



RF



ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

VOL. LXII NO. 01

P.O. BOX 3454, TUSTIN, CA 92781

January 2021

The Prez Sez...

By Nicholas AF6CF



Happy New Year!

We are starting a new year, and the image above represents the old year welcoming the new year as a newborn full of hope for an end to the pandemic that has been upon us for 2020. Many see the past year as a dreadful time, full of despair but in reality, the ones that have survived have many reasons to be thankful. One of those is Amateur Radio! I have seen our ranks growing and with many people being forced to quarantine, turning to the hobby as a means to keep in touch with each other. Some are new Hams, others are returning, and all are

welcome to our boundless community.

For this year, we are still unsure of when we can have in-person meetings, so we had to cancel the planned February Auction among other activities but we are working on scheduling interesting speakers for our Zoom meetings. By the way, these meetings are working so well that we plan to keep them when we go back to in-person meetings. We plan to have a computer and microphone in the room so people can participate from the comfort of their home, even if they live far away (like our members in Australia). We call those "hybrid meetings" and we'll see how they turn out.

Field Day usually takes center stage, but this year's activities are still uncertain, so stay tuned on this channel. We hope that the Club members will contribute to make this year the one that will be remembered as "back to normal". In closing, I would like to thank last year's Board of Directors for an outstanding job under such difficult circumstances.

Thank you very much.

73,

Nicholas, AF6CF

NEXT MEETING

January 15, 2021

Via ZOOM - meeting starts

7:00 PM

**Zoom will be on starting
soon after 6:00 PM for
practice/random discussions**

Will Jourdan AA4JW

Sales Rep. from Icom

America on the new

IC-705 QRP Rig

**(This is big! invite your
friends!)**

**All current members will
receive an email invite**

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**2021 Board of Directors:****President:**

Nicholas Haban
(714) 693-9778
af6cf@w6ze.org

Vice President:

Tim Goeppinger, N6GP
(714) 730-0395
n6gp@w6ze.org

Secretary:

Corey Miller KE6YHX
(714) 322-0395
ke6yhx@w6ze.org

Treasurer:

Ken Konechy, W6HHC
(714) 348-1636
W6HHC@W6ZE.org

Membership:

Bob Eckweiler, AF6C
(714) 639-5074
af6c@w6ze.org

Activities:

Ron Mudry, W6WG
(714) 840-3613
w6wg@w6ze.org

Publicity:

Tom Cowart, W6ETC
(714) 454-0571
w6etc@w6ze.org

Technical:

Steven Belasco N1BKB
n1bkb@w6ze.org

Directors @ Large

Dan Violette KI6X
(714) 637- 4632
ki6x@w6ze.org

Tim Millard N6TMT
(714) 744-8909
n6tmt@w6ze.org

2021 Club Appointments:**W6ZE Club License Trustee:**

Bob Eckweiler, AF6C
(714) 639-5074
af6c@w6ze.org

Club Historian(s):

Corey Miller KE6YHX
(714) 639-5475
ke6yhx@w6ze.org

Bob Evans, WB6IXN (Emeritus)
(714) 543-9111
wb6ixn@w6ze.org

RF Editor for January 2021

Tim Goeppinger, N6GP
(714) 730-0395
n6gp@w6ze.org

Webmaster:

Ken Konechy W6HHC
(714) 348-1636
w6hhc@w6ze.org

Assistant Webmaster:

Bob Eckweiler, AF6C
(714) 639-5074
af6c@w6ze.org

Tim Millard, N6TMT
(714) 744-8909
n6tmt@w6ze.org

ARRL Awards Appointees:

Arnie Shatz, N6HC
(714) 573-2965
N6HC@aol.com

John Schroeder, N6QQ
(West Orange Co.)
(562) 404-1112
N6QQ@msn.com

Monthly Events:**General Meeting time & location:****REGULAR MEETINGS***

***See ZOOM announcement on Page One**

Normally Held third Friday of the month at 7PM, located at:
The American Red Cross
600 Parkcenter Drive
Santa Ana, CA

Club Breakfast (Board Mtg) info:

First Saturday* each month 8 AM
Marie Callender's Restaurant
307 E. Katella Ave
Orange, CA 92867

***Temporarily Cancelled ZOOM only**

Club Nets (Listen for W6ZE):**10M: 28.375 ± MHz SSB**

Wed- 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Net Control: Corey, KE6YHX

2M: 146.55 MHz Simplex FM

Mon, Wed, Fri 8:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Net Control: Corey, KE6YHX

75M 3.883 MHz LSB

Wed @ 9:15 PM
Follows right after end of 2M Net
Net Control: Corey, KE6YHX

Outside Nets: CARA REPEATER**147.090 MHz (+0.600 MHz) No PL**

(Net-At-9) Monday - Friday
9:00 AM and 9:00 PM
NC & Prg. Director. Tom W6ETC

OCARC 2021 DUES**Membership period is:****1 January to 31 December**

Individual New or Renewal:	\$30.
Family New or Renewal:	\$45.
Teen New or Renewal:	\$15.

New Member Dues are prorated quarterly and include a badge:

Additional badges: ① \$3.

Use one of our interactive online forms to calculate current prices, join the club and/or order badges:

Online Forms / Dues and Badges

\$3. plus mailing costs if applicable
Dues are subject to change without notice



THE NEW 2021

ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BOARD MEMBERS

Nicholas AF6CF

Tim N6GP

Corey KE6YHX

Ken W6HHC

Ron W6WG

Bob AF6C

Tom W6ETC

Steve N1BKB

Dan KI6X

Tim N6TMT

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer

Activities

Membership

Public Relations

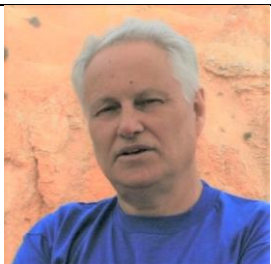
Technical

Director at Large

Director at Large

Graphic by Tim N6GP

2021 OCARC OFFICERS



Nicholas AF6CF
President



Tim N6GP
Vice President



Corey KE6YHX
Secretary



Ken W6HHC
Treasurer



Ron W6WG
Activities



Bob AF6C
Membership



Tom W6ETC
Publicity



Steve N1BKB
Technical



Dan KI6X
Director-at-Large #1



Tim N6TMT
Director-at-Large #2

OCARC Christmas Party ZOOM Minutes 2020-12-18

The December OCARC Christmas Party was held on ZOOM via the internet on December 18, 2020. The informal gathering was called to order about 7:05 PM by our “el Presidente” Dan KI6X.

There were a total of 28 members and visitors in attendance. There was a quorum of officers, with all directors present. This was the ninth OCARC General Meeting (sort-of) that was completely conducted using ZOOM (due to meeting restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus).

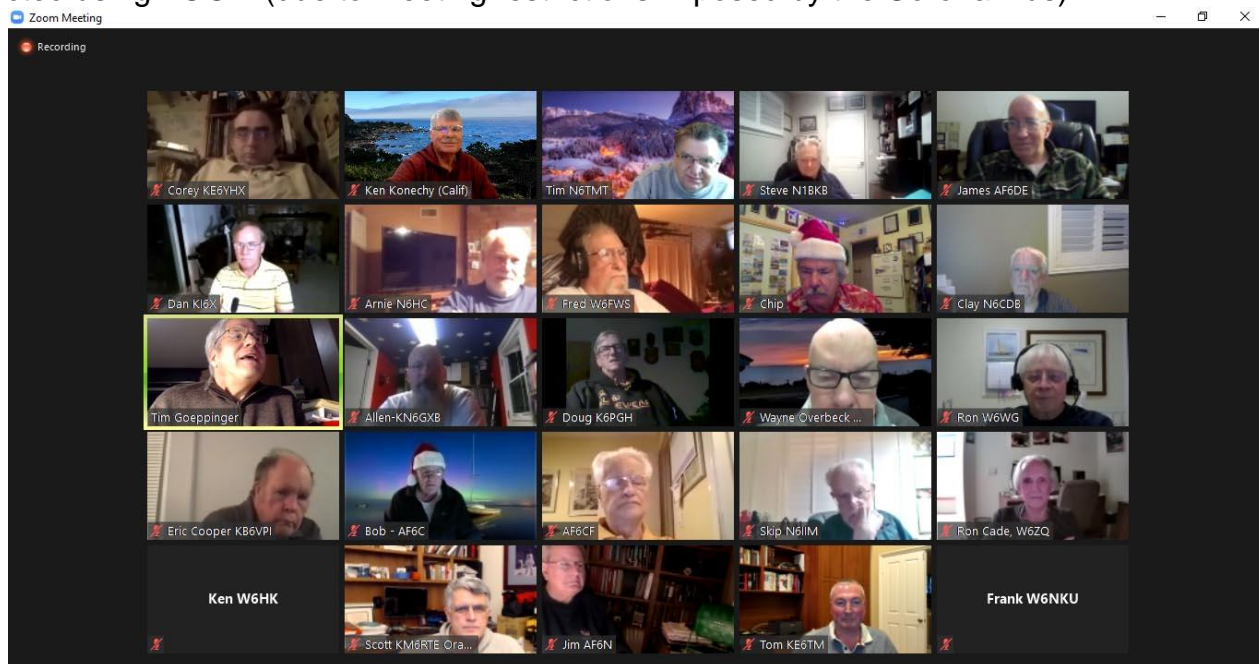


Fig 01 - A typical Screen-Capture of members in attendance during the December meeting.
The majority of attendees could provide video from their home QTH.
But, while some sent no video, everyone could watch video on ZOOM
and could hear the audio during the meeting.

Ham Radio Stories and Egg-Nog:

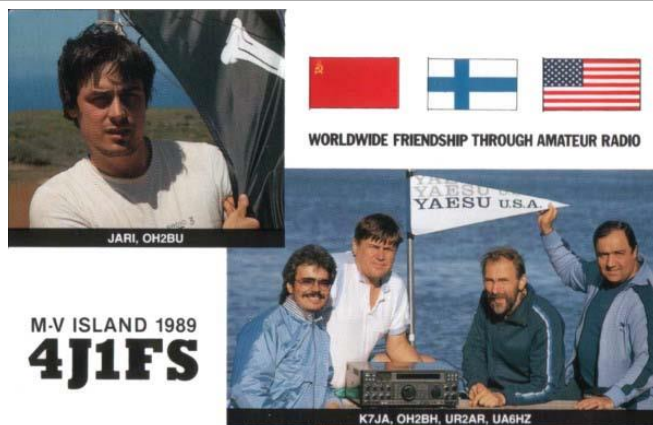
Tim Goeppinger N6GP acted as Master-of-Ceremony of the ham radio storytelling section of this OCARC ZOOM meeting. There were eight stories to sip and enjoy your egg nog.

1) Arnie N6HC - “The 1984 Olympics in LA and Ham Radio”

Arnie Shatz N6HC gave a story about the ham Radio station activity for NG84O inside the Colosseum during 1984 Olympics. A QSL card is shown in **Figure 02**. **Figure 03** shows one of the “Giants” of Southern California ham radio, Don Wallace W6AM, who spent some time to operate from the NG84O station during the Olympics.



Chip Margelli K7JA gave an enjoyable story about a short 1989 DX-pedition to Malyj Vysotskij island (leased to Finland at that time) located on the Saimaa Canal in North-Western part of Russia where was part of the team of hams operating 4J1FS.



Bob Eckweiler AF6C told the story of the first ham radio operator to be tested and receive a government license. Before late 1912, hams could operate their stations without being licensed. The Radio Act of 1912 went into effect on Dec 13, 1912. On the following Monday, Irving Vermilya went to the Brooklyn Navy Yard to be officially tested. He passed the test and was given a "Certificate of Skill #1".

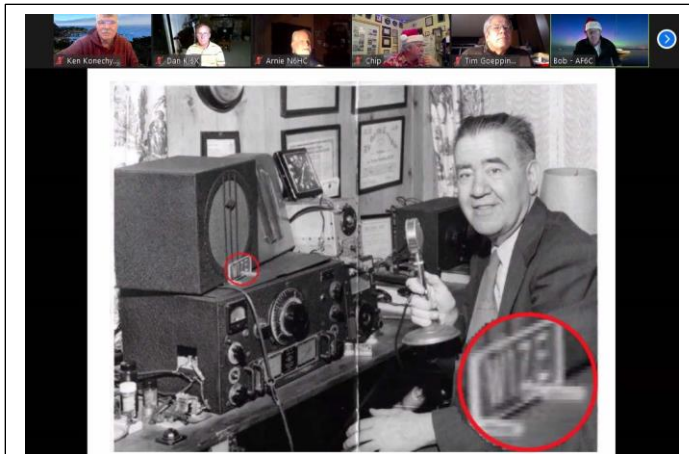


Fig 06 – Irving Vermilya had become interested in radio after his father took him to Canada to listen to a lecture by Marconi. Afterwards, Marconi was so impressed by the interest by young Irving, he presented the 12-year old boy with a receiving set.



Fig 07 – Here is the QSL card of W1ZE (Irving Vermilya) that proudly identifies him as “The FIRST licensed amateur operator in U.S.A.” Irving’s first call letters used were VN , followed by 1HAA , and finally W1-ZE. In 1921, he was named the New England Manager of the ARRL. It was interesting to learn that the name-sake of W6ZE had such an interesting operator.

4) Steve N1BKB - “An enjoyable family vacation to PJ9- land (Curacao)”

Steve Belasco N1BKB shared a story of the ham community helping visiting hams during his vacation to Curacao in December, 1996. His license as PJ9/N1BKB had been approved by the post office...but he had not yet received a copy of it when he arrived (because the Curacao telecom office was closed down for the holidays). The ARRL helped him to get in touch with the IARU representative on Curacao, who was a ham. So the day after Christmas, the IARU rep met Steve at his hotel, interceded for Steve, and eventually learned that the Curacao telecom office had indeed approved the license, but was not planning to deliver it until the middle of January. Finally, after personally inspecting Steve’s equipment, the IARU rep vouched for Steve and was given permission to

PJ9/N1BKB
STEVEN G. BELASCO

Willemstad, Curacao Netherlands Antilles SA

QSL via Home QTH: 1835 Skyline Way, Fullerton, CA 92831-1936

Radio **PJ9/N1BKB** CFM QSO of _____ 199____ with RADIO
_____ at _____ hrs UTC on _____ Mhz. UR CW/FM/SSB
signal was R_ S_ T_. XCVR: Yaesu FT-757GX @ 100____ watts input to ANTENNA:
End fed 100+ ft long wire between two third floor hotel room balconies.

Remarks:

What a great vacation... meeting wonderful people, sightseeing on an island with over 450 years of history, sunbathing, swimming and snorkeling in the warm Caribbean, spectacular New Year's Eve fireworks, and Ham Radio!

PLS QSL TNX 73, WAC, WAS, DXCC | 10-10# 43018
ex - WA3CPK, WB1HCI, HL9SVT

Fig 08 – This is the QSL used by Steve for the PJ9/N1BKB vacation- DX-pedition in 1996. Steve generated over 500 SSB QSO's while on Curacao.

allow Steve to operate during his vacation. When it was time to leave, Steve learned they had a 10 hour layover before the flight from Aruba could take off for United States. They rented a car and then while using the 2M repeater - Steve contacted Jean Pierre, P43A, the president of the Aruba Radio Club in order to learn good tourist spots to visit while in Aruba. Later Steve stopped to ask a ham working in his front yard for clarified directions to a well-known tourist attraction called "the natural bridge" (It was a rock formation less than 50-yds off-shore on the north shore of Aruba created by ocean erosion of the coastal rock). The ham from Aruba explained the shortest directions involved using "a path through the jungle" and their rental car would be no match for the "path" and offered to drive them there in his better-suited vehicle. After that guided tour...the ham from Aruba offered to drive them to a very nice restaurant (off of the tourist path) for lunch. Finally, they were driven back to their car at the hotel and left with a few more recommendations on where to look for some nice gifts. Steve explained that the community of hams can provide great courtesy to visiting hams...all around the world!!

5) Doug K6PGH - "An unexpected Winter FD experience"

Doug Wood K6PGH told the story of an OCARC Winter Field Day he would never forget. On the club's first WFD set-up, early on Sunday morning, while operating in a tent...he heard sprinklers go off some distance away on the large school property OCARC was using. A few minutes later, the sprinkler went off under their tent. There was a frantic effort to cover up the rigs and protect the equipment from water damage. The lesson was learned...and afterwards, special care was taken to ensure the request to turn off sprinklers for the week-end was really implemented.

6) Jim AF6N - "The challenge of working 6M in the deep Ohio River valley"

Jim Schultz AF6N told the challenging story of working 6M on an island on the Ohio River between Wheeling, WV and Bridgeport, OH. The river valley at that point had very steep-and-high embankments, and provided a difficult challenge for 6M contacts. Through lots of effort and persistence, Jim's best DX was an R5xS5 6M QSO with Washington, PA that was located 50 miles away.

7) Wayne N6NB - "Just enjoying the Egg-Nog ham radio stories"

Wayne Overbeck N6NB – just wanted to tell the ZOOM gathering how much he was enjoying the Egg-Nog ham radio stories.

8) Frank W6NKU - "The first day the FCC gave NOVICE License tests"

Frank Doting W6NKU told his story that he was prepared in 1951 for the newly-created FCC Novice class ham license. In the 1951 license restructuring act, the FCC moved to convert the existing three license classes (A, B, and C) into named classes, and added three new license classes, including the Novice license. On the first day that the FCC provided Novice testing, Frank traveled to the Los Angeles FCC office in the Federal Building (at Spring Street?) and passed the exam. The FCC granted Frank the call letters of WN6NKU. Soon after, on July 22 1951, Frank had a QSO with a buddy, WN6NGX.

Awards:

- **Good Of the Club award**

Each year, the club Board of Directors chooses a deserving member who has made the most significant contribution to the club for the year with the **"Good of the Club Award"**. In 2020, "el Presidente" Dan KI6X remotely presented the GOC award via Zoom to Tim Millard N6TMT.



Fig 09 – The "Good of the Club Award" for 2020 was presented to Tim N6TMT for his contributions to move the OCARC meetings and meeting programs to virtual meetings using ZOOM and thereby keeping the OCARC moving forward as a ham club during very difficult COVID times.

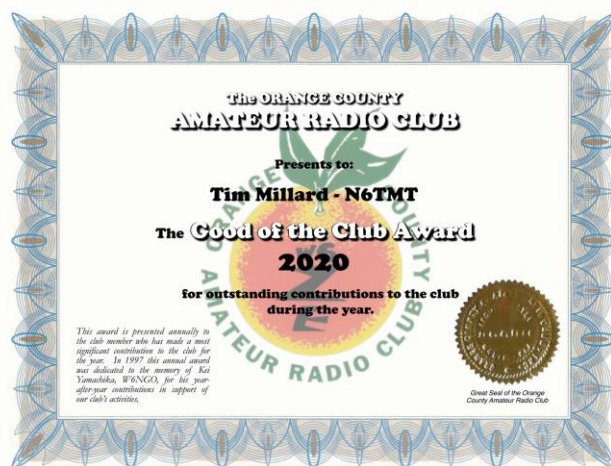


Fig 10 – The "Good of the Club Award" is presented annually to the OCARC club member who has made the most significant contribution to the club for the year. In 1997, this annual award was then dedicated to the memory of Kei Yamachika - W6NGO, for his year-after-year contributions in support of our club's activities.

- **The Presidents Plaque**

Out-going president Dan Violette KI6X is shown with a plaque for doing a good job as OCARC president in 2019 and 2020.



Fig 11 – Our outgoing President, Dan KI6X receiving the President's plaque for his last two years of great leadership to OCARC as our President. This plaque was virtually presented on Zoom by Tim N6TMT, the out-going Vice President.

Introducing New OCARC Officers:

Out-going President, Dan KI6X introduced each of the OCARC Officers for 2021. See Pages 03 and 04 of this RF Newsletter for details and photos.

Clarification of Tim #1 and Tim #2:

Out-going President, Dan KI6X explained that the OCARC is lucky to have two very active hams named Tim that the board calls Tim #1 and Tim #2. They are called Tim #1 and Tim #2 so that when somebody calls a "Tim"...we know who he means. The current Tim #1, VP Tim N6TMT, is stepping down in 2021 to become Director at Large...and will be known as Tim #2 in 2021. The current Tim #2, Director at Large Tim N6GP, is moving up in 2021 to become Vice Pres...and will be known as Tim #1 in 2021.

PRIZE Drawings:



Fig 12 – Activities Chair, Jim AF6N cleverly ran a Zoom virtual “no cost” drawing using balls with numbers for each paid member of the OCARC. Winner didn’t have to be present at Zoom session.



Fig 13 – The “Mystery Prize” hidden in a plain box consisted of a FT-50 2M handheld (well used) and an MFJ-108B 12hr/24hr LCD Clock was won by Frank W6NKU.

- **HRO Gift Certificates** – the following members won Gift Certificates for the HRO Store.
 - \$25 certificate - Steve Belasco N1BKB
 - \$25 certificate - Ken Simpson W6KOS
 - \$50 certificate Fried Heyn WA6WZO (Wanted someone else the honor of the prize)
 - Alternate #1: Charles Streitz KK6HFS (Accepted the \$50 HRO cert)
- **Mystery Prize** – Nicolas Haban AF6CF donated a “Mystery Prize” to be part of the ZOOM drawings. The winner was Frank Doting W6NKU. See **Figure 13** for details.

An Elmer Question:

Nicholas AF6CF is interested in setting up a remote 2 Meter station at the facility in Boron, CA. He is interested in knowing of any VHF/UHF transceiver that can support the internet for control.

Submitted by Ken W6HHC - “out-going” Secretary OCARC



Winter Field Day

“2021 Winter Field Day”

January 30th and 31th 2021

(Contest period Saturday 1900 UTC to Sunday 1900 UTC)

Come join the OCARC team for **2021 WINTER FIELD DAY** . We need everyone to turnout to continue our winning streak and be the highest scoring club for 3 years running. Be sure to enter “Orange County ARC-CA” as your club in your Cabrillo Log submittal. If needed, help will be provided for your log submittal.

The event will be held at your QTH due to Covid 19 so review the revised rules for 2021. The rules can be downloaded from <https://www.winterfieldday.com>

Bands: 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m, 6m, 2m plus UHF and VHF

Points are 1 for phone QSOs and 2 for CW & digital QSOs.

Multipliers are one for each mode operated per band.

Modes: SSB, CW, and Digital. A single Satellite contact is worth 1500 bonus points.

See the rules for additional Bonus Points.

If you are interested and need more information or his power point summary contact Ron W6WG by email, W6WG@W6ZE.ORG

RadioActivity

January 2021

Upcoming Activities:

JANUARY

- ****North American QSO Party / CW:** 1800 UTC January 9 through 0559 UTC January 10
- ***January VHF Contest:** 1900 UTC Saturday January 16 through 0359 UTC Monday Jan. 18
- ****North American QSO Party / SSB:** 1800 UTC Sat. January 16 through 0559 UTC Sunday January 17
- ***CQ WW 160 Meter / CW:** 2200 UTC Friday January 29 through 2200 UTC Sunday Jan. 31
- ***Winter Field Day: 1900 UTC Saturday January 30 through 1900 UTC Sunday January 31**

FEBRUARY

- **10-10 Winter Contest, SSB:** 0001 UTC Feb. 6 through 2359 UTC Sunday Feb. 7
- ***CQ WW WPX / RTTY** 0000 UTC Saturday Feb. 13 through 2359 UTC Sunday Feb. 14
- ***ARRL International DX Contest:** CW: 0000 UTC Sat. Feb. 20 through 2400 UTC Sunday February 21
- ***CQ WW 160 Meter SSB:** 2200 UTC Friday Feb. 26 through 2200 UTC Sunday February 28
- **North American QSO Party / RTTY:** 1800 UTC Feb. 27 through 0559 UTC Sunday February 28

* Indicates club entries are accepted

** Indicates team entries are accepted

Note: When submitting logs for ARRL Contests indicate your club affiliation as "Orange County ARC"

State QSO Parties

New State QSO Party Challenge for 2021! Also a new "Worked All QSO Party (WAQP)"

Award . See details at <http://stateqsoparty.com/>

- **Vermont QSO Party:** 0000 UTC Saturday February 6 through 2359 UTC Sunday Feb. 7
- **British Columbia QSO Party:** 2 segments February 6 & 7 see https://www.orcadxcc.org/bcqp_rules.html
- **Minnesota QSO Party:** 1400 through 2359 UTC Saturday February 6
- **South Carolina QSO Party:** 1500 UTC Saturday February 27 through 0159 UTC Sunday Feb. 28
- **North Carolina QSO Party:** 1500 UTC Saturday February 27 through 0100 UTC Monday March 1

Repeating Activities:

- **Phone Fry** Every Tuesday night at 0230 UTC to 0300 UTC
- **SKCC** Weekend Sprintathon (Straight Key CW) on the first weekend of the month after the 6TH of the month. 1200 UTC Sat. to 2359 UTC Sunday.
- **SKCC** Sprint (Straight Key CW) 0000 UTC to 0200 UTC on the 4th Tuesday night (USA) of the month.
- **CWops** Every Wednesday 1300 UTC to 1400 UTC 1900 UTC to 2000 UTC and Thursday 0300 UTC to 0400 UTC
- **K1USN Slow Speed Test:** (CW, 20WPM Max.) Every Sunday night at 0000 UTC to 0100 UTC Monday

Send an email to Ron W6WG, w6wg@w6ze.org to have your favorite activity or your recent RadioActivity listed in next month's column.

Analysis of the 2020 Field Day Club Scores by Tim Goeppinger, N6GP

The official 2020 ARRL Field Day results were published on page 69 of the December QST. The article gives a good summary of the results, a top 10 of the individual scores, and an exhaustive, alphabetized listing of the club aggregate scores submitted by 1761 clubs. The thing I found lacking was a ranking of the club scores. "How did OCARC place in the club scores?" was what I wanted to know. I took about an hour to extract the Club data from the PDF file, and import it into an Excel spreadsheet. Inside the spreadsheet, I was then able to sort by the scores. Remember that, OCARC scored 13,450 points total from our 23 participants. Here is a chart of the Top 10 Field Days in the country:

Club Name	Score	# Participants
W3AO Team	73149	26
Frankford RC	69570	26
DFW Contest Group	47347	20
Texas DX Soc.	45022	21
North Shore (IL) RC	31053	26
Potomac Valley RC	29430	24
Rochester (NY) DX Assn.	29237	22
Williamson Co. ARES	26740	29
Orange Co. Radio Amateurs & Durham FM Assn. (NC)	26624	24
Minnesota Wireless Assn.	26404	16

Figure 1 - Top 10 Field Day Scores

My heart sank when our arch nemesis, W3AO had won Field Day yet again, even with the special pandemic rules. Also disconcerting was that

ANOTHER Orange County Club (North Carolina) had made it to the Top 10.

My next question was: "how did we do against our peers in Southern California?" This was not an easy task, because there was no location nor ARRL Section given within the club data. I had to eyeball the So Calif clubs, and some were tricky. For example, the Signal Hill ARC is not in California! Here are the local clubs in the top 200:

Club Name	Rank	Score	# Participants
Southern Calif Contest Club	50	15780	8
Palos Verdes	52	15399	16
Pasadena RC	54	15105	26
OCARC	75	13450	23
San Diego ARES	84	12726	9
Conejo Valley	86	12699	26
So. Orange Co (SOARA)	173	9083	23

Figure 2 - Top Southern Calif Field Day Scores

Note: I did not include our friends in the ABCD group (Arnie N6HC, Bob AA6PW, Chip K7JA, Janet KL7MF etc) in this listing because their field day was struck by a violent windstorm up on the Angeles Crest, and they had to shut down in the middle of the night. Even with this significant handicap, their 8256 points earned them a 1st place victory in the 4A category out of 180 entries! Congratulations to them!

The results show that we were resourceful in assembling a large team, with our 23 participants. This ranked us about 20th in the country. Kudos to the Pasadena and Conejo Valley clubs for rostering teams of 26 – right up there with W3AO!

The Orange Co. club from North Carolina ranked in the Top 10 overall gave me the idea to compare ourselves to other clubs with “Orange” in their names. Here is the “Battle of the Oranges”:

Club Name	Overall Rank	Score
Orange Co. Radio Amateurs & Durham FM Assn. (NC)	9	26624
OCARC	75	13450
So. Orange Co (SOARA)	173	9083
Orange Co. ARC (NY)	247	7288
Orange Park ARC (FL)	584	3391
Orange Co. ARES/RACES (NY)	792	2352
Orange ARC (TX)	1632	250
Orange Co ARES (FL)	1679	174

Figure 3 - The Battle of the Oranges

We can be proud once again of our Field Day, score! We finished 75th place out of the 1761 entries. That is in the top 5% ! And we kept our long string of wins going for the Orange Section!

No one has a crystal ball, and no one can tell us exactly what Field Day will be like this June. My guess at this point will be that we

will have the temporary COVID-19 rules that we had last year, with individual entries contributing toward aggregate club scores. Whatever the case, OCARC is committed to forming a large team for the effort, whether it be on an actual field, or at home. Maybe we can beat that Orange Co. Radio Amateurs & Durham FM Assn. (NC) this year!



RF Newsletter Rewind - 20 Years ago January 2001

President Bob Buss KD6BWH (now SK) wished everyone a Happy New Year, and welcomed the new board. Separate Board meetings from the General meetings were being tried, and were held at the IHOP on 17th street in Santa Ana.

The January speaker was Allan Avnet AB8AA on the topic of “Stealth Antennas”. He spoke previously on PSK31, which was quite net at that time.

Bob AF6C had a “Tech Talk” on the topic of “Decibels (part one) – The Logarithm”. Ken W6HHC wrote a page on the Field Day results of clubs in our area. We were only a 3A at that time, and we were second place behind SOARA!

A financial statement was presented for the year 2000. We had a big capital expenditure of \$ 1,216.93 for a new generator, which has served us at Field Days ever since!

Bud, WA6VPP (SK), won the Good of the Club award for 2000, probably for his newsletter editing.

Interesting Find in the E.E. Lab
As told by Bob Eckweiler AF6C

Way back in college at Penn State, an E.E. student and I were exploring the lab stockroom when we came across a large breadbox-style varnished wooden case with a hinged lid. Our curiosity got the better of us, and we lugged the thing out to a workbench and opened the lid.



Inside, we beheld a riot of components--several UX227 triodes, a globe-envelope type 80 rectifier and an assortment of handwound toroidal inductors. The wiring consisted several lengths of thin copper busbar bent into a three-dimensional rat's nest, with 1920s-style dogbone resistors and crudely-made mica capacitors strung between the busbars. Cryptic markings on scraps of yellowing paper taped above a row of binding posts on the back of the case hinted at power and output connections.

"What does this thing do?" I wondered.

"Let's drag out some power supplies and a scope and find out," my classmate said.

Just then, one of the lab proctors strolled in and stopped in his tracks.

"Omigod," he said. "Where did you get that? Did you mess with it?"

"Out of the stockroom, and not yet" I

replied. "What is it?"

"It's retired Professor Lang's first audio oscillator," the proctor said. "

He designed it back in the late 1920s and discovered that its output was a pure sine wave that was totally free of distortion. For the next 40 years, he tried to build another one that was equally good but never succeeded although he came close on occasion. In fact, if you poke around in the stockroom you'll find the newer versions, but what you found is..."

I get it," I interrupted. "What we have here is... Old Lang's Sine".



Troubleshooting an Antenna Problem **by Steve Belasco, N1BKB**

After not having been on the air for almost a week, I decided that I needed to turn on the HF radio and see what was about and who was on. Since it was early evening, my first FT-8 contact was a Belgium ham on 40m and the next DX I found was in Wales, but he simply was not returning my calls, instead opting to respond to stations in China, New Zealand, and Italy. As it was after dark, I decided to QSY down to 160m while it was still before dawn in Europe in the hopes of adding a new contact there. On any band, 40m through 6m, I use my Stepp-IR Urban Beam, but for 80m and 160m, I need to switch to my ZeroFive 43' vertical. The band seemed quiet but with the way my system works, that's a normal reading until I've tuned the vertical on the band. So, as per my norm, I turned the transmitted down to 20W output and from my notes of presets, adjusted my differential Palstar tuner to the close numbers for inductance and capacitance. Rather than affording me the chance to create a 1:1 SWR as is the norm, no matter what I did, I was looking at 10W forward and 15W reflected, and no adjustment to the knobs seemed to make any significant difference. Clearly, some new problem had crept into my system since I was last on that band 8-days previously.

Time to troubleshoot the issue. My thoughts included ... Did I have a problem with the 125' run of coax? Did the gardener create a problem when he was digging in the planter that holds the antenna and buried ground leads yesterday? Did I fry the matching network at the base of the antenna when I tried to push the power up to 800W on my last 160m QSO when my intelligent amp screamed "FAULT" when I keyed the system ... and on and on?

So ... first things first. I shut down the transceiver and pulled out my MFJ-259B antenna analyzer and plugged that directly in to the antenna system right at the A-B switch on my shelf right in front of the operating position for my two transceivers. Clearly the vertical was not working but was the issue in my antenna tuner? I switched to my yagi and reset the frequency to 30m. While Stepp-IR advertises a good SWR on any band their antennas tune, I've found that on 30m, the best I can get without my tuner in the line is an SWR of 1.6:1, so I routinely insert the tuner in the circuit for that band. Golly, gee ... pre-set the numbers on the tuner and a little fidgeting and ... magic ... 1:1 SWR. How about another band through the tuner? Same result on 20m and 12m.

Okay ... so the tuner is fine but what about the vertical on other bands since it tunes 160m through 10m. 80m ... 40m ... same non-response readings through the tuner. Something got disconnected. It must have been the gardener! The next morning headed out to the back yard to see what damage had been done. Obviously, the ground had been dug up around the antenna but the coax and my ground array plate and the connected ground leads appeared to be untouched.

Hmmm ... what else could it be? Had I done anything to the antenna system in the past week?

Well, the day before New Year's, I spent my club HRO gift certificate and it covered most of the cost of a lightning arrestor that I added to the coax for my 2m/70cm antenna system. In doing so, I had to pull the tuner out of its position on the shelf to get to the station grounding system to attached a new ground strap for the new lightning arrestor. Had I somehow dislodged or affected the coax connection for the vertical attached to the back of the tuner?

So ... out comes the antenna analyzer again and I connected the coax directly to the antenna. The readings I got almost exactly matched the notes I had made when I installed the system. So, I'm now guessing the coax and matching network at the base of the antenna are okay but what else could be causing the problem?

I next connected the coax directly to the tuner without its new lightning arrestor (that I added in November) and surprise ... everything works! Is the problem associated with the new lightning arrestors I added in November? It turns out that when I bought the arrestor, I looked for the technically superior product for HF and did not stop to think about the fact that it only came with a double female connector, so I had to add a double male adapter to make everything work. I thought about that point when I bought the new arrestor for the VHF/UHF antenna system (different brand) and it has a male on one end and female on the other. When I bought the two arrestors for the HF system in November (one for each antenna), I also bought a new double male adapter for each. On further inspection, it now seems the new double male adapter on the lightning arrestor for the vertical seems loose, so I replaced it with an older adapter I had in my collection and reconnected everything as it was back in mid-December.

Amazing! Everything works! The problem was the new double male adapter that did not like being moved once it had been installed. I'm back on the air again on 80m and 160m ... and maybe the next time I head back to HRO, if I remember, I'll see about exchanging the defective adapter I bought back in November for a new one.

And a PS ... if the word description of my station doesn't make sense, check out my pictures of it on QRZ.com so you can see what I was talking about.

73,

Steve
N1BKB

OCARC BOARD MEETING MINUTES 2021-01-02



Due to the COVID-19 restrictions on physical gatherings, the first Board Meeting of the year was via Zoom on Saturday, January 2, 2021. The meeting was called to order by our new president Nicholas AF6CF at 8:31 AM PST. All ten directors were present for a quorum, and two member attendees, Vijay KM6IZO and Greg W6ATB. There were twelve (12) topics brought to the Board this morning, and three (3) motions carried, including adjournment.

•New 2021 Board of Directors

President: Nicholas Haban AF6CF

Secretary: Corey Miller KE6YHX

Activities: Ron Mudry W6WG

Technical: Steve Belasco N1BKB

Director at Large 1: Dan Violette KI6X

Vice President: Tim Goeppinger N6GP

Treasurer: Ken Konechy W6HHC

Public Relations: Tom Cowart W6ETC

Membership: Bob Eckweiler AF6C

Director at Large 2: Tim Millard N6TMT

•Awards at the Christmas Party, Friday, December 18, 2020

•The President's Plaque in appreciation of his two terms as president for January 2019 through December 2020 was presented to Dan Violette KI6X.

•The Good of the Club Award was presented to Tim Millard N6TMT, for the most significant contribution to the club for the year.

•Old Business

The first motion was made by Dan KI6X, and seconded by Tim M. N6TMT, to keep the three (3) present Honorary Members for the year. Jerry VerDuft AD0A remains Honorary Lifetime Member. The motion is carried with none opposed.

•New Business

The Board discusses goals, objectives, and activities for 2021. The Board decides to start Club Board Meetings at 8:15am for the year, on the first Saturday of each month. Also, General Meetings are confirmed for the third Friday of each month, both pending review of meeting date conflicts with holidays, normally on a monthly basis for Board Meetings.

For an activity, Bob AF6C suggests a New Person Night, and a VEC program. Vijay KM6IZO explains the magnitude and difficulty of a VEC program in reference to the GLAARG (Greater Los Angeles Amateur Radio Group) VEC Program, serving prospective hams across the country. Vijay suggests a less expansive VE program. Bob suggests to at least update our club web page on testing.

•For the next item, Nicholas calls for the 2020 Financial Report, and Dan explains the Financial Audit Committee for 2020 meets in January, with Tim M. N6TMT, Ken W6HHC, and Greg W6ATB as committee members.

•The next item on the agenda are the Club assets. Ken explains that the list is on the web site, and is normally held by the treasurer. Dan agrees to send Nicholas his latest property list.

•Newsletter Editors

January: Tim G. N6GP,
February: Tom W6ETC,
March: Tim M. N6TMT,
April: Steve N1BKB volunteers.

•General Meeting Programs

January: Icom Products
February: TBD
...
October: Club Auction

Ken describes the RF Newsletter production process for board member Steve N1BKB, and Tim G. will provide an item for the April edition.

Greg joins the meeting and reports of flooding at his QTH, and a move to another house. He will have the 2020 Cash Flow Report and an annual review spreadsheet this weekend.

•The Zoom account is the next topic. Nicholas asks Tim M. if he is willing to be the Zoom account holder for the year, and Tim M. agrees for the time being. The Board discusses the Zoom Meeting account, and Bob suggests appointing an alternate person to manage the Zoom sessions. Dan agrees to be the alternate, as he is the second Zoom account holder. The costs are \$150 per year or \$15 monthly. It was asked that if we have a monthly account, we can cancel any time at a small increase in price, and it was declined. Steve clarifies an annual Zoom Account with a 100 person

meeting capacity, a 30 hour time limit, and 1-gig of recording capacity is \$149.90. Tim M. says he can record to PC, bypassing the 1-gig limit. Tim G. adds that the

username and password be included in the Treasurer's "Club Nuclear Football" with general approval from the Board. The second motion of the morning was made by Dan to reimburse Tim M. for the Zoom costs, and set-up an account especially for the Club, if possible. The motion is seconded by Steve N1BKB and carried. Tim M. abstains. A YouTube Channel is suggested, and Tim M. explains the corporate status disqualification for such an account.

- The next item on the agenda are hybrid meetings. These are in-person meetings with attendees on the internet using teleconferencing such as Skype. Many members who have moved away or are otherwise unable to attend in person will have the ability to attend via Skype or Zoom. The Board discusses the need of a dedicated member to handle the systems and online attendees for such meetings, and Tim M. volunteers to work in that capacity for a year. Nicholas adds that we need to keep the relationship with the American Red Cross alive in the event we return to in-person meetings. Tom W6ETC recounts the ARC had a Disaster Services contact a couple years ago, and raises the need to find out more about the contacts. The Board needs to know the exact point-of-contact for the ARC.

- Ron W6WG reports on Winter Field Day 2021. It is going ahead as planned. Ron explains the need for a mass-email notification, and to keep the list of participants from last year. A flyer in RF is also needed. Bob asks Ron to provide material for the page regarding WFD on our web site. This is our sixth year participating in Winter Field Day, reports Ron.

- Field Day 2021 is the next topic. It is agreed that a similar situation with the event is expected as with last year. Nicholas tables the item until next month.

- The last topic on the agenda are the bank signature cards for our Wells Fargo account. Ken explains we will need new signatures. In the old process, old bank signature cards were valid until the changes are made. We need to find out the COVID-19 era process. Bob will provide his contact for Wells Fargo.

•Good of the Club

Bob raises the need to update the main page of our Club web site. We need some more people involved to work on it and the web site in general, say Bob and Ken. Ken explains the task of keeping the front page up-to-date on a timely basis requires some discussions with various people in order to appoint another Assistant Web Master. Bob is working on an HTML-5 version of the front page. Vijay offers help with the new coding.

•Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and carried at 9:27 AM PST.

Respectfully submitted by Corey KE6YHX, OCARC Secretary.

A HISTORY of OCARC PRESIDENTS

by **Ken Konechy W6HHC**

with great assistance from our
Club Historian Emeritus,

Bob Evans - WB6IXN

2021 AF6CF Nicholas Haban
2020 KI6X Dan Violette
2019 KI6X Dan Violette
2018 N6GP Tim Goeppinger
2017 N6GP Tim Goeppinger
2016 AF6CF Nicholas Haban
2015 N6TMT Tim Millard
2014 AF6CF Nicholas Haban
2013 AF6CF Nicholas Haban
2012 W6GMU Paul Gussow
2011 W6GMU Paul Gussow
2010 K6PEQ Kristin Dankert
2009 AF6CF Nicholas Haban
2008 N8WP Willie Peloquin
2007 K6PEQ Kristin Dankert
2006 N8WP Willie Peloquin
2005 W6HHC Ken Konechy
2004 N1AB Steve Brody
2003 KQ6JD Lowell Burnett
2002 KE6WIU Cory Terando
(now AE6GW)
2001 KD6BWH Bob Buss
(later KØBWH)
2000 K6LDC Larry Hoffman
1999 WA6VPP Bud Barkhurst
1998 KD6BWH Bob Buss
(later KØBWH)
1997 WA6VKZ Frank Smith
1996 AF6C Bob Eckweiler
1995 N6XTJ Jim Roberts
1994 KJ6ZH Chris Breller
1993 KC6TAM Jane Breller
1992 WA6VKZ Frank Smith
1991 W6HHC Ken Konechy

YEAR

1990 KJ6ZH Chris Breller
1989 WA6VKZ Frank Smith
1988 W6HHC Ken Konechy
1987 N6JSV Jim Talcott
1986 WA6VKZ Frank Smith
1985 AF6C Bob Eckweiler
1984 KA6IMP Chris Breller
(now KJ6ZH)
1983 W6IBR Al Watts
1982 KA6HNY Robin Hoff
1981 WA6VKZ Frank Smith
1980 WA6FOW Ernie Prichard
1979 WB6IHZ Terry Mathers
1978 WA6LFF Jim Kingsbury
1977 WA6WZO Fried Heyn
1976 WB6PEX Martin Raymond
1975 WA6LHB Art Sheldon
(now K7ZE)
1974 W6HHC Ken Konechy
1973 WB6QNU Bob Eckweiler
(now AF6C)
1972 WA6FIT Ron Cade
(now W6ZQ)
1971 WB6CQR Billy Hall
(now N6EDY)
1970 WB6UDC Jack Hollander
(later N6UC)
1969 WA6ROF Jerry VerDuft
(now ADØA)
1968 W6COJ Dave Hollander
1967 WB6GPK Jim Hill
1966 WA6YWN Jack Shaw
1965 K6KTX Rolland Miller
1964 W6WRJ Ralph Alexander
(later W6RE)
1963 W6DEY Roy Maxson
1962 K6LJA Ted Glick
1961 K6IQ Roy Morriss

YEAR

1960 K6TXS Charles(Ed)Edwards
1959 W6BVI Ken Kesel
1958 W6BVI Ken Kesel
1957 - CLUB DISBANDED -
1956 W6HIL Bob Swenson
1955 W6BVI Ken Kesel
1954 W6UPP Marinus Conway
1953 Probably only informal
meetings, no officers?
1952 W6QZQ Horace Bates
1951 W6LDJ Sam (Mac) McNeal
1950 Probably only informal
meetings, no officers?
1949 W6CGF Chuck Lunder
1948 W6BWO Dale Bose
1947 W6ALO Tommy Gentges
1946 W6DEY Roy Maxson
1945 W6DEY Roy Maxson
1944 - **ALL OFF TO WAR!!**
1943 - **ALL OFF TO WAR!!**
1942 W6IBN Roy Cumpston
1941 W6BAM Shelley Trotter
1940 W6KLU Harold Christensen
1939 Probably only informal
meetings, no officers?
1938 W6NSA Les Gates
1938 W6ADT Noral Evans
1937 W6LYN Noral Evans
(later reissued as W6ADT)
1936 W6LYN Noral Evans
(later reissued as W6ADT)
1935 - CLUB DISBANDED!!
1934 W6IGO Earl Moore
1933 W6IGO Earl Moore

OCARC Cash Flow - Last year

1/1/2020 through 12/31/2020

Category	1/1/2020- 12/31/2020
INFLOWS	
Auction In, Jan 2020	1,696.25
Donation - Michael K6GTE	30.00
Donation - N6GP	20.00
Dues, Family (PayPal) 2020	131.78
Dues, Family 2021	45.00
Dues, Membership (PayPal) 2020	1,319.76
Dues, Membership (PayPal) 2021	805.15
Dues, Membership 2020	576.33
Dues, Membership 2021	97.50
Refunds Received	15.53
TOTAL INFLOWS	4,737.30
OUTFLOWS	
Auction Flyer Printing	21.55
Auction Payout, Jan 2020	1,359.23
Christmas Dinner 2020, Trophy Award	59.26
Donations - Red Cross	250.00
Field Day Winter - Tent Rental	130.00
LIABILITY INSURANCE 2021	300.00
OCARC Brochures	168.25
OCARC Historian	29.29
Opportunity Drwg - Monthly Exp	438.71
PO Box Rental	92.00
Raffle - Monthly Exp	85.76
Refreshments Expense	32.65
Refund paid	7.50
Secretary of State	25.00
Storage Locker	475.00
Storage of Equipment - Ann Millard	500.00
Supplies	15.85
Web Site Hosting	101.94
Web Site Hosting - PayPal	259.99
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	4,351.98
OVERALL TOTAL	385.32

MiniTiouner-Express

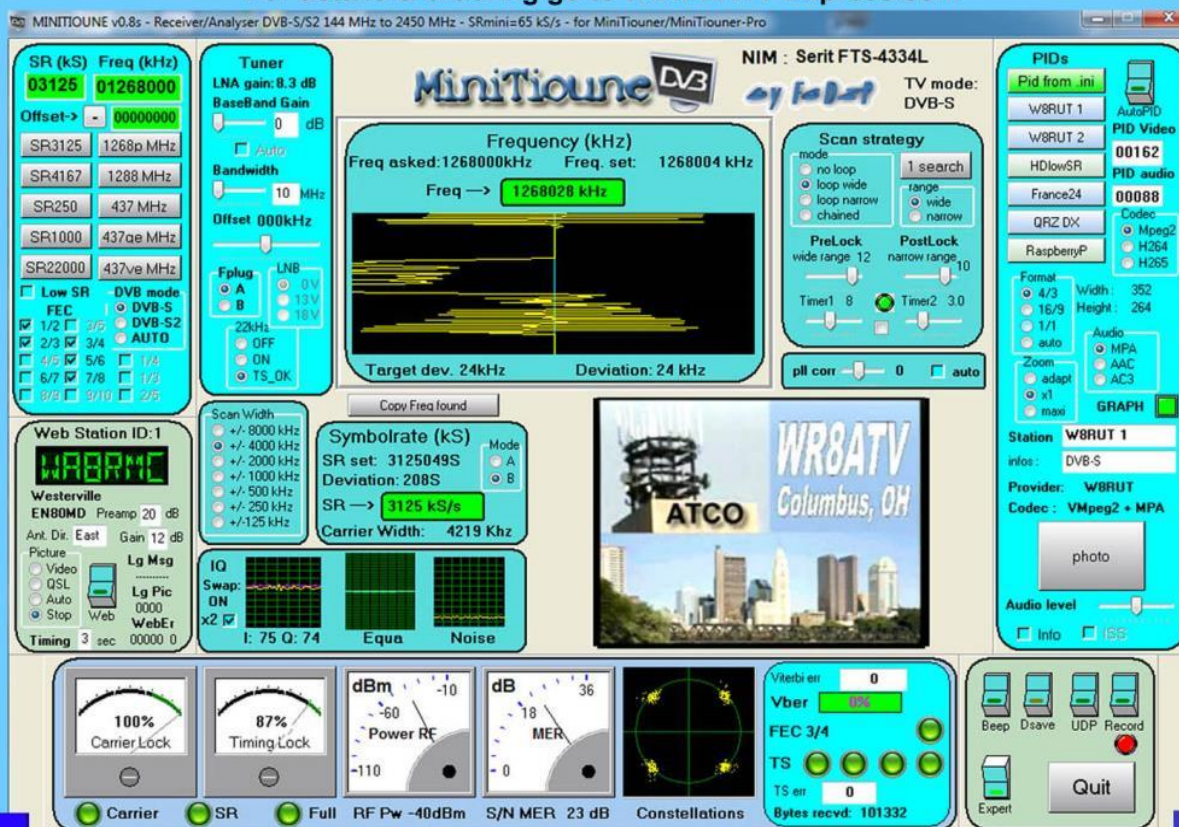
Digital Amateur Television DVB-S/S2 Receiver / Analyzer



Available at DATV-Express.com

- Operates with Windows PC using free MiniTioune software from Jean-Pierre F6DZP
- Smaller than a stack of 2 decks of cards (picture above is full size)
- Two independent simultaneous RF inputs with internal preamps
- High sensitivity -100dBm @1288MHz – at 1/2 FEC
- Fully assembled/tested in aluminum enclosure
- Covers 144-2420MHz (ideal for Space Station DATV reception)
- Symbol rates from 75 KSymb/s to >20 MSymbols/sec
- Uses external 8-24VDC supply or +5V from USB-3 port (with small modification)
- Real time signal modulation constellation & dBm signal strength display
- Price: US \$75 + shipping – order with PayPal

For details & ordering go to www.DATV-Express.com



(MiniTioune display above is the ATCO 1268MHz DVB-S repeater signal at WA8RMC QTH 15 miles away).