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## ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

VOL. XXVII No. 7

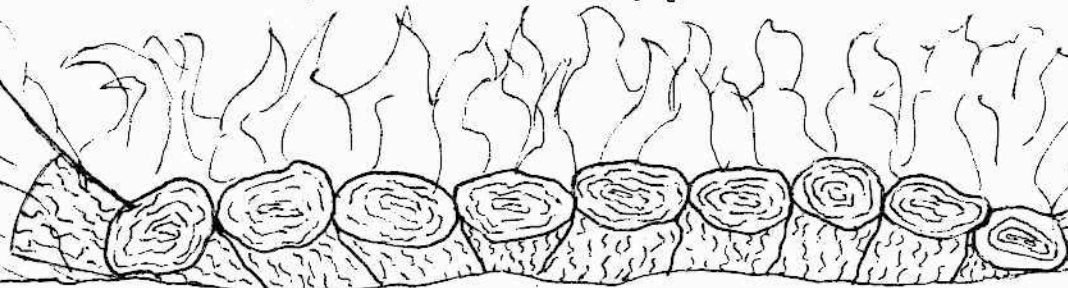
P. O. Box 3454, TUSTIN, CA 92681

August 1986



W 6 Z E  
P O T L U C K

XYLs! Eat out! Bring the family to the first W6ZE potluck at Mercury Savings & Loan at 6:30 pm. on Fri., Aug. 15. The potluck will replace the regular Aug. meeting. A thru I, bring a salad dish; K thru S, bring desserts, and T thru Z, bring a meat dish. The Club will provide coffee and punch. Come and enjoy!!



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**1986 CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS**

|  |                          |                |                      |
|--|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| President                              | Frank Smith              | WA6VKZ         | 492-7215             |
| Vice President                         | Jim Talcott              | N6JSV          | 838-5395             |
| Secretary                              | Ken Konechy              | W6HHC          | 541-6249             |
| Treasurer                              | Jeanie Talcott           | KB6EZX         | 838-5395             |
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| Membership Chairman                    | Jim Townsend             | NS6W           | 551-5339             |
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| Member At Large                        | Joe Partlow              | KB6FZV         | 542-3122             |
| Member At Large                        | Bob Eckweiler            | AF6C           | 639-5074             |

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**CLUB APPOINTMENTS**

|                     |               |        |          |
|---------------------|---------------|--------|----------|
| Club Historian      | Bob Evans     | WB6IXN | 543-9111 |
| W6ZE Trustee        | Bob Eckweiler | AF6C   | 639-5074 |
| R.F. Editor         | Bob Evans     | WB6IXN | 543-9111 |
| Teen Representative | <open>        |        |          |

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**CLUB FUNCTIONS**

MONTHLY MEETING: 3rd Friday of each month, 7:30PM at:  
MERCURY SAVINGS & LOAN  
Aug 15th 1095 Irvine Blvd. (4th St becomes Irvine)  
Tustin, Ca. Talk-in on 146.55 MHz  
Sep 19th  
Oct 17th (Take the 4th St. exit to the 55 FREEWAY  
and head east. Continue about two blocks  
past Newport Blvd. on the left.)

CLUB BREAKFAST: 1st Saturday of each month, 8:00AM at:  
MIMI's CAFE  
Sep 6th 17231 17th Street  
Tustin, Ca. (714) 544-5522  
Oct 4th  
(55 FREEWAY at 17th Street east.)

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**CLUB NETS**

| BAND      | MODE | DAY OF WEEK | LOCAL TIME | FREQ MHz |
|-----------|------|-------------|------------|----------|
| 2 Meters  | FM   | Wednesday   | 2100 hrs.  | 146.550  |
| 15 Meters | SSB  | Wednesday   | 2000 hrs.  | 21.375   |
| 15 Meters | CW   | Sunday      | 2000 hrs.  | 21.175   |

(Listen for W6ZE, net control)

\*\*\* AT LAST MEETING \*\*\*

The July informal meeting was held at HHC's in the form of a 'wine & cheeze' tasting party! Swimming and ragchewing were the main events of the evening. Our gracious hosts, Ken and Dianne, catered to our every need! In attendance were AF6C, EZS, JSV, IBR & IBP & 2 harmonics, NGO, VKZ, & IXN.

IXN brought along the Club history, and Jeanie, Kei, Al, Jim, and Bob E. 'eyeballed' and reminisced over the History and may other subjects, while Ken, Bob Eck., Jeanie (later), and Frank and 2 harmonics enjoyed the pool and goodies! The swimmers joined us now and then for a crucial comment or two!

During our discussion of the two recent earthquakes on the Banning fault & off the coast of San Diego, an OP (who?) executed a perfect 'belly-smacker' off the diving board! The resulting tidal wave missed the back of unsuspecting JSV by inches! And don't forget to have AF6C tell you that joke abt 'camels in Iran'!

During 'ragchew', 'Ken & Bob's' article on Field Day sites (last 'RF') were reviewed. Some OPs cudn't agree on the 1968 thru 1970 FD sites. So here goes! Make the following changes and additions on page 6b of July 'RF':

1980 MCAS (H), Tustin

The Field Days of 1973 thru & including 1980, were all located at MCAS (H), Santa Ana/  
Tustin.

1970 Pacific View Memorial Park, Corona Del Mar (Lemon Heights NO!)

1968 Mountain View High School property, Raitt & Saegerstrom Sts., Santa Ana

1967 " " " " " " " " " " " "

1966 1000 ft. peak east of El Modena (site of restaurant) dubbed 'Generator Hill'.  
1965 " " " " " " " " " " " "

1964

1963 Come on, OPs! Where were we for F.D.?!?

1962

1961 A Hilltop near Lemon Heights

We also learned that Leroy Sparks, nephew of Shelley Trotter, W6BAM, is still working for Hewlett-Packard (17 yrs. now), and still living at the same address. Shelley is living in Firebaugh, CA, near Fresno, in his own house near his sister (husband's name Eugene Cohea). Both Shelley & sister live on the same street. And if you have any old German World War II radio equipment in the junk box, Leroy wud like to hear from you! Call him at 540-8123. Even wid a waxing gibbous moon, we were able to locate Venus, Saturn and Mars among the evening stars over the QTH of HHC!!

\*\*\* ON THE NETS \*\*\*

The 7/2 phone net recorded AF6C, VKZ, NGO, XO, NG7D (John), & IXN on 21.375. John must have been at a high elevation for FD as he worked San Diego County simplex on his handi-talkie. July 4th found John playing the ponies at Hollywood Park...XO & AF6C commented on 'Apple' dropping its prices on disc drives, & XO wondered if VKZ will be involved wid the 15 link of freeway between freeways 60 & 91...We missed XO at FD; he was wid his horses in Norco. Besides his nes 'filly', XO now owns a video camera! (FD '87 XO!) All had praise for the Club generator, and tnx to 'Doc' Kei, its flawless operation on FD. Ofcourse, VKZ did use thermonuclear power, using inverse square law attenuation over the 93 million mile distance!...If XO wud drag a little wheel-driven generator behind his pony cart, he wud literally be using 'horsepower' on his 'mobile' rig!!

7/6...IXN & IEH, Karl, hold down the CW net. Karl forgot about FD! Oh well, there's always next year! Besides Karl is getting ready to go to the Orange County Fair next week...7/9 phone net - AF6C misplaces FD message, 12 m Log, and FD scores for past years. All day symposiums will do that to you, Bob! I can hardly read my notes, but I believe NGO & HHC were in there, too! N6HJP, Jim Buskirk, reports in. Jim is a former aircraft man who worked for Hughes, Douglas, now TRW. Needless to say, Jim and Bob knew each other and hashed over past experiences...

7/13 CW net...IXN & IBR discuss earthquake of July 8 and IBR's 'blinking' rig!

7/16 phone net...AF6C opened the net for check-ins AND WHAT AN AVALANCHE!!...

W6LAB, John;WB6TBU, Frank; LJA, Ted (wid WB6GDZ, Wil, on the side); COJ, Dave; RE, Alex; NGO, Kei; ULU, Lloyd; and IXN - 10 OPs including net control! Read on to see what you missed!... John, LAB, was licensed in LA County, but quickly moved south. He was a member of the "NARS" Men for years. Gud to hear TBU, Frank O'Leary on the net once agn. Although Frank has emphysema & can't be wid us regulary at meetings, we will never forget his many contributions to the Club & the help rendered to many OPs over the years! TBU asked abt Roy Maxson, W6DEY. AF6C says that DEY's last QTH was Vista, CA., and after XYL PJU's death, Roy married another, and she, too, died wid cancer, and that DEY is now a bachelor...Throughout net activity, RE gave us antenna reports (beams vs. verticals) ...and FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, don't use any of the 18 meg. bands mentioned in July 'RF'! These freqs. are listed in a petition to FCC to open these bands for amateur use. They have been WARC approved but NOT FCC approved. Listen to WIAW for future news. Also, RE will keep us informed. RE also went to the Orange County Fair to help out in the Amateur Radio booth. IXN asked abt Orange County Astronomers' booth. ULU said that the OCA didn't have a booth because members had to carry telescopes & equipment too far to their proposed site...Coincidence! IXN eyeballs wid LJA at "Four Seasons" Cafeteria in Anaheim last Sun., and behold, Ted, wid GDZ on the siede, reports in! LJA assured us that he wud not be 'skinny dipping' at HHC's come Fri. night! Ted & Wil were busy making patch cords for LJA's organ... AF6C wants NGO or IXN to give him copy of QST wid Field Day rules, and NGO was out fishing today, but alas! No luck!...IBR, net control for 2m 7/16 net, had a nice go-around wid IBR checking in ULU, AF6C, HHC, RE, MIL, & NG7D. 7/20 CW net included IXN and IBR discussing the two earthquakes on or near the White Mt. Fault near Bishop, CA. IBR mentioned that a couple of mobile homes moved from their foundations... PS: Another rpt. from IBR shows BPX, BUZ, & FOW on the 7/16 2m net!... The 7/23 phone net featured lightning, earthquakes and installing garbage disposals. AF6C checked in VKZ, RE, NG7D, and IXN. John wanted fast-scan TV ham references, LJA going in hospital for further exploratory tests, 216 CW contacts & 736 phone contacts for FD, and fast scan ref: Tom O'Hara, W6ORG, and Hugh Davis given to NG7D... 7/23 2 m net - IBR checks in AF6C, WA6FOW, RE, NG7D, & BPX for general ragchew. RE ran the Westlink tape...7/27 CW net - No new prospects for Al & Dotty's QTH as yet. Not much else was discussed by IXN & IBR...IXN was busy wid 'RF' and forgot to check in on the phone net on 7/30. However, AF6C checked in NGO, and we discovered that HHC has checked the tubes in the 15 m. rig!...The 2m net on 7/30 found IBR net control wid check-ins: AF6C, RE, BPX, MIL, NG7D, and newcomer, Dick, W7TID. Dick has much ham gear, is interested in Club meetings, and may be at the Sat. Aug. 2 breakfast!

\*\*\* QUICKIES \*\*\*

Tnx to Don, One Old Ham, for the 1974 FD pix showing OOH, Don; PEW, Oswald Colonna; and GXV, Ernie Fuerte. We will include it in the Club history.

\*\*\* MORSE UNIVERSITY \*\*\*  
Morse Code Educational Software  
for the Commodore 64 Computer

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By Jim Talcott, N6JSV

If you had a great idea for a new auto accessory and wanted to sell a bundle of them, you would probably design it for Fords and Chevys, rather than Rolls Royces. You would shoot for the masses.

That's been the story of programmers coming up with new software; many of them love the idea of more than 2 million Commodore 64 owners being out there, eager to see and possibly buy the latest items for their beloved 64s. AEA, Inc., followed this pattern and came up with Morse University, a cartridge for the 64 that not only teaches Morse from scratch but also helps with upgrading. There are five routines in the program, each called up at the touch of a key. Here they are:

**LEARNING:** This one displays the alphabet, numbers and abbreviations, which can be played singly or in groups at 20 WPM, with a 3-second or less delay between characters. At the beginning, each character is taught separately by repetition. The student progresses only after he is confident he knows the letters being presented.

**PROFICIENCY:** After mastering LEARNING, the student takes this next step which transmits pseudo-random code at a slower beginning speed, then increases to 20 WPM over a period of time. The start speed and time duration are set by a few key strokes. An example would be to start at 10 WPM and increase to 20 WPM over a period of 20 minutes. The speeds and minutes can be varied to suit the student.

**SENDING ANALYSIS:** Here a key is connected to the computer (straight key, semi-automatic or electronic keyer), or the computer's F7 key can be used. This routine takes a look at your sending style and compares it to machine-sent code. For example, the screen says "SEND J" and you tap out "J." Your dit and three dahs are illustrated on the monitor and then immediately a machine-sent "J" appears directly under yours for comparison, along with your speed. You can also send a sentence of up to 45 characters and the program will print out an analysis of your fist, with average speed, and character and word spacing, showing what you sent and the way it should have been.

**RECEIVING GAME:** This is a modest video game that not only increases your receiving ability but also challenges your typing. 19 little houses are lined up along the bottom of the screen, each with a 3-element beam on its roof. A series of thunderclouds passes over the houses, each dropping a lightning bolt as it transmits a Morse character. If you are quick enough and hit the correct key, the lightning bolt blows up in mid-air. Too slow, and the beam is knocked off one of the roofs. Things speed up as the game progresses. The game is over when the 19 antennas are gone.

**MORSE KEYBOARD:** This final routine offers a means of composing practice sessions for groups of students, using any text you choose. The text is typed out while "HOLD" is displayed, with up to 10,240 bytes available. Pressing a key switches to transmit and the text crosses the screen from right to left, like a "Times Square" display, as Morse plays from the speaker.

SUMMARY: Morse University is a clever, well designed program. The 30-page manual is clearly written and totally "user-friendly." An early "bug," key-bounce in one of the routines, was corrected, with AEA voluntarily mailing out replacement chips, a most unusual and welcome gesture in the "you gets what you pays for" computer world. A Positive Thinking statement appears early in the manual: "By establishing two 20 to 30 minute study periods each day, it is possible for the average student to develop an ability to copy Morse code at approximately 20 WPM after four weeks of study." With this kind of self-confidence, perhaps Morse University will help to reverse the Amateur Radio growth trend. (Under \$40 at the Candy Store. New Commodore 64s are widely available at about \$139, or less.)

\*\*\* QUICKIES \*\*\*

Little Johnny Appleseed, Ted, has had additional testing in the hospital for cancer.

See p. 13, Aug. QST, for a pix of SW. Div. Director Fried, WZO, and XYL, Sandi, WZN, displaying their "ARRL" license plate!

Where do you live, Herb Rosenberg, KG6OK?! Your 'RFs' are being returned to us! Contact Jeanie Talcott wid address change for Herb...anyone!!



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P. O. BOX 3454

TUSTIN, CA. 92681

FIRST CLASS!