

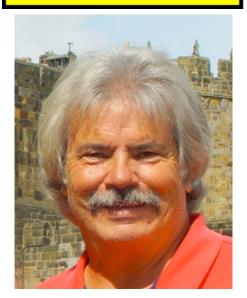
ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

VOL. LXIV NO. 3

PO Box 3454, Tustin, CA 92781

March 2023

The Prez Sez... By Chip K7JA



March greetings to all from your OCARC President!

Spring is in the air. Daylight Saving Time is upon us again (yay!), and there's reason to believe that the snow is behind us! Since the snow has cleared, *please* pay your club dues today! I have. Our club's dues have not gone up in almost a decade (a rarity these days!), so enjoy our inflation-fighting efforts and re-up today. Just click on the "MEMBER RENEWAL" link under "Membership" on the w6ze.org Home Page.

We are already developing plans for the W6ZE effort in ARRL's Field Day, which comes up at the end of June.

Tim, N6TMT and Nicholas, AF6CF have volunteered to be the steering committee for FD this year. Band Captains for 2022 and for Winter FD 2023: if you'd like to continue in those roles, or if you want to do something different, please let Tim and Nicholas know. Everyone else... think of what you'd like to be doing this year; I know that we'll have a more extensive GOTA (Get On The Air) station this year, so operating opportunities will be many. Let's make this year's Field Day the best and most fun event ever. Our Vice President Janet, KL7MF, continues to line up a slate of very interesting speakers for this year, and I know we'll all enjoy hearing from Wayne Yoshida, KH6WZ, at the March meeting. Wayne has done a lot of interesting things in his ham radio career, and if you like to tinker with things, Wayne's program is for you.

The Board of Directors is making arrangements for some degree of a Zoom broadcast of the March meeting. An e-mail will follow with the particulars; thanks to all who sent in comments in this regard. We'd still prefer to see you in person, of course!

(Continued on Page 4)

NEXT GENERAL MEETING IN-PERSON

Wayne Yoshida KH6WZ presents

"Getting Ready for MakerFaire"

March 17th, 2023, at 7PM at the

American Red Cross

Orange County Chapter Santa Ana, Room 208

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Saturday, April 8th, 2023
See www.w6ze.org for Location

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2023 Board of Directors

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Directors-at-Large

AJ Ricci, KN6WNO (714) 788-0847 kn6wno@w6ze.org

2023 Club Appointments

W6ZE Club License Trustee

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John Schroeder, N6QQ (West Orange Co.) (562) 404-1112 n6qq@w6ze.org

Monthly Events

Membership Meetings*

Time: 7:00 PM

When: 3rd Friday of each Month Red Cross Orange County, Room 208 600 N Parkcenter Dr, Santa Ana

Board Meetings

First Friday of each Month
Board will handle Club business now
IN-PERSON.

Club Nets (Listen for W6ZE)

10M ~ 28.375 MHz SSB

Wed- 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM Net Control: Corey, KE6YHX Alternate Net Control: AJ, KN6WNO

2M ~ 146.55 MHz Simplex FM

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

75M ~ 3.883 MHz LSB

Tue @ 8:00 PM

Net Control: Corey, KE6YHX

Other Nets

Catalina Amateur

Repeater Association (CARA)

147.090 MHz (+0.600 MHz) No PL Monday - Friday 9:00AM & 9:00PM Prg. Director. Tom W6ETC COME JOIN US

OCARC 2023 DUES:

Membership period is: 1 January to 31 December

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

New Member Dues are prorated quarterly and <u>includes a badge</u>:

Additional Badges¹ \$3

Use one of our our interactive online forms to calculate current prices, join, renew, or order badges:

https://www.w6ze.org/FormsShortcut.html

1 \$3 or less + mailing. See form.

The OCARC New Member Q&A is a new feature to help introduce our newer members, learn about how they got interested in amateur radio, why they joined OCARC and what their interests are as an amateur operator. –Bill KN6SMP

This month we "interview" AJ Ricci, KN6WNO.

Can you tell us something about yourself?

I currently serve as a Traffic Commissioner for the City of Orange; I've always had the passion for public service and decision-making. My first job was working at Disneyland as a ride operator/tour guide for the Jungle Cruise Attraction.

How did you become interested in amateur radio?

I took a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Class for my hometown City of Orange. They offered a supplemental class involving GMRS Radios, from there I became interested in radio communications in today's modern age and upon acquiring my GMRS License, that was my gateway into getting my amateur radio license. Ever since, it's always "how do I reach people farther and on a different mode?"

What has been your amateur radio involvement so far?

I currently serve as a Director at Large for OCARC. I often participate in the Orange Police Department Amateur Radio Nets. Camped out and operated for the entirety of Winter Field Day 2023. Recently, offered to be an ongoing net control operator for the Catalina Amateur Repeater "CARA Net@9" program.

On equipment and antennas are you presently operating?

At my ham shack I'm currently running an ICOM 7300 @ 100Watts for HF Band, an ICOM 705 All Mode for mobile QRP, a Kenwood TM - V71A @ 50 Watts for the 2m/70cm Band, a President McKinley for CB, and a Midland MXT 500 @ 50 Watts for GMRS. As for handhelds I have an assortment of Baofeng/BTech/Yaesu radios. Antenna for HF is an 8ft TWAYRDIO 26-28Mhz CB Vertical Antenna on a 25ft mast * I plan on changing this to a dipole in the future*; VHF/UHF I use a Retevis 144/430MHz 7.2dBi Vertical that sits about 20ft on the same antenna mast.

Describe your current and future interests in amateur radio.

Considering I only acquired my Tech license in November 2022, I've definitely jumped into this hobby feet-first. So for me, everything is brand new. My current interest is building a portable station using an ammo can.

What has been the response from your family and friends regarding your amateur radio hobby?

My biggest supporter in my family is my grandfather who was a radio operator for the Army during the Korean War. So he is thrilled I've taken up the interest. My younger brother makes the comparison that I might as well use 2 cans and a string in the middle to talk to people when it comes to Amateur Radio. Being a younger operator during a time where cell phones/internet dominate most casual communication, my friends find it cool and see it as preserving an art and immediately want to know more about it. Overall, very positive.

What have you learned and what do you hope to learn from your membership with Orange County Amateur Radio Club?

Every day I learn how the radio is used in different applications and there are countless categories and ways to make contact with other people. As an operator I want to take advantage of all the knowledge held by its members and the amazing backgrounds they come from i.e. Military, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, and lifelong operators. Everyone has their favorite modes and has them dialed-in to a science. Most importantly I want to learn about Ham radio to a point where I can teach it to my generation of peers to spark the interest in the hobby and keep it going. As a board member, I'm interested to see what goes into coordinating and motivating local Hams to get on the air and to venture out of their ham shacks to come to events to enjoy the hobby of amateur radio amongst like-kind.

Prez Sez, continued from page 1

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Remember that the **April meeting** will be held a week later than usual, on **April 28th, 2023**. This avoids conflict with the International DX Convention in Visalia, which is held the previous weekend.

Finally, HF propagation has been great lately, with ten meters being open to most all of the world during the daylight hours; it's open well past sunset towards the Pacific and Asia, too. So get on the air, and bring your rare DX stories to the next meeting! With more hours of sunlight in the evening, there's no excuse not to get an HF or 6-meter antenna up in the sky.

73 DE Chip, K7JA

Results of the 2022 California QSO Party

In our November 2022 RF Newsletter, we had an article on our preliminary results from the annual California QSO Party, which was held the first weekend in October. We had a great team of 9 stations competing from their homes, and we garnered a very good score. The combined score was entered into the Redwood Class (6-10 logs) in the California Club Competition. We did very well, but not enough for the first place prize of \$100. We had some tough competition from northern Calif. Especially the West Valley ARA, which is located in Silicon Valley. They took the bonus points to heart and really ran up a score. Congrats to Bob AA6PW for finishing 11th overall in Calif., winning him a bottle of Twisted Oak wine! Maybe in 2023 we can get even more members participating. See you Oct.7th & 8th!

Redwood Category Clubs

Place	Club	# of Logs	Log Scores	Bonus Points	Total Score
1	West Valley Amateur Radio Association	10	1,226,225	500,000	1,726,225
2	Bishop Amateur Radio Club	7	863,678	170,000	1,033,678
3	Orange County Amateur Radio Club	9	912,971	90,000	1,002,971
4	Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club	9	405,918	340,000	745,918
5	San Francisco Amateur Radio Club	7	43,450	220,000	263,450
6	Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club	6	94,487	60,000	154,487

Orange County Amateur Radio Club: Scoring Details

Callsign	Log Score	Bonus	Total Contribution
AA6PW	254,736	10,000	264,736
N6GP	168,504	10,000	178,504
K7JA/6	152,772	10,000	162,772
N6HC	146,384	10,000	156,384
N60KU	90,744	10,000	100,744
W6WG	89,488	10,000	99,488
AF6N	7,347	10,000	17,347
N6XBP	2,912	10,000	12,912
NA6VJ	84	10,000	10,084
TOTAL	912,971	90,000	1,002,971

"Getting Ready for the Maker Faire" by Wayne Yoshida, KH6WZ

Did you know YOU can have fun helping to market and educate the general public about ham radio? Wouldn't you enjoy providing a learning experience to youngsters and hardware hackers by demonstrating something you have made or accomplished in our hobby?

Join us Friday the 17th of March and learn about what Maker Faire is and does for DIY hobby enthusiasts and how you can participate.

Our guest speaker, Mr. Wayne Yoshida, KH6WZ, was first licensed in 1976, and is currently a Technical Writer and CQ Amateur Radio columnist who brings a cornucopia of writing, editing, technology and marketing skills to his everyday work.

Wayne was a consultant Public Information Officer for NASA Mission Control during three Space Shuttle missions, including the first manned ham-in-space mission with Dr. Owen Garriott, W5LFL, in 1983. His input helped hundreds of articles based on news releases and interviews emphasizing the educational value of ham radio and electronics and its viability as an emergency communication system for the space program.

From 1982 to 1984 Wayne worked in ARRL HQ in Newington, CT, as Public Information Officer. Now Wayne is Contributing Editor, CQ Magazine ("The Beginner's Corner since January 2003, now "The Ham Notebook" since March 2010).

Wayne holds the North America Two Way Communication Distance Record on 10 GHz (X band) - 1,448 km/899.75 mi., August 2007, and has participated in HF contests (W1AW, NK7U, W5RRR) and DXpeditions, including 8P6BBS, 8P4B, 8P9BB (Barbados), 7J1AFZ (Japan), and J68DX, and J68WZ (St. Lucia).



Janet Margelli, KL7MF OCARC Vice President Please join us Friday, March 17, 7 PM, at the American Red Cross, 600 Parkcenter Dr., Room 208, Santa Ana and welcome Wayne Yoshida, KH6WZ, and learn how Maker Faire can help encourage the growth of ham radio. We will also continue our ZOOM coverage of meetings for now, dependent upon camera and laptop availability.

Be sure to stay tuned for our April presentation, which is scheduled for the last Friday of that month (4/28) so as to not conflict with the Visalia DX Convention, for the "Satellite Rovers" Mr. Patrick Stoddard, WD9EWK, and Mr. Endaf Buckley, N6UTC, and see how to WAS (Worked All States) via satellite!

We hope to see you at the meeting.



Winter Field Day 2023

Certificate Of Participation

presented to Amateur Radio Station



for their active and invaluable participation during the 2023 Winter Field Day Event. The WFDA, gratefully thanks you for your effort and recognizes your dedication to improving your operating skills, which may be crucial during an emergency event.

Contacts Logged: 3444



We passionately believe that Ham radio operators should practice portable emergency communications in winter environments as the potential for freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and other hazards present unique operational concerns. WFD is formatted to help increase your level of preparedness for disasters and improve your operational skills in subpar conditions.

Marvin Turner, President
Winter Field Day Association

The Orange County **Amateur Radio Club**



W6ZE.ORG Website **Ramblings**

Part 3

Dan - KI6X

General Information: Club Brochure (PDF)

About Ham Radio Board of Directors Board Appointments

Club Activities:

Meetings

Club Nets

Upcoming Events Previous Events

Emergency Comm. ARRL Field Day

Winter Field Day

Membership:

New Membership Member Renewal

Member Roster (Basic)

Club Library:

'RF' Newsletter

'Net News'

Photo Gallery

Club Archives

Links:

Ham Related Sites Ham Vendors

Miscellaneous:

Heathkit Articles Digital-ATV Library

Items of Interest

For Sale Contact Us

Serving Orange County in Southern CA

And... on with more of the W6ZE website history that I started in the January RF... Let's get into some of the sections of the website that should be more familiar to those that access W6ZE.ORG for information.

Club Activities section -

Under Club Activities are some of the more useful current information available (not counting the main W6ZE.ORG front page which is regularly updated):

"Meetings": This webpage gives general information about the regular monthly and the Board meetings (date, time, location with a map).

"Upcoming Events" / "Previous Events": These pages also have information for the coming months and the previous months (respectively).

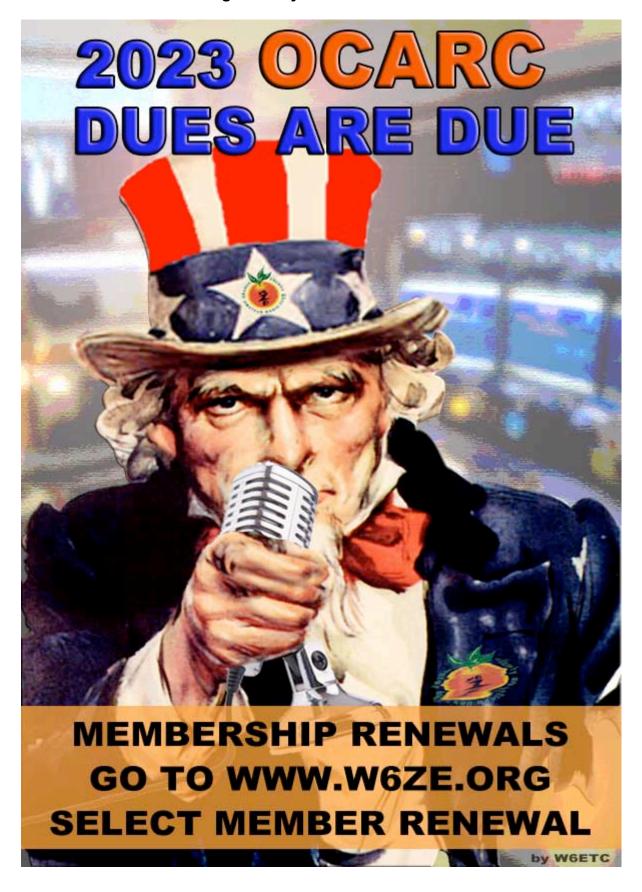
"Club Nets": The "Club Nets" webpage is the place to go to see what nets are sponsored or recommended by OCARC and when and on what frequencies they are active. Some net history is also on this page.

"Emergency Comm.": This webpage gets us to the first of many outdated webpages on W6ZE.ORG. This page has not been updated in many years and the contacts listed on the page are no longer in those roles. We have plans to completely overhaul the Emergency Communications page and looking for a volunteer. This volunteer only needs to write/update the text and we will handle the web side of the effort.

"ARRL Field Day" / "Winter Field Day": These two webpages are very important to the club. ARRL (summer) Field Day has been a serious effort for OCARC for many, many years. We put together 4 to 6 stations and usually are top 10 in the nation of hundreds of clubs. Winter Field Day was added a few years ago and has also become a serious club effort. We will put together 3 to 5 stations and have been #1 in the nation for 4 years and expecting our 5th in a row when the results come out from our recent January effort.

That covers the complete **Club Activities** section of the menu (see latest menu on the left side). As I said last month, we have a little web game (find and click). On one of the pages under the **Club Activities** section (near the top of the item's first page) you will find a ham sandwich picture. Click on it, add your name/call to the email created and send. All received by March 31 will get listed and into a drawing for free raffle tickets (see details in link when found).

Next issue I will pick another section or partial section to talk about in detail...KI6X



RadioActivity March 2023

Upcoming Activities:

MARCH

- Russian DX Contest: 1200 UTC Saturday March 18 through 1200 UTC Sunday March 19
- *CQ WW WPX / SSB: 0000 UTC Saturday March 25 through 2359 UTC Sunday March 26

APRIL

- JI CW Contest: 1700 UTC April 8 to 1300 UTC April 9
- Holyland DX Contest, SSB & CW: 2100 UTC April 14 to 2059 UTC April 15
- ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB: 1800 UTC to 2359 UTC April 16
- 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital: 0001 UTC April 29 to 2359 UTC April 30
- Asterisk (*) Indicates Club entries are accepted
- Note: When submitting logs for ARRL Contests indicate your club affiliation as "Orange County ARC"

State QSO Parties:

- Oklahoma QSO Party: 1500 UTC Saturday March 11 to 2100 UTC Sunday March 12
- Idaho QSO Party: 1900 UTC Saturday March 11 to 1900 UTC Sunday March 12
- Wisconsin QSO Party: 1800 UTC Sunday March 12 to 0100 UTC Monday March 13
- Virginia QSO Party: 1400 UTC Saturday March 18 to 0400 UTC Sunday March 19 and 1200 to 2400 Sunday March 19
- Louisiana QSO Party: 1400 UTC April 1 to 0200 UTC Sunday April 2
- Mississippi QSO Party: 1400 UTC April 1 to 0200 UTC Sunday April 2
- Nebraska QSO Party: 1300 UTC Saturday April 15 to 0100 UTC Sunday April 16 and 1300 to 2200 Sunday April 16
- New Mexico QSO Party: 1400 UTC April 8 to 0200 UTC Sunday April 9
- Georgia QSO Party: 1800 UTC April 8 to 0359 UTC April 9 and 1400 UTC to 2359 UTC Sunday April 9
- North Dakota QSO Party: 1800 UTC Saturday April 15 to 1800 UTC April 16

Repeating Activities:

- **Phone Fry:** Every Tuesday night at 0230Z to 0300Z
- **SKCC:** Weekend Sprintathon (Straight Key CW) on the first weekend of the month after the 6TH of the month. 1200 Sat. to 2359Z Sunday.
- **SKCC:** Sprint (Straight Key CW) 0000Z to 0200Z 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 to 0400 UTC
- K1USN Slow Speed Test: (CW, 20WPM Max.)
 Every Friday 2000 UTC to 2100 UTC

OCARC Club Nets:

- 10 Meter Net: Every Wednesday night at 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm Local Time. SSB 28.375 MHz
- 2 Meter Net: Every Wednesday night at 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm Local Time. FM Simplex 146.550 MHz

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

March Board Meeting

OCARC Board Meeting Minutes for: March 4, 2023

The OCARC Board meeting was held at The Streamliner Lounge, 186 N. Atchison St., Orange, and called to order by President Chip Margelli K7JA at 8:15 am. All 10 Board Members were in attendance. Tom W6ETC joined as well.

Treasurer report –presented a current Cash Flow with renewals slowly coming in.

Activities report – Some Board members are taking part in Baker 2 Vegas. The next Board Meeting is moved to April 8th to accommodate. AJ is working with Nicholas on a social gathering event.

Newsletter - March - Nicholas AF6CF, April - Bob AF6C. May - Tom - W6ETC

Entertainment - March – Wayne Yoshida, KH6WZ (Getting Ready for Maker Faire)
April - Endaf Buckley, N6UTC (Satellite Rover and WAS)
May – Dennis Kidder, W6DQ (Everyday Software for Propagation, DX, etc)

Summer Field Day Plans –Nicholas AF6CF and Tim N6TMT are the co-chairs for field day. Same point values as last year. Thinking of ways to attract more GOTA operators.

Future Zoom Meeting Plans – The Board has agreed that they will continue Zoom for the general meetings because there are members with health issues, transportation, etc... that limit their coming in person. We encourage all who can get out attending in person. AJ mentioned a camera called an OWL that he might be able to add to the mix of cameras used to film Zoom.

Other Business - Discussion of ideas for increasing traffic on the website. Bob mentioned Dan's idea on using a prize of raffle tickets for finding items that would be hidden in a various page on W6ZE.org. Next meeting for prizes will likely be – March, June, and September meetings.

New business - Propane Acquisition for next Field Day(s) – decided that the 30-gallon tanks are too large because of being so heavy. Nicholas will purchase a regular size tank at Costco.

A possible membership lunch event was discussed.

Considering club commemorative items for 90th anniversary – beer mugs, plastic mugs, license plate frame, Hats – caps with logo, shirts with logos.

Good of the Club

Ron – W6WG is looking into working with 2-meter satellites. Advised to get an FT-60 HT. APRS balloons – discussed best gases to send up, best means to shoot down.

Adjournment at 9:56 am.

Submitted by Tim Millard, N6TMT OCARC Secretary

February General Meeting

President Chip K7JA started the meeting on time and proceeded with introductions for those members and guests in attendance. Next up was a brief presentation by Chip covering our Winter Field Day operations (Chip was also able to utilize much of this presentation on the Ham Nation broadcast on March 1st, 2023).

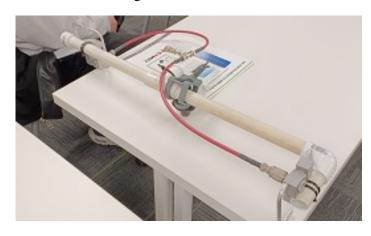
Janet KL7MF introduced this month's speaker - Mick Stwertnik of NCG Company. Mick's company imports Comet Antenna's and affiliated brands from Japan for resale in the US. Mick regaled us with stories about how they got their start in this business and told us about some of the great products they have available. It was a very enjoyable talk.

After a short break we had a business meeting. Most Board members were in attendance except for Ron W6WG and Ken W6HHC. Vice President Report from Janet KL7MF let us know about some of the upcoming speakers.

Treasurer Tim N6GP reports that he will have a formal report available by the end of the month. Activities Dir. Nicholas AF6CF stated that he is working on having an additional club event outside of the normal meetings and Field Day events. Perhaps a barbeque in the park.

Tech Dir. Bob AF6C says there is a plan to pick up some equipment being donated at a yet to be arranged time. Tony N2VAJ brought in an antenna for satellites that incorporates circular polarization into the design.





Nicholas AF6CF brought his latest version of a portable HF multi-band 80-2m antenna made from PVC pipe utilizing loading coil and 16 AWG speaker wire. It works great for portable operations.



Members had questions about Pactor mode.

Also, information regarding an interesting portable internet connection utilizing a StarLink RV dish system which comes in a case that when started will quickly orient itself to link up with passing satellites. The portable system does not need to be activated full time but can be activated in an emergency.

Member Doug K6PGH said his farewells as he is moving to Pennsylvania. He will be missed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM Tim N6TMT OCARC Secretary



OCARC Cash Flow - Year to Date 1/1/2023 through 3/1/2023

Category "1/1/2023-3/1/2023"

INFLOWS

Dues, Membership (PayPal) 2023	270.00
Dues, Membership 2023	255.00
Opportunity Drawing -Monthly	135.00

TOTAL INFLOWS 660.00

OUTFLOWS

Guest Speaker Meal - Exp	31.54
Opportunity Drwg - Monthly Exp	44.09
PayPal Fee	13.86
Secretary of State	5.00
Web Site Hosting	38.00
WFD – Propane	47.39
WFD Rental - Tent	150.00
ZOOM subscription	-44.97
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	284.91

OVERALL TOTAL 375.09

We are now seeing profound benefits from increased sunspot activity!

Twenty meters has been open worldwide almost every day, as have both 17 and 15 meters. Twelve and ten meters are producing impressive DX over the North Pole in the early evening into Mongolia Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and just about Every-stan! If you have a beam, watch Long Path right after sunset, because the Short Path may not be the best path!

Six meters has been open to South America and New Zealand almost every day in late February and early March The FT8 "watering hole at 50.313 MHz is howling with DX signals for many hours every day. And skew paths are very common on six meters these days. Japanese stations are sometimes best worked by beaming straight south, not to the Northwest. A three-element Yagi and 100 Watts will garner many contacts.

The fun has started—get on, and have a blast! 73 DE CHIP K7JA

Editor's Note:

Some content has been formatted and/or edited to fit the available space

