebMaster** – Tim W6TMT volunteered to work with Ken W6HHC with the ongoing up dating and maintenance of the web site.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ☐ **ARRL Southwest Convention** – The offer of a vendor table at the ARRL Southwest Convention was voted on and rejected.
- ☐ **Scout-O-Rama** – The Orange County Council of the Boy Scouts contacted the club about sponsoring a booth at Scout-O-Rama. No motion of sponsorship was put before the board and no action will be taken.

GOOD of the CLUB:

- ☐ **NEWLY LICENSED** – Rodger ZL2KK passed the General Exam and is awaiting his US call. Vijay Anand passed the Technician Exam and awaiting his call.

Meeting Adjourned 10:05 am

Submitted by Ron Mudry W6FPS, Secretary

OCARC YTD Cash Flow

1/1/2017 through 3/4/2017

Category	1/1/2017- 3/4/2017
INFLOWS	
Dues, Family	45.00
Dues, Family (PayPal)	130.17
Dues, Future (PayPal)	28.93
Dues, Membership	448.83
Dues, Membership (PayPal)	519.04
Sale Of Equipment	150.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	1,321.97
OUTFLOWS	
Refreshments Expense	42.68
Storage Locker	152.00
Supplies	46.62
Trifold Brochure Printing	231.12
Web Site Hosting	44.97
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	517.39
OVERALL TOTAL	804.58

Ascension Island – South Atlantic Outpost

Many of us have heard of Ascension Island, ZD8, but what does the place actually look like? Definitely you wouldn't go there for the cuisine or nightlife, but there are many other attractions. And, the island is changing slowly with the creation of Green Mountain National Park and a renewed emphasis on conservation and the planned formation of a marine sanctuary.

Our March speaker, Art Goddard, W6XD/ZD8G, will take you along on a 2015 CQWW contest expedition to Ascension, a south Atlantic outpost that has been pioneered by contesting greats such as Jim, N6TJ, Oliver, W6NV/ZD8W, and Marko, N5ZO/ZD8O.



Art became interested in short wave listening in 1954, using the family's Philco console radio. He was first licensed in 1956 as a novice and worked up to his current Amateur Extra Class. Art's radio activities include HF/VHF, DX, and contesting.

Art is a life member of ARRL and Past Director of ARRL Southwestern Division. Professionally, he is a consultant in electronics systems, retired from Boeing (formerly Collins Radio and Rockwell International). His outside interests include service as President of the Costa Mesa Historical Society. Art and his wife Mary Ellen live in Costa Mesa.

That's My Shack....



Attached is a picture of me taken at my operating position as V25SB on the second-floor patio of our condo in Antigua when I was on vacation on one of my several mini-DXpeditions.

The equipment in the picture is my Yaesu FT-847 and FP-1025 power supply. In the background is the BuddiPole antenna I used on the trip.

I was active on 20M and 17M SSB during that week with contacts throughout the US, Europe, and South America.

In the picture, I was wearing my long-sleeve "rash-guard" shirt as the XYL and I had just come back from a day of snorkeling in the amazingly clear, 80-degree water around the island and relaxing on the beach. Steve N1BKB

THIS 'COMEBACK KID' IS AN OM

PAUL: What's more satisfying as making radio contact with a ham from the North Cook Islands? How about...helping him get on the air in the first place! Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Meachen ZL2BHF tells us that story.

JIM: There's a voice back on the HF bands, and the sound of some well-practiced Code, coming from the North Cook Islands that some longtime hams haven't heard in about 30 years. Pia Taraeka E51PT, also known as Papa Pia, has had his license but until recently little else to get on the air.

That all changed recently thanks to two hams from the Western Washington DX Club, W7DX. Papa Pia received a donation of radio gear from Bob Nielsen N7XY. Another club member, Bengt-Erik Norum K7ADD/E51AMF, who has been active from the region on a DXpedition, helped get the shack up and running again. The DX Club is one of the West Coast's largest, most active radio clubs on the West Coast.

Now Papa Pia can resume a radio career that began in 1962 when he was employed as a radio operator for the Cook Island and New Zealand governments. His amateur radio activity ended in 1984, he says in his QRZ profile.

He's back now, so be listening for him and please note - if you contact him, he only accepts QSL cards mailed directly to him.

For **Amateur Radio Newsline**, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF.

Congratulations to

KM6IZO Vijay

KM6IZR Rodger

on receiving your licenses and call signs.



Above is N6NB's "shack" in a picture taken at 8,000 feet elevation on Mauna Loa on the big island of Hawaii. That's the suitcase portable station I used to work the mainland on six VHF and microwave bands, setting world distance records on 902, 2304 and 3456 MHz. VHF DXing and VHF contests have been a big part of my specialty in amateur radio ever since I got my license 60 years ago.

73, Wayne, N6NB

COAR RACES plans Communication Support for the Orange Police 2016 B2V Running Team

by Ken W6HHC

Each spring, law-enforcement running teams (from around the world) have entered in a competitive foot-relay-race through the desert. This race, known as “Baker-to-Vegas” (and aka B2V), is a 120 mile long race, that starts outside Baker (CA), runs through the desert to Shoshone, then runs through Pahrump, NV and finishes at the Hilton Hotel in Las Vegas. . The runners of the Orange Police Department have been supported for many years with communications by hams belonging to COAR (City of Orange Amateur Radio) RACES, the OCARC members, and Communications Volunteers from Cypress. This year, the B2V event is scheduled to begin on Saturday, March 25, with runners reaching the finish line on Sunday, Mar 26.

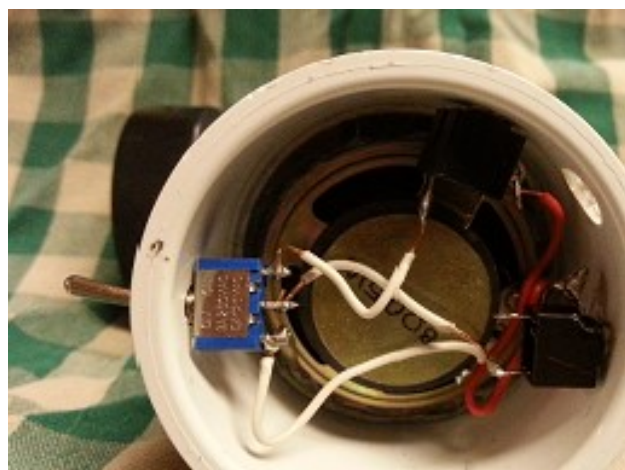
This year, there are 279 law-enforcement running teams registered. Last year, there were 6600+ runners, 290 hams were involved, and the race coordinated over 250 radio frequencies.



Many members of COAR RACES and other communications volunteers take a group photo during one of the Orange PD Baker-2-Vegas Communications planning meetings. There are eight OCARC members assisting COAR during B2V this year.

Mystery Project – what is it?

Think you know what it is?
Coming to our next General
meeting and find out for
sure.

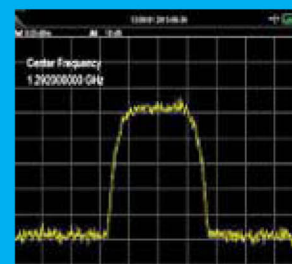


Don't forget next General
Meeting – Hear all about it

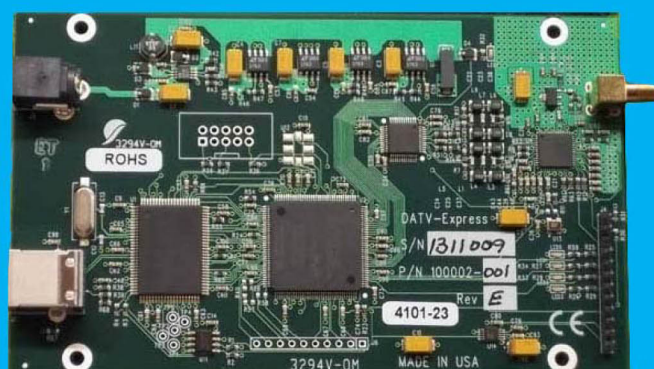


Digital Amateur TeleVision Exciter/Transmitter

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

Register on the web site
 to be able to see
 the PURCHASE page

