



# RF



## ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

VOL. LVIII NO. 05

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

May 2017

### The Prez Sez.....

by Tim N6GP



Paul Gacek's talk on Summits On The Air (SOTA) showed us what minimalist portable operations look like. This month, our own member Peter NI6E is quite the opposite. He will show us his TV news van, that he is converting into an awesome VHF contesting vehicle. We will get to take a look at it in the early part of the meeting while there is still light.

This time of the year provides 2 opportunities to snap out of the doldrums we have been experiencing on our downward slide from the sunspot peak. Just like clockwork, the first Sporadic E opening on 6 meters happened on May 1<sup>st</sup>. There have been a couple more openings in the days following. Sporadic E is great fun, and allows you to

make contacts a few thousand miles out. Even Technician licensed hams can take part in this with small antennas, just 10 or 15 feet from the ground. Check out [www.dxmaps.com](http://www.dxmaps.com) to see where the activity is on 6 meters.

The other exciting activity is the "over the top" propagation to Central Asia on 20 meters this time of the year, especially with the JT-65 digital mode. There have been a lot of stations from Ukraine and Russia that are on every night. The JT modes were developed by Nobel Prize Physicist Joe Taylor K1JT, and effectively gives you a 10 dB gain over a CW signal. Even those of you out there with dipoles or verticals can get in on this action. To try it out, (even just to receive). Download WSJT-X software from:

<http://www.physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/index.html> .

I am envious of the 4 members in our club who are travelling to Dayton this month for the big convention. Have fun and take lots of pictures for our Show and Tell!

73,  
Tim Goeppinger N6GP  
President

### Next General Meeting

The next OCARC General meeting presentation is titled

### "TV News Van to Ham Use"

By Peter Putnam, NI6E

Continued on Page 8

*The next General Meeting will be on:*

**Friday, May 19, 2017  
@ 7:00 PM**

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

In This Issue:	Page
The Prez Sez .....	1
Next meeting info .....	1
Club Information .....	2
Field Day Meeting .....	3
Field Day Spreadsheet .....	4
Field Day Site Map .....	5
April General Meeting Minutes .....	6
May Board Meeting Minutes .....	7
April Presenter Review .....	9
May Presenter Preview .....	9
Who was W6NGO? .....	10
Personal Notes .....	12
Puzzler Answer .....	12
ARRL Letter .....	13
Cash Flow Report .....	15
Bouvet DX Financial Request .....	16
DATV Express .....	17



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Feedback & Corrections:  
[rf\\_feedback@w6ze.org](mailto:rf_feedback@w6ze.org)

Submit Articles:  
[editors@w6ze.org](mailto: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. & 4<sup>th</sup> St.)

### Club Breakfast (Board Mtg):

Normally First Saturday of month at 8am  
Marie Callender's Restaurant  
1821 North Grand Ave  
Santa Ana, CA  
(Between 17<sup>th</sup> & 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.



June 24 – 25, 2017

Field Day Meeting  
April 27, 2017 7pm

On April 27 a Field Day planning meeting was held at AF6N's QTH. The meeting was open to all members in order to include planning input from as many members as possible. A good turnout of fourteen participated. A discussion was held regarding the Walter Knott School availability. Following a fire at one of the Buena Park fire stations, the Orange County Fire Authority has requested use of a part of the school grounds for temporary fire department use. We discussed the possibility of interference with Fire Authority frequencies and agreed that on-site co-ordination with the Authority would be necessary but, that an advance trial would not be practical considering the number of stations involved and that the Authority is not yet on-site.

The Field Day spreadsheet was used as a guide for the discussion and planning. A total of eight operating stations were planned including 20 meter CW, phone, and digital;

40 meter CW and phone; and 1 free station each for VHF/UHF phone; Satellite; and GOTA. Therefore, the club contest entry will be 5A. Station plans included operator volunteers, equipment availability, support personnel, and various bonus point assignments.

An updated version of the spreadsheet follows. Please look it over. You will note that there are still a few openings for bonus point volunteers and CW operators.

Friday, June 23 beginning at 8:30 am will be setup day at the Walter Knott School site. We need much help from the membership especially for trucking the equipment from storage to the site and for the setup effort. Any and all help will be appreciated. Please be available if possible.

See below for the Field Day spreadsheet and site map. The map is open to revision pending co-ordination with the Fire Authority.



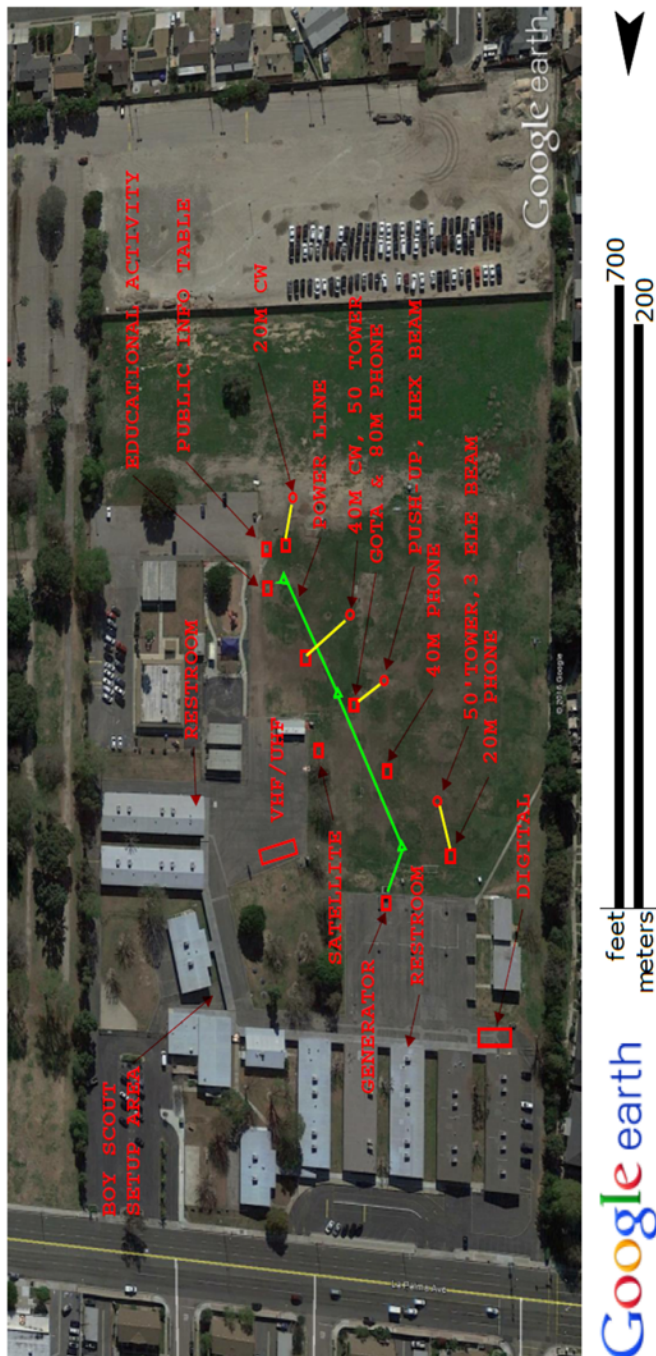
## Revised 5/9/2017

**BONUS POINTS 1450 MAX.**

## SUPPORT

## OPERATORS

CW	PHONE	DIGITAL	VHF/UHF PHONE/SATELLITE	GOTA
TIM, N6GP 40m	BOB, AF5C, 20m	COREY, K6EWH	TONY, N2VAI	TIM, N6MTT/VUAY, K6BZO
JIM, AF6H 20m	KEN, W6HHC, 20m	PHIL, K5PAD?		
PAUL, W6GMU 20m	DOA, N6XBP 15m-40m?			
BOB, W6ZQ 40m/20m?	KEN, W6STJC 20m	JEFF, K06TRC vhf uhf?	KEN, W6HHC - RACES - Part time Sat/No Sun - Recruiting other RACES	
John, K6BEX, 40m/20m?	RON, W6EFS, 40m	TONA, W6ETC?	PHIL, K5PAD? - Corey to call and confirm	
	RODGER, K6EIZR, 40m PH	BILL, K5FRN?		
	STEVE, K6REB - 40PH	BILL, K0L1, 2500, or 40m?		
	DOUG, K6PGH - 40m			
	BRYAN - K6AJY	JOEL, K0M6JNP, 2m?/sat camper but contingent on changing trip date.		
	Nell - N6VHF, 40m PH			



**Digital Station has been relocated from the northwest corner to the southeast corner of the site.**

**The map is subject to further change pending Fire Authority co-ordination.**

**When:** Saturday 11:00 a.m. June 24 to Sunday 11:00 a.m. June 25, (Setup will start 8:30 am Friday, June 23. Teardown will start at 11:00 am Sunday)

**Where:** Walter Knott Educational Center, 7300 La Palma Avenue, Buena Park, California

**Food:** Meals will be provided by the Boy Scouts which can be purchased in advanced at the June General Meeting or at the Field Day site.

**Operators:** Contact one of the Band Captains listed below if you plan to operate on one or more of the stations. Advance notice will help the club to optimize our station setup and allocate our resources to the preferred bands and modes.

**Support:** Besides operators we will need additional manpower to setup and takedown antennas, towers, tents, generator and power lines.

BAND/MODE	BAND CAPTAIN	MODE	PHONE
40M/15M CW	Tim - N6GP	CW	(714) 730-0395
40M/15M PH	Ron - W6FPS	PH	(714) 840-3613
	Neil - N6VHF		N/A
Digital - 20M	Corey - KE6YHX	DIG	(714) 639-5475
	Phil - K6PAD		(657) 203-1223
20M - CW	Jim - AF6N	CW	(714) 544-5435
20M - PH	Ken - W6HHC	PH	(714) 348-1636
	Bob - AF6C		(714) 639-5074
VHF/UHF PH	Robbie KB6CJZ	PH	(714) 978-8049
	Don - K0VNJ		(402) 310-1076
SATELLITE	Tony - N2VAJ	PH	(408) 500-9628
GOTA - 10/15/80 M	Tim - N6TMT	PH	(714) 744--8909
	Vijay - KM6IZO		N/A

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

### April 21, 2017 7:00 PM

The April 21 Orange County Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order at 19:02 PDT (7:02 PM) by President Tim - N6GP, who led us in the pledge to the flag. The meeting took place at the Santa Ana Red Cross George M. Chitty Building in Room 208 (our normal meeting room).

Members and guests introduced themselves; there were four guests including one former member from 2016, our guest speaker and twenty members present during the introductions. Three additional members joined us later, for a total of 28 souls. The guests present were:

KØVNJ - Donald Poysa of Orange

KJ6VSN - Michael Frank of Westminster

N6SKE - Wardy Ward of Yorba Linda

N6WDK - John Willoughby of Anaheim

Vice President Jim - AF6N introduced the guest speaker, Paul Gacek - W6PNG who spoke on SOTA (Summits on the Air).

Prior to the break, Clem - WØMEC handed out a sheet of Trivia Questions for attendees to ponder, and Bob - AF6C laid-out some cables, microphones and misc. electronics for attendees to help-themselves to. These were donated by former member Bruce - KC6DLA who is cleaning out his shack prior to a move.

The break ran from 20:25 to 20:44 hours.

Following the break, President Tim presented Lee Evans with honorary membership in the club. Lee is the brother of Bob Evans - WB6IXN and brings Bob to the meetings. Lee can often be heard playing his guitar or harmonica in the Red Cross break room. His new club badge sports a harmonica where the president's gavel appears on former club president's badges!

### FIELD DAY:

A short, informal discussion of Field Day was held prior to roll call. The Buena Park Fire Department

will be at the Walter Knott facility during our FD event while their fire house is rebuilt. There will be a FD meeting at Jim's QTH on April 27th at 7 PM. Location of the OCARC FD sign was discussed; last year it was hidden from the road. AF6C - recommended it be put along the front fence again (See 2014 FD pictures on our website). The club's new callsign for the GOTA station was announced (KM6JWU); this will be exchanged for a vanity call to recognize one of our longtime members who passed away 20 years ago this July.

### BUSINESS MEETING:

The business part of the meeting was called to order at 8:54 with the board roll call. All members were present except Ron - W6FPS (secretary), Dan - N6PEQ (publicity) and Greg - W6ATB (director at large)

A discussion of the upcoming ARRL Director's election was held. None of the membership present had any real knowledge of the three candidates that would help members choose.

### SHOW & TELL:

Nicholas - AF6CF showed off a WWII BC-221 that was in very good condition. He is either going to sell it or use the rugged case to hold a go-radio with a battery.

### ELMER SESSION:

Corey - KE6YHX is having receive problems on 10 meters on both his radios. One radio seems more sensitive than the other, but both cannot hear stations on the 10 meter net. The other stations can hear Corey well. Corey also reported a high noise level of S-8 to over S-9, which could be masking the received signals.

### GOOD of the CLUB:

The ARRL Rookie Roundup - with bonus points for participating stations licensed in the past three years - was erroneously reported at the meeting to be the up coming Sunday. It was the previous Sunday.

HRO will be holding their Ham Jam on July 8th.

Respectively submitted:

Bob Eckweiler - AF6C

Acting Secretary for Ron - W6FPS



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

May 6, 2017 8:00 AM

The April OCARC Board meeting was held at the Marie Callender's Restaurant at 1821 N. Grand Ave in Santa Ana on May 6, 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, Present

Treasurer: Ken W6HHC, Present

Activities: Tim N6TMT, Present

Publicity: Dan N6PEQ, Absent

Directors at Large: Greg W6ATB, Present

Nicolas AF6CF, Present

Members Present: Tom W6ETC, Rodger Kerr AI6WV, Corey KE6YHX

**DIRECTOR REPORTS:**

**Vice President** – Jim AF6N reported that the May guest speaker will be Peter Putnam NI6E with his "TV Van" as part of his presentation. The June speaker will be Chip K7JA and he will be giving his Field Day preparation talk. July's speaker will be Wayne W6IRD. His presentation will be on the restoration of Collins equipment. Jim updated the information on the Skype presentation with DX Engineering. It scheduled to occur at the March 2017 General Meeting.

**Secretary** – Ron W6FPS had no report. Bob AF6C was thanked for taking the minutes of the April General Meeting in Ron's absence.

**Membership** – Bob AF6C was told by Ken W6HHC that he received dues from a new member and the application will follow. Bob said that he would not be present at the May General Meeting and Ron W6FPS volunteered to collect the membership and visitors attendance sheets.

**Technical** – Clem W0MEC reported that the Wednesday night 10 meter net was a little noisy, but 2 meters was fine. Clem asked Bob AF6C to update Bob and Lee Evens email addresses in the roster.

**Treasurers Report** – Ken W6HHC provided a current Cash Flow Report. Ken will check the rental status of the OCARC mailbox.

**Activities** – Tim N6TMT will check on using the coffee maker in the break room and keeping the OCARC coffee supplies in the break room. The club membership will be asked for a volunteer to be in charge of the coffee at each general meeting. The "Opportunity drawing" will start again at the June meeting.

**Publicity** – No report.

**Directors at Large** – Greg W6ATB and Nicolas AF6CF will be going to the Hamvention at Xenia Ohio taking photos for a future general meeting presentation or newsletter article.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Newsletter Editors** May- Jim AF6N, June Tom W6ETC

**Club Historian Report** – Corey KE6YHX provided a copy of his report on the ongoing archiving of OCARC records to a browsable M-Disc. Bob AF6C has located 1976 and 1977 editions of the RF newsletter which he will scan and forward on to Corey.

**Repeater for Net use** – At the next general meeting Tim N6GP will ask membership if there is any interest in utilizing the WD6AWP repeater for a 2 meter net.

**June 2017 Field Day** – A Field Day Meeting was held on April 27 with 14 members present. The spreadsheet of assigned positions was reviewed and open positions are slowly being filled. CW operators are still needed. Tom W6ETC will contact CARA to see if they would like to join OCARC at field Day.

**Club Kilowatt Bioenno Battery** – The battery is currently at the manufacturer for repair and will be returned to OCARC by May 10. Bioenno Power previously donated the battery to the club and is willing to check out the battery at no charge to the club.

**W6NGO** – Ken W6HHC reported that a second club call sign, KM6JWU, was issued to OCARC in April. The necessary paperwork has been filed to replace the current call with the vanity call W6NGO. [Editors' note: The FCC granted the vanity **W6NGO** station call letters to OCARC on 2017-05-12. These call letters will be used for the GOTA call at Field Day. See W6NGO article on Page 10.]

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Ask the Elmer** – In the past, this portion of the general meetings seemed to “lack direction”. Tim N6GP will make an effort to limit the discussion to one question at a time.

**May Meeting Format** – It was decided the meeting will start in the meeting room as usual and then relocate to the TV Van in the parking lot and return upstairs for the remainder of the meeting.

#### **GOOD of the CLUB:**

**New Callsign** – Rodger KM6IZR upgraded to Extra and is now AI6WV.

**Physics** – Tim N6TMT was happy to report that his son, Adam, needed to borrow an amateur radio book to complete a physics class assignment on series and parallel circuits. Coincidentally, Adams teacher, Ryan Mudry, is Ron's W6FPS son.

**2 Meter** – While tuning up an old 2 meter radio with a dummy load, Bob AF6C, heard a very strong signal from a close by station. Unfortunately, the operator was using some rather foul language. Contact Bob if you would like to do a transmitter hunt to find this guy.

**Carl Gardenias WU6D** – Tim N6GP announced that Carl is doing fine after receiving a new kidney. The kidney was donated by his son who is also doing fine.

Meeting Adjourned 9:45 am

**Submitted by** *Ron Mudry W6FPS, OCARC Secretary*





**April 21 Presentation by Paul Gacek, W6PNG**

Our April speaker, Paul Gacek, W6PNG gave an entertaining and very informative presentation on Summits on the Air (SOTA). Paul is the W6 Manager for SOTA. He provided a history of the worldwide organization and how California and our local region fits in. We were impressed to learn that California has some 4,200 SOTA listed summits. As a result, the California Association is divided between 16 regions such as the Southern Desert and Southern Coastal Regions.

Paul described the SOTA procedures and scoring system. He also showed photos of some of his own summits and emphasized the importance of packing the appropriate equipment. The lesson learned is that "less may not be more but it is certainly better".

Some recommended SOTA website urls of are:

sota.org.uk	vd1nam.wordpress.com
sotawatch.com	w6png.wordpress.com
sotamaps.org	www.sotareflector.org
	w6-sota.org

**May 19, Presentation by Peter Putnam, NI6E  
"TV News Van to Ham Use"**

(Continued from Page 1)



Peter Putnam, NI6E began his ham radio career in while studying at Purdue University. He began with a homebrew acorn regenerative receiver for 6 meters and a sporadic-E opening from Texas. At that point he was hooked on VHF and continues to be today. Licensed as W9DHK, Peter moved on to some popular AM equipment including a WWII surplus SCR-522 transmitter-receiver, a Heath Sixer and a Heath Shawnee feeding a Saturn halo. He later added six meter SSB gear including a Poly-com 6, a Swan 250C and Mark 6B linear, a Yaesu FT-620B, an Icom 551D and a 5 element yagi. Six meters has been and still is his "Magic Band". He is proud to claim WAS on six meters from here in California.

During more recent years, Peter, now NI6E, has not only continued his six meter work but has expanded his activity to other VHF frequencies and modes as well. He has built and operated radio vans and trailer mounted towers for contesting, roaming and mountain topping and successful contesting in such as The ARRL VHF Contests. Peter continues to expand his VHF horizons by acquiring a used television van and has converted it to ham radio use. There are van conversions and there are van conversions. This one is a whopper. Peter will show his van at our meeting and make a Power Point presentation showing the details of the conversion.

## Who was Kei Yamachika W6NGO?

By  
Ken Konechy – W6HHC

This month the OCARC received the club vanity call letters of **W6NGO** from the FCC. The plan is to use the station call of W6NGO for the **GOTA** station at Field Day...while the normal OCARC FD stations still use the W6ZE call letters.

But, who was Kei Yamachika W6NGO??



**Kei Yamachika – W6NGO around 1970 had his Radio Shack inside the “Tractor Shed”**

**(Matching Yaesu receiver and transmitter with Henry Radio “desktop” RF amplifier)**

Kei (Kiyoshi) W6NGO was an early member of the OCARC. While still in high school, Kei and his brother, Masami W6LXF (later KF6TST), joined the OCARC during the mid-1930's. The club was small back then and typically held meetings in homes of members. Kei (pronounced “K”) really enjoyed ham radio in the 1930's. He built his own radio equipment and antennas, like many early hams. I remember him proudly showing me his call letters in a 1937 issue of QST... essentially an SWL report listing calls that had been heard in China.

### A Pause In Ham Radio

Then came WW2 and ham radio stopped. Kei W6NGO enlisted in the “hard fighting” Japanese-American 442<sup>nd</sup> Combat Team. His ham radio skills were put to use and he served as a radio operator during fighting in Germany and Italy. After the war, Kei turned his attentions to building up a farming business. Farming kept him off the air for quite a few years. Around 1965 he sold his farm and then he bought some Yaesu ham equipment and got back on the air.

Finally, in 1968, I met Kei on the air and reacquainted Kei with the OCARC and invited him to a meeting. Then Kei W6NGO really got hooked on OCARC Field Days. He enjoyed the FD operating, the contest competitiveness, and “rag chewing” with the many members and visitors who always gather at our field day operations. In early Field Days he would just bring some snacks for all the operators to enjoy. Later, he would build Yagi antennas and crank-up towers for the club to use so that our scores would improve.



**Kei-W6NGO (L) and Bob(now) AF6C had towed the borrowed generator to OCARC FD in 1970 or 1971**

I have three fond memories of Kei W6NGO and ham Radio:

(1) He taught me that if you took a lead pencil and held it close to the plate cap of a final amplifier tube with the key down....you could tell your power by how long of an arc you draw off the plate.

**- - W6NGO Continued on Pg 11 - -**

**W6NGO - Continued from Pg 10 - -**

(2) His first Quad antenna (either three or four elements) on a long boom, lasted only one Santa Ana wind. You should have seen how the boom wrapped around the mast from the wind. The quad was a total wreck. Kei learned that a long boom had to be strengthened with "side-struts" in OC. And that was the way he strengthened all his "big gun" antennas in the future. He never lost another antenna in those big OC winds.

(3) It seemed like any weekend that I would drop by his shack around 3 PM...he would be in a deep QSO with a friend in Japan.



**Kei-W6NGO is shown 2<sup>nd</sup> from right in 1977. Every year, Kei stored club equipment at his QTH. Members (L-R Bob-AF6C, Art-K7ZE, and Ken-W6HHC) would go out on FD morning to help finish loading FD supplies.**

Kei was active in the OCARC. He was on the OCARC board of directors almost continuously from about 1970 until 1996. He worked hard to make the club a better club and a fun club...and as I said before, Kei was really hooked on OCARC FD.



**Kei-W6NGO in the white shirt on the right would bring his tractor (1996 is shown here) to dig tower base-holes at FD. "How many supervisors are needed to dig a hole?"**

Kei W6NGO died in 1997 at the age of 79. His widow, Ida Yamachika, took the proceeds from the sale of his radio station to set up a trust fund for the benefit of the OCARC. "The Kei Yamachika W6NGO Trust Fund" has issued ten checks to OCARC over the years - now a total of \$3,450. Also, after Kei's death, the Board of Directors rededicated the club's yearly "Good of the Club Award" to the memory of Kei Yamachika, W6NGO, for his year-after-year contributions in support of our club's activities.

To answer the earlier question...I would say:  
Kei Yamachika – W6NGO

- was a long time OCARC member
- really enjoyed ham radio
- really enjoyed OCARC Field Day
- really enjoyed OCARC

By Ken W6HHC  
co-trustee "The Kei Yamachika Trust"



## PERSONAL NOTES

Carl Gardenias, WU6D, - Orange Section Manager and good friend of OCARC recently underwent a kidney transplant. Carl's son Michael was his donor and both are currently recovering nicely. OCARC's best wishes for continued speedy recovery go out to both.

Lee Evans - Brother of Bob, WB6IXN, was presented with an honorary OCARC membership at our April meeting. Lee, although not a licensed ham, is a regular at our General Meetings. Lee drives Bob to the meetings and then entertains folks in the lunchroom with his guitar and harmonica talents. Congratulations to Lee.

Vijay Anand, KM6IZO and Rodger Kerr, AI6WV, (New Zealand - ZL2KK) *both passed FCC testing and very quickly upgraded to become active US hams and active contributors to OCARC.* Congratulations to both.

Nicholas, AF6CF and Greg, W6ATB – will be leaving for the Dayton Hamvention being held the weekend of May 19. The Hamvention takes place in a new venue this year, but, as is the usual case, they expect to come back with many things of interest for the club. Nicholas and Greg suggest that members with Hamvention requests and/or ideas pass those on to them at:

Greg at - [W6ATB@w6ze.org](mailto:W6ATB@w6ze.org) or Nicholas at - [AF6CF@w6ze.org](mailto:AF6CF@w6ze.org)

## PUZZLER ANSWER

In the February 2017 issue of RF, on page 28, a Puzzler was presented (Repeated in the April issue page 15). It was a simple one that asked:

***If a CW operator and-a-half can make a QSO and-a-half in a-minute-and-a-half, how long would it take two CW operators to make a hundred QSOs?***

**The correct answer is 75 minutes**, but about half of the entries gave the expected incorrect answer of 50 minutes.

The thought that leads one astray is: ***...then one CW operator (op) can make one QSO in one minute.*** But this is logically **incorrect**.

The correct thought is: if you divide the number of operators by one-and-a-half, then you have to divide the number of contacts by one-and-a-half ***but the time remains the same.*** Thus the correct thought for the last paragraph is: ***...then one CW operator (op) can make one QSO in a minute-and-a-half.***

Doubling the number of operators to two results in: ***two CW ops can make two QSOs in a minute-and-a-half.*** So, two operators can make a hundred QSOs in 50 times a-minute-and-a-half, or 75 minutes.

The winners, in the order received, are:

Tim - N6GP

Fried - WA6WZO

Vijay - KM6IZO \*

Tim - N6TMT

\* A hint was sent to those who submitted an incorrect answer. Only one resubmitted another answer, and he was correct.

Bob - AF6C also solved the puzzler and we have to give him credit too because, when he did it, it was about chopping wood and not making CW contacts – and everyone knows chopping wood is much harder than playing on your radio!

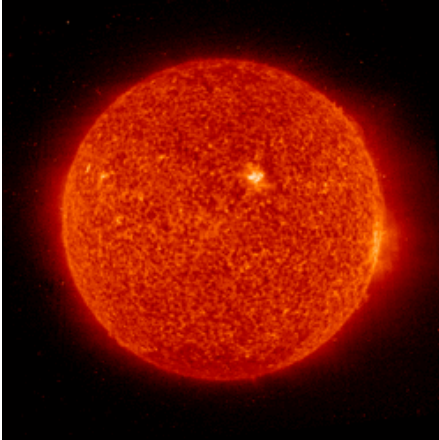
73 - de Mr. RF Puzzler



Courtesy of ARRL and  
ARRL Letter

## The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Each of the weekly solar and geomagnetic indicators that we track were lower this week. The average daily sunspot number dropped 10.6 points to 25.1, and the average daily solar flux was 4.5 points lower than the previous week at 76.9.



We have not witnessed a day with zero sunspots since April 17. The average planetary and mid-latitude A indices were both 5.6, down from the previous week, when the numbers were 26.4 and 18.4, respectively.

As of May 3, the predicted solar flux is 75 on May 4-7; 74 on May 8; 75 on May 9-11; 73 on May 12; 75 on May 13-14; 80 on May 15-18; 85 on May 19-21; 80 on May 22-23; 77 on May 24-27; 75 on May 28-30; 73 on May 31-June 8; 75 on June 9-10; and 80 on June 11-14.

Predicted planetary A index is 12, 8, 8, 5, and 10 on May 4-8; 5 on May 9-14; 8, 15, 30, and 25 on May 15-18; 45, 50, 15, 10, and 8 on May 19-23; 5 on May 24-27; 12 and 8 on May 28-29; 5 on May 30-June 1; 8 on June 2-4; 5 on June 5-10; 8, 15, 30, 25, 45, and 50 on June 11-16.

Bob Kile, W7RH, of Las Vegas, Nevada, took advantage of a 6-meter sporadic-E opening on May 3, working stations in Texas, Wyoming, Idaho, and Colorado. Two Wyoming stations were "solid copy for several hours" before the band closed. (Bob also has a 160-meter remote base in the Northern Arizona desert. [More information](#) is on his website.)

Sunspot numbers for April 27 through May 3, 2017 were 23, 35, 34, 33, 11, 25, and 15, with a mean of 25.1. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 78.2, 78, 77, 77.4, 75.3, 77.2, and 74.9, with a mean of 76.9. Estimated planetary A indices were 7, 6, 6, 6, 5, 5, and 4, with a mean of 5.6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 10, 6, 6, 6, 5, 4, and 2, with a mean of 5.6.

## QST Antenna Design Competition

Deadline for the QST Antenna Design Competition is June 1! The deadline to submit entries for the 2017 QST [Antenna Design Competition](#) is Thursday, June 1. Enter in one of three categories -- 160 meters, LF, or VLF; 80 through 10 meters, and 6 meters and higher bands. Only one entry per person or team will be accepted. First-place winners (individuals or teams) in each category will receive \$500 each. Second- and third-place winners in each category will receive \$250 and \$100, respectively. Winning designs will also be eligible for publication in QST. Send entries to QST, Attn: Antenna Design Competition, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111. Or e-mail your entry to [gst@arrl.org](mailto:gst@arrl.org). The subject line should include your call sign and the words "Antenna Design Competition" (without quotes). [Complete rules](#) are on the ARRL website.

## CASH FLOW

**OCARC Cash Flow**

1/01/2017 through 5/5/2017

Category	1/5/2017- 5/5/2017
<b>INFLOWS</b>	
ARRL Membership Income	95.00
Dues, Family	90.00
Dues, Family (PayPal)	173.56
Dues, Future (PayPal)	28.83
Dues, Membership	630.00
Dues, Membership (PayPal)	663.09
Refreshments Income	25.00
Sale Of Equipment	865.00
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>2,570.48</b>
<b>OUTFLOWS</b>	
ARRL Membership Expense	93.00
Bank Svc Chg	20.00
OCARC Historian	22.07
Refreshments Expense	71.09
Storage Locker	304.00
Supplies	46.62
Trifold Brochure Printing	231.12
Web Site Hosting	89.94
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>877.84</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>1,692.64</b>

**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

Team members (top row): DJ9ZB - Franz, EY8MM - Nodir, HK1R - Jorge, KØIR - Ralph, K4UEE - Bob, K9CT - Craig, LA6VM - Erling, N4GRN - George, N6HC - Arnie, N9TK - Jim

Team members (bottom row): NM1Y - Jeff, LA9DL - Just, PA5M - Michael, UA3AB - Andy, VA7DX - Neil, VE7CT - Steve, WØGJ - Glenn, W6IZT - Gregg, WBHC - Hal, WB9Z - Jerry

Logos: NORSE POLARIS TITUT, INTERNATIONAL DX ASSOCIATION, INDEXA, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA VLF FOUNDATION

## Request for Bouvet DXpedition-2018 Financial Support

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](http://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,

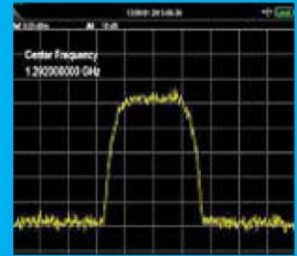
Bob Allphin-K4UEE





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