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ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

VOL. XXXI NO. 12

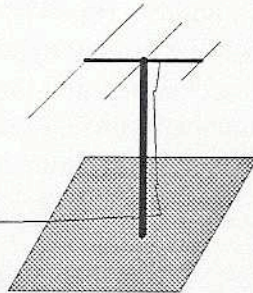
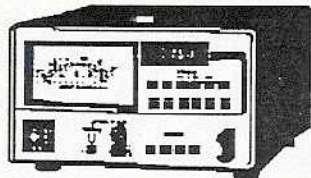
P.O. BOX 3454, TUSTIN, CA 92681

DECEMBER, 1990

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Next Meeting: Jan. 18th, 1991

**KC6GSD will be
Rose Parade
Mobile!**



This year Bill Fedde KC6GSD will be working Rose Parade Mobile again. But this time from a parade float. Bill has arranged to hitch a ride on the Rand McNally float and will be able to make contact throughout the journey down the Rose Parade route. Alinco Corp has donated a DR590T Dual Band mobile Transceiver with remote tuning head for this special station. This type of radio was needed because of the limited mounting facilities on board the float.

Alinco has just moved into their new expanded U.S. headquarters in Torrance, California. Masuo "Mark" Morisato, executive vice president of Alinco, said he wanted Bill Fedde to be using the most value packed transceiver on the market today.

Bill wants to have complete access to the tuning controls of the radio so he can switch from 2 meters simplex (144.330) for working local spectators with their hand held radios or to 440 Mhz to access a K6QE systems remote station to come out on 28.333 Mhz.

Gordon West WB6NOA is helping Bill with a special headset for the parade. A dual band antenna will be camouflaged in the flowers of the float.

A commemorative QSL will be available to anyone who hears or works Bill. For your QSL send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: 102 Tournament of Roses (KC6GSD) 391 South Orange Grove Blvd. Pasadena, CA. 91184. So on January 1, 1991, New Year's morning, turn your radio to 28.333 and give KC6GSD a call. Bill will be detailing his progress down Colorado Blvd. Turn on your TV also, because he will point out when he is in front of the TV Cameras. (See page 5 for more.)

**The Prez Sez....
by Chris Breller, KJ6ZH**

December is here and with it comes the close of another year. And what a year it has been! We have seen our club double in size; field day was a super affair; we have had some excellent guest speakers at our meetings and the "R F" has gotten a nice face lift. My thanks to the outgoing board members who have done an outstanding job this past year. At the Christmas Banquet, a good time was had by all. My thanks to Jane for putting it together this year. The annual Good of the Club Award was awarded to Phil Anderson KK6QE for his many contributions to the club this year, most notably, the proclamation of Amateur Radio Week by the city of Tustin.

With that, I hope you all get what you want for Xmas and I'll see you next year!

73 de Chris - KJ6ZH

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**JANUARY MEETING: GUS BOGHARD, WM6J, ARRL OFFICIAL OBSERVER
WILL TALK ABOUT HOW TO DEAL WITH....
"MALICIOUS INTERFERENCE ON HAM BANDS"**

KI6UL Bob Dahlin Becomes Silent Key

by Nancy Bucher, N6XQR

Bob Dahlin, KI6UL, became a Silent Key on November 20th of this year. He was the speaker at the July meeting, the first meeting of the OCARC that I attended with Bill, N6VMS. We were very impressed with his talk on Radar. His talk and the friendly reception we received convinced us to join the Club and invite many of our friends to do so also. I got to know Bob a little better after that because he generously printed each month's copies of the *RF* at no cost to the Club. I'm very sad that I only got to know him a little, but grateful that I got to know him at all. He was a warm person and a real gentleman.

His wife, Ruth, is a very special lady. She has very generously offered the use of the Xerox copier for continued printing of the *RF*. Bob's son, Jerry holds an Extra class license, AA6BU, and created the antenna for me that appears on page 1 of each issue. He will be attending future meetings of OCARC, and I know we will all welcome him.

Please remember Bob in your thoughts. He was very special and will be missed by his wife, his son, his daughter and those of us that he touched with his presence. Do something nice for someone, and think of Bob when you do it.

1990 CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS

President	Chris Breller	KJ6ZH ..	(213) 866-2077
Vice President	Ken Konechy	W6HHC	541-6249
Secretary	Bob Tegel	KD6XO	531-0926
Treasurer	Bob Eckweiler	AF6C	639-5074
Activities	John Meacham	KJ6TK	842-4702
Membership	Tom Thomas	WA6PFA	771-2917
Public Relations	Mark Stanford	KJ6JC	991-7398
T.V.I. Chairman	Bud Barkhurst	WA6VPP	774-6361
Member at Large	Frank Smith	WA6VKZ	
Member at Large	John Roberts	WA6LAB	540-7368

CLUB APPOINTMENTS

Club Historian	Bob Evans	WB6IXN	543-9111
W6ZE Trustee	Bob Eckweiler	AF6C	639-5074
<i>RF</i> Editor	Nancy Bucher	N6XQR	537-8728
Refreshments	Jane Breller	n0ne	(213) 866-2077

DUES

Regular Member	\$12.00	Additional Family Members	6.00 each
Teenage Members (under 20) ..	6.00	Optional Club Badge	5.00

Dues for new members are prorated quarterly from January of each year. Family members must reside at the address of a Regular Member. One *RF* is sent per household.

November Club Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm by President Chris, KJ6ZH. KJ6JC and WA6VPP were absent; 50 members and guests were present. Ken introduced the speaker, Gene Davies, AA6NP, Regional Coordinator for AMSAT. Minutes were accepted.

TREASURERS REPORT - \$1085.27 in savings, \$777.47 in checking.

TVI - none.

MEMBERSHIP - ten new members.

PR - none.

GOOD OF THE CLUB - Bob Dahlin had a bad heart attack and was in the hospital. Is now at home and flowers have been sent.

ELECTIONS - President - Ken, W6HHC; Vice President - Mike, K6KAA; Treasurer - Bill, N6VMS; Secretary - Bruce, KC6DLA; Activities - Tom, WA6PFA; Membership - Bob, AF6C; Public Relations - John, KJ6TK; TVI - Larry, K6VDPP; Member-at-Large - Frank, WA6VKZ; Member-at-Large - Chris, KJ7ZH. All were elected by acclamation. Motion was made to appoint audit committee. Jane, n0ne; Richard, WD6X; Bob, AF6C; Bill, N6VMS and Diana, N6YDQ volunteered for the committee.

Guests were: KC6ONZ Don, KC6OPI Cindy, KB6OIT Mel, N6VFP Alan, KC6ONK Roy, WA3JPG Clark, KC6OCB John III, N6ZAV Marty, and George Michalski - Ham in Waiting. Adjourned 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob, KD6XO, Secretary

Xtra Quiet Radio

by Nancy Bucher, N6XQR

I would like to thank all those contributors to the *RF* this month, and also those who submitted articles for future months. When you tell people where our meeting place is, be aware that the name was changed on Dec. 7th from Mercury Savings & Loan to Security Bank. Hope you all have a safe holiday season and I look forward to seeing you all next year. Don't forget to tune in on the Rose Parade mobile, and encourage your "Would be a Ham except for the code" friends to sign up for Gordon's No-Code Class in February (pre-study necessary).

On the Nets - November, 1990

by Bob Evans, WB6IXN

11/1 15m CW net - W6ZE/IXN checks in RND, VMS & ESD. RND experiments wid RTTY & AMTOR, & will get a flu shot tomorrow (gud luck, John!) VMS chases a DX call:C9QL, but misses it! VMS rousts ESD frm the packet cluster & Bob appears on freq. Bob has been working phone mostly as he garners TYIDX (leaving VMS drooling!) We need a 15m CW net control!..Any takers?!! IXN is only acting net control!

11/7 15m phone net - IXN gets a landline frm AF6C's QTH. Ken & Bob are working on 'RF'! W6ZE/IXN checks in ESD & N6FC, Len, in SA. ESD 'breezes' thru the ballot on Election day & works T33T on 10m CW, & T33R on 10m phone. Bob & Len discuss the Kiribati & Banaba Is. contacts as IXN listens on the side.

11/7 2m phone net - W6ZE/IXN checks in BPX, KAA, VDP, RE, NG7D, XQR, PFA, ESD, VMS, AF6C, HHC, & ZH. BPX solders wires to the Butternut ant, but quits when the aching leg requires some rubbing alcohol! KAA/M, stopped at a red-lite, talks abt the new j-pole ant, & the velocity factor of his coax. VDP works no DX this week, but has a QSL card fer ESD! RE covers GDR/FRG transitions fer DX countries after German reunification, frm ARRL bull. #44; AM rulings off FCC frm bull. #42; renewed operation of OSCAR 10; Alex works Farmers' Ins. blood donor program; & announces 'Scouting fer Food' drive Nov. 17, & airs Newline! NG7D announces Ivan Browning earthquake prediction fer New Madrid fault on Dec. 3, & gets OH2BN QSL route frm VMS, fer AH3C/KH5J (Jarvis Is.) XQR downloads 'Net News' frm AF6C/HHC, & wishes to get materials fer 'RF' earlier! PFA's tree becomes 2 limbs lighter in the howling SA winds! Tom & XYL visit Tom's sister in beautiful Cook, WA., & now appreciate the price of gasoline in CA! The SA winds huffed & they puffed, but they didn't blow ESD's 'low profile' ant. down! & Bob tnx VMS fer DX info. HHC heads fer the home QTH as AF6C tells OPs abt drinking beer & eating seafood during a week & a 1/2 trip to Plempton, Mass., near Boston..interesting AF6C comment, "During elections in Mass., they question..In CA., we proposition"!! VMS' ants. ride out the SA winds as Bill votes absentee ballot, gets Marpelo Is., 15m SSB, & Banaba Is., too. Bill tells OPs the bands are open worldwide on 15,20 & 40m. ZH & nOne report vy calm SA winds in Bellflower, as Chris informs OPs that he, HHC, & VKZ put together a fine slate of candidates fer Club offices next year! Congrats to all candidates!

11/8 15m CW net - W6ZE/IXN checks in VMS & WS. WS checks in, QRUs, no traffic, pulls the switch. VMS tells IXN abt pistol shooting (one hand)! Ever tried that, XQR?! Bill as been shooting fer 23 yrs, inc. NRA matches. IXN follows VMS dwn to 21.007, where Bill works FR5DD, Jean, Reunion Is. IXN barely hears FR5DD in the QRN on the inverted V!

11/14 15m phone net - W6ZE/HHC checks in IXN & WZO. IXN gets home frm Hosp. 1/2 hr. before net..diverticulitis! UL had a heart attack after Club auction. HHC asks IXN to provide a list of past Club pres. fer XQR. WZO tells OPs that, yrs ago, this net provided the impetus fer Fried to upgrade!

11/14 2m phone net - W6ZE/IXN checks in BPX, QE, VFC, ZFY, UL, HHC, XQR, VDP, RE, WZO, VCW, QW, ZH, NG7D, VMS, PFA. Wid the blood pressure & cholesterol FB, & the garlic coming up, Wyatt focuses on giving away the falling avocados! QE finds a hotspot in Mervins' & booms in at IXNs QTH. ZFY is baby sitting, & UL tnx the Big Doctor fer his recovery frm a massive heart attack on Oct. 25! HHC reminds all abt gud program & elections at Club meeting Fri. eve.. XQR welcomes IXN & UL back to the net after hosp. experiences, & VDP works FR5DX, Reunion Is., & a T33R in Banaba. Larry also works his last state, Mont., 15m CW for the WAS. RE airs Newline, reviews solar activity, reads ARRL bull. #45 on FCC rule making, helps RVS, & reminds OPs of need fer volunteers fer the BSA Food Drive. WZO visits the 'CQ' Restaurant in Harbortown, Is. of Hilton Head, SC.! Fried also mentions COMDEX expo. fer computer mfgs, in Las Vegas. QW works Lithuania, Ire., Mongolia, Denmark, Switzerland, etc., & quips to IXN, "I like nurses, too!" ZH looks forward to AMSAT presentation, while nOne prepares goodies fer Club meeting, & works a T3 on Kiribati Is. NG7D visits Rick Pfosts' QTH & programs memories in Rick's 440. VMS gets home frm a dinner meeting & checks in. Bill tells OPs that Kiribati Is. is separate of Banaba Is. fer DX purposes. Bill works HK0TU, Marpelo Is., & tells OPs to work the Juan Fernandez Is. Exped., CE,0'ZZZ, & V850M, an American in Brunei. PFA attempts to install a modem in the PC fer use wid his non-amateur friends.

11/15 15m CW net - W6ZE/IXN checks in NG7D. John's Butternut vert. continues to give gud service fer DX, & NG7D & IXN talk abt UNIDEN takeover of REGENCY.

11/21 15m phone net - Net informal. VMS, ESD, & RND discuss packet, DX, & turkey. VMS works a ZS9A, & EZS gets Camaroon.

11/21 2m phone net - IXN announces Bob Dahlin's funeral arrangements as given by XQR & HHC. BPX & Blanche will Thanksgiving wid the daughter in Anaheim. XQR 'thaws the bird', announces Club breakfast fer Dec. 1. NG7D catches up on reading, plans QRF operation, & wishes all happy holidays. RE will watch the ball games as he & XYL plan a home dinner; Alex works 'Scouting for Food' drive, & tells OPs of the CW/RTTY ARRL test on 30m 11/26 - 12/2. See p. 14, Nov. QST. ARRL bull. #47 covers '220 MHz flap' presently in court..Outcome expected in a few weeks! The RNDs will go to the daughter-in-laws fer TG, & enjoy the ball games, too. VDP will carve the turkey at a family get-together. Larry works San Marino, a T77V wid a 10-10#! . .two fer the price of one! KAA has already tested the pies, wid & widout whip cream, as Mike tells OPs that a loose mike plug, or broken mike cord connection, will 're-program' your Kenwood! VMS will visit in-law fer TG, & Bill gets X7DFA, the Vatican (HV3SJ), & Pakistan AP2ZR, on 20m SSE3, & VMS reminds all of the WWDX contest this weekend wid CW. Contest exchange # is 59903! The ESDs will host the family at the QTH fer TG. Bob works W6KG/ZS9 (S. Afr.) ,TJIBJ (Camaroons), a TA3KA in Turkey, & C53GH in Gmbia. VPP gets back frm a 5-week visit up north. Thwarted at salmon fishing, Bud brings home a new 386 computer, & thinks abt

Continued on Page 4

On the Nets - November, 1990 (Continued)

connecting the TNC to it. VPP will TG wid his son & family. ZH & nOne plan to host IBR & IBP fer TG. Chris still likes the Commodore better fer games than the IBM!

11/28 15m phone net - W6ZE/HHC checks in IXN wid AF6C on the computer. HHC chats wid IXN as AF6C downloads info fer Ken's daughter's scholarship applications, while Ken landlines to AF6C amidst packet problems, answers IXN on the mike, & eyes the computer screen fer results. Ken's Xmas wish: 2 more arms, another set of eyes, & dual voice capabilities!

11/28 2m phone net - W6ZE/IXN checks in ZH, VPP, VMS, QE, XQR, RE, QW, RND, VDP, FK, ESD, ZFY, LAB, HHC, KAA, & NG7D. ZH reports OPs view UL at the funeral home & attend the funeral. VPP is enjoying the new 386 computer. XQR reminds all abt the Club breakfast, gifts fer the Christmas Party, articles fer 'RF', and, Nancy liberates her kitten frm the locked closet! VMS builds VDP's ant. mentioned in 'RF', puts it on 40m in the WWCW contest, works 50 countries & 25 zones, & dazzles OPs wid such calls as: V51Z, D44BC, ZDALII, BYIPK, TFIMM, JE7DFA, 4K20IL (Franz Joseph Land) . . . CW still has its advantages!! QW & VMS discuss DX. Rolf nods approvingly as XQR explains the packet word KISS! And Rolf waters all the racoons in Big Bear when he waters the lawn at the mountain QTH! QE does some house remodeling, reminding IXN of delinquent tasks at his QTH! RE & XYL have a quiet TG & watch the ball games, announces AMSAT VL, A0-21 launch fer 11/29, wid net info. on 14.280 MHz. RND asks RE abt his source fer ARRL bulletins. John is having some trouble wid AMTOR. FK upgrades to a new computer & TNC. ESD's weekend begins on Mon. & ends on Mon.! The ESDs host the kids & grandkids fer TG. After giving turkey to the daughter, turkey sandwiches, T-pot pie, T-soup, & 21bs of T. in the freezer, it'll be ham fer the ESDs this Christmas! ZFY & LAB 'fly in & fly out'. HHC landlines Denny's Rest. to check on remodeling..success! ..Dennys is open agn..Sat. breakfast as usual! Ken also mentions interesting Jan. Club program on malicious interference! KAA will check wid HHC on Club prams. Like ESD, Mike's cats enjoy turkey remnants, as KAA & IXN develop a fine crop of weeds. NG7D Christmas shops, reads, writes letters to a new OP friend in B.C., & gets Spain & France confirmed, bringing total to 85 countries! VDP joins us after a QSO wid his friend aboard a tanker in the Gulf of Mexico, 40m CW. Larry makes a gud buy on some RG 214! Larry also mentions N6ARE, in Hollywood, fer a gud Club program in the future.

**January is the month for your
annual membership renewal.
Please pay your dues promptly
and get our new Treasurer, Bill, N6VMS
off to a good start.
STILL ONLY \$12
FOR A WHOLE YEAR!**

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor of RF: You may think I'm crazy, but I swear the following story is true. I just have to get it off my chest before I go nuts!!

It was the night before Christmas and I had just gotten the tree decorated. The wife and kids were sleeping soundly. As I finished wiring the Heathkit SWR Bridge the wife was going to give me, I decided to take one last look across the band. The wind was blowing hard outside, but when I looked out the window I could see that my dipole was still up. A fast scan of the band revealed no signals. But I figured, "what harm could a CQ do? Who knows, I might even get a call from Utah to complete my WAS. Next, I'd start on my WAC. I already did work four countries. Hmmm....four countries in ten years... no, not really too good!!"

So I tuned up my 50 watts and put out the CQ. "Well, I'll be... there is someone awake tonight. Must be a new local calling me. He's really pushing the S-meter. But I wonder why he's signing as JT1XYZ... the phoney!" I told him what I thought of him, but he claimed he wasn't a phoney and just wanted to say that there was an aeronautical mobile down 10KHz looking stateside with phonepatch traffic. Well, I told the guy I still thought he was a local, but I'd look down 10 KHz anyway.

I dropped down the band and put out a QRZ. Another phoney called me, only this time he signed 9K2ABC. He said that the "/am" station had moved down another 50 KHz. "Oh well, what can I lose," I thought. Just then an HK0 broke in to say that my signals were S9 + 60db somewhere. Yeah, he's probably on the other side of town. Sure are a bunch of nuts on late at night.

So I moved frequency once again and called QRZ. This time, some guy signing as a TR8 called me to say that he was in QSO with VE8SC/am and to stand by one minute. I acknowledged him with a chuckle. Sure enough, the VE8 station called me. I went back to him and asked him if I could help. He said he needed a phone patch to his base at the North Pole. I used the phone number he gave me and tried to talk to the telephone operator without laughing too hard as I asked for the North Pole. She just giggled and soon I could hear a telephone ringing. When a lady answered I patched in the VE; the story I heard was fantastic! I heard him say that while on his urgent low level flight through Alaska he had flown into a huge antenna structure. It was a 30 element quad on a 200 foot tower owned by some poor CB'er. His craft was hopelessly tangled in it and he needed the assistance of an auxiliary team. The lady at the North Pole acknowledged and said help was on its way.

I completed the patch and chatted with the VE8 while he was waiting for the help. A whole bunch of phonies broke in on us while we chatted. There were VU5's, XW8's, VK9's, 4X4's... you name it. I tell you, I never heard so many phoney stations in one night. Well, the help finally arrived and the VE8 thanked me for all my help and said he was on his way. I signed with the phonies and finally shut the rig down. I thought to myself, "What a night... I must have worked a hundred of those guys. Maybe it was all my imagination. I did have quite a few beers while wiring up that kit. I better lay off that stuff for a while."

Please see Letter, Page 7

1990 Rose Parade Mobile Utilizes High-Tech HF Remote Station

by David Corsiglia, WA6TWF

The 101st Tournament of Roses Parade provided an unique opportunity for amateur radio to contribute to the 1989-1990 parade theme "A World of Harmony."

The hundreds of hams who provide communications support to the parade each year were joined this time by Bill Fedde, KC6GSD, who contacted hundreds of hams by operating a mobile station while riding in a vintage car in the parade. (KC6GSD will again operate Rose Parade Mobile. See accompanying article page 1.) Bill, son of Don Fedde, the 1989-1990 Tournament of Roses president, was seen by the four million television viewers and one million spectators who lined Colorado Blvd. in Pasadena, California on New Year's Day.

Bill operated using a concealed handheld radio broadcasting to an ultra sophisticated remotely controlled transceiver coming out on 28.333 USB 10 meter frequency. These remotely controlled transceivers are connected to a repeater through a computer device known as a low band interface controller. Most stations contacted said that Bill's signal was S9+ through the remote station. Many stations were contacted in Europe which had excellent signals.

The plan originated when Bill, a recent graduate of Gordon West's Radio School, mentioned to Gordon, WB6NOA, that he would be participating in the Rose Parade with his father. Gordon had recently joined the TWF Super System, a remote base system which has the capability of going in on 440 Mhz and coming out on any band from 80 meters to 440 mhz on side band or FM. The use of this technology and equipment was made available to Bill and the serious planning started.

The TWF system has three of these remote systems in operation in the Los Angeles Basin. Each station operates with the most up-to-date equipment, giant antenna systems, and kilowatt amplifiers. The station that Bill used for the parade is on a one thousand foot hill overlooking the parade route and uses Kenwood TS 940, 711, 811, and a four element KLM tribander on 10, 15, and 20.

A new ham, Bill had never participated in

operating a DX or special event station before. Gordon tutored Bill and conducted mock contesting drills. Even though hundreds of stations called Bill, everyone was courteous and the check-ins went in a well organized manner. Three net control stations helped hold the frequency before the event started and kept a log of all stations heard. Reel to reel tape recorders were used to log the whole event so no one was left out.

Bill and Gordon sent press releases to more than 40 news gathering organizations. The ninety television cameras along the parade route offered on the air close up pictures of the President's car. Bill could be seen next to the driver with his headset on contacting hams throughout the world.

To counteract the problem of running out of power for the handheld radio, a 4 amp hour gel cell battery was installed. An external power cord was used to power the dual band hand held. A mag mount antenna was camouflaged with flowers by a volunteer group from Holland who each year decorate the officials' cars in the Rose Parade.

The brain of the TWF system is a low band interface controller designed and built by K6QE Systems. This controller allows any mobile operator to control the band, mode, exact frequency, and rotate the antenna to the desired setting from a handheld radio or mobile using touch tone commands. Other features include automatic antenna switching and frequency scanning.

The audio is so good that most amateurs contacted through the system don't realize they are talking to someone using a remote transceiver. K6QE Systems has adapted the controller in the past for the Collins KWM380, Yaesu FT980, FT767 and now the Kenwood 940. Jim Gilliam, designer of the K6QE Systems low band interface, says he is going to standardize on the Kenwood radios for future units.

One of the main difficulties with any computer controlling a world-wide transceiver is keeping the computer generated noise out of the receiver. A special set of shielded boxes had to be custom manufactured to enclose the commercial micro-mint com-

puter board. Repeaters that are connected to a low band interface system have allowed many hams living in the Los Angeles basin that are encumbered by antenna restrictions, of have the availability of a superb world-wide station at their fingertips for making rare DX contacts as well as general rag chewing.

If you have an interest about this technology please call or write David Corsiglia, WA6TWF, 858 Lenz Dr. Anaheim CA 92805. Telephone 714-535-5528.

For inquiries on Bill Fedde operation in the up-coming Rose Parade please call or write Bill Fedde, 394 Jones St. Ventura CA. 93003. Telephone 805-643-1817.

FOR SALE!

#1 Tower:

New anodized aluminum tube crank up 30 foot with stainless steel guide rollers on each section, and side cover up 5 feet on lower section. Never used. \$750 Delivery may be possible.

#2 Tower:

Fixed aluminum tower up 30 feet above water surface. This multi-use tower incorporates rigging for various antennas, sails, topping lift, mast and anchor light, and windex vane. Presently has vertical dipole 2M antenna and 5/8 wave vertical for marine band. Also included with tower is a 1975 Belleville cruising sloop with singlehanded mast raising system and live-aboard conveniences. This fractional rigged sailing sloop, trailer, tower, race rigged sabot sailing dingy.....is a great package all for a low \$6,950. Delivery also possible. Please contact Gerry Bailey, KC6COU, (714) 894-0604 - weekdays or Bob Gregg KC6KDL (714) 892-3728

FCC Creates Codeless Class of Amateur License December 13, 1990, ARRL Bulletin #54

FCC announced on December 13 that new Technician Class license applicants will not have to demonstrate Morse code proficiency in order to have all privileges above 30 MHz. Implementation is expected by February, 1991. Techs who obtain their licenses prior to that date will be grandfathered, meaning they will continue to have their present HF privileges.

The codeless Technician written exam will have 55 questions. New Technicians wanting HF privileges will be required to hold a CSCE for element 1A, that is 5 WPM, which must be administered by three accredited VEs. There will be no call sign designator to indicate whether or not a Technician has passed a code test, but FCC will have records of who has passed. More details will be forthcoming in February *QST*.

From Gordon West, WB6NOA

FELLOW RADIO AMATEUR OPERATOR: The FCC has just announced a no-code Technician class operator license. This license would allow full Technician class privileges on 6 meters, 2 meters, 220 MHz, 440 MHz, 900 MHz, and the 1200 MHz band and up. The no-code Technician class license would be passed in front of 3 accredited VE's when the applicant successfully completes Novice written Element 2 and Technician class written Element 3A. Absolutely no knowledge of Morse code would be required.

Here at Radio School, we share with all radio amateurs the concern of over-crowding on 2 meters, plus our mutual concern of

very green, brand new hams jumping onto some very sophisticated repeater systems without the proper introduction of correct operating procedures. Our phones have been ringing off the hook from would-be hams wanting a quick way to get onto the airwaves.

Yes, Radio School will begin offering a weekend amateur radio no-code Technician class course. But our course will involve a lot more than just one weekend of study!

...All Radio School weekend class students will be required to complete pre-study assignments mailed to them before class.

...No-code applicants will take an entrance examination on Friday night to insure pre-study.

...Class emphasis will concentrate on good operating procedures, and a gradual assess to our airwaves on after-class Radio School training nets.

...Live equipment demonstrations in class featuring capabilities of long-range 6 meter SSB, the 222 MHz Condor system, the 440 MHz WA6TWF system, and the 1270 MHz California microwave relay system. We will only encourage 2 meter operation on 144.330 MHz simplex until they get their procedures fine-tuned for local 2-meter repeaters.

...Simple Morse Code phrases will be taught in class (15 wpm character rate, 5 wpm word rate) to encourage applicants to obtain code Element 1A for Novice privileges on 10 meters, 15 meters, 40 meters and 80 meters. A weekend all-code class will be encouraged, and offered.

Here at Radio School, we do not believe this new no-code Technician class will help solve our overall slow-growth problem throughout the country. I still contend that we have not developed the proper marketing procedures for selling the amateur radio license, including the Novice license with a code test. Here in Southern California, Radio School has been quite successful in teaching both code and theory to new students. We will continue with Novice classes also. But we hope soon to establish a corps of amateur radio instructors throughout the country with common teaching materials, regional quotas, regional referrals, regional support from major manufacturers and clubs, and the development of a national instructor force as powerful as our present VE system of volunteer and well-organized radio operators.

Thank you for your student referrals, and be assured that all Radio School no-code Technician weekend classes will concentrate on getting our students on the air properly, on bands above and below 2 meters as well, and with guest ham radio operators wishing to show our students there's a lot more than just passing the test and hopping on the local -- and sometimes crowded -- repeater system. A prosperous 1991 to you all.

Ed note: We wish to thank Gordon West for giving OCARC access to his students and encourage anyone who wishes more info on classes and examinations for the new license to contact Gordon, WB6NOA, at (714) 549-5000. Class line is (714) 434-0666.

Year-End Report for Program Chairman - by Ken Konechy, W6HHC

The following is a list of programs and speakers that were held at OCARC meetings during 1990.

JAN "Earthquake Predictions and Measurements" by WB6OWB - TIM GOEPPINGER

FEB "Repeaters & Advanced Remote Bases" by WA6TWF - DAVE CORSIGLIA

MAR "Comparison Between AX.25 & TCP/IP Packet" by KJ6TK - JOHN MEACHAM

APR "Fighter Pilots During the European Theater in WW2" by K1YZG - LU HURLBUT

MAY "A Review of Yaesu Ham Radio Products" by WD6DIH - KEVIN KARAMANOS

JUN "1989 Field Day Slides" by W6HHC - KEN KONECHY

JUL "An Introduction to Radar" by KI6UL - BOB DAHLIN

AUG "Review of Digital Signal Processing" by AA6DD - WILL ANDERSON

SEP "VCR on Electromagnetic Radiation Hazards" Produced by WA6PMX - DAVE GUTIERREZ

OCT "OCARC Annual Radio Auction"

NOV "Introduction to AMSAT & Satellite Communications" by AA6NP - GENE DAVIES

DEC "OCARC Annual Christmas Dinner" by N0NE - JANE BRELLER

Terminal Node Controllers, C-64 Computers (and other incomprehensible mumbo jumbo)

by Bob Gregg, KC6KDL

It all started a few weeks ago, when Will, WB6GDZ, came by to take me to the annual OCARC auction. It seemed safe enough; I didn't need to buy anything, besides, the new FT-470 had seriously depleted my piggy bank. Still, it would be good to show up and see all your smiling faces. So off we went, Will, Leo, KC6NUC, and myself. There were a lot of smiling faces, but the action was fast and furious as the buyers competed for the winning bid. There was a lot of great equipment crossing the block, but I didn't see anything that I couldn't do without.

Then from across the room, I spied a large box marked Commodore 64. Now, I had been "advised" by a few "computer nuts" that I should have one of these high powered machines, but when I asked them "what for", the answers were generally incomprehensible. Will it mow the lawn?, I'd ask, "no." Will it take out the trash, "no", will it wash the car?, "no." Well, what could I do with one?, "you can do all kinds of things", they'd say, and spout more incomprehensible mumbo jumbo about things I knew nothing about.

But I did know that it was possible to connect one to a radio, and use it to communicate. Now this, to me, is something useful. So it wasn't completely without interest that I sauntered casually across the room, stepping on a few toes, and knocking over one chair, to have a better look. There were several items in the large box, lets see, the long slim box must be the disk drive, there's the keyboard, what's all this other stuff, I wondered. There were several large volumes, good, it has instructions.

The monitor was the first item to cross the block. Again, I pretended not to be interested, and even let Dick, WD6X, and another fellow make the first few bids. Thirty seven fifty, I said commandingly. I glanced at Dick, our eyes locked, his, cold and steely, jaw set with determination, thirty eight dollars!, was his reply. The battle was on! When it was over I had bought the monitor for \$48.00 even.

There wasn't much interest in the large box containing the computer, disk drive, and other mysterious equipment. So for about \$140.00 I had the whole system. That night the computer and I stayed up until two AM. The next night we stayed up until one. I was hooked! A little searching netted a PK-64 TNC. And the three of us stayed up until nearly three.

Packet radio is great! There's a whole new world out there and packet is the key. There are BBS's, with a wealth of amateur information just waiting to be accessed. There are nodes to connect you with distant stations. You can leave it on when you go to work, and read messages that other hams left for you while you were gone and much more. I guess you can use a computer for other things too, like writing articles. This one was sent to our editor via packet radio. So I have learned that a computer can be really useful...if you attach it to a TNC and transceiver.

That's all for now, as I have to mow the lawn and wash the car. More on getting started in packet radio next month. Until then, 73.

Protect Your Antenna

by Larry Beilin, K6VDP

The atmosphere in Southern California is not very friendly toward amateur antennas. Aluminum tubing and copper wire don't rust, but they sure corrode and oxidize if left unprotected.

My first multi-band antenna was a Hi Gain 14AVQ vertical which was made of aluminum tubing. I put it up one day and went back on the roof a few days later to make some adjustments. Already, I could see signs of corrosion. I took the antenna apart and found quite a bit of moisture inside the tubing. I dried all the pieces, removed the corrosion with fine sandpaper, and reassembled the antenna. Weatherproofing was obviously necessary.

I covered all of the joints, screws, and clamps with RTV.* After the RTV cured, I painted the entire antenna with several coats of grey epoxy enamel. The antenna failed 14 years later due to corrosion inside the traps.

I now have 3 Ringo antennas for VHF and a 33 foot aluminum mast for my delta loop. All are fully protected and free of corrosion after several years of operation. I coated the connectors on the Ringo antennas with a dab of silicon grease to keep out moisture and prevent the aluminum threads from corroding. These simple precautions will protect an antenna for years.

*RTV stands for "room temperature vulcanizing rubber." CAUTION: Do not use and RTV which contains acid (vinegar) as it is corrosive. Also avoid paints which contain metallic particles or carbon black. Light grey or blue is good. Do not use clear coatings as you cannot see if you missed a spot.

Letter (Continued)

Continued from Page 4

Just then, the wind started blowing harder than ever. I heard something on the roof and thought to myself that the darn dipole had finally come down. So I went outside to view the damage when, to my surprise, I found a huge tower in my back yard! The darn thing must have been 200 feet high.... and on top, freshly soldered connections glistening in the moonlight outlined a 30 element tri-band quad. As I stepped closer, I found an envelope tied to the tower. It read, "In deep appreciation of services rendered.. VE8SC/am." Inside was a WAC and DXCC certificate made out to me and a stocking full of QSL cards from places I never even heard of!

Suddenly, a crazy looking airplane took off from the other side of the roof. A funny looking guy in a red flight suit waved as he flew off and yelled, "A merry Christmas to all... and to all a good night.

Signed "Scratchie" - WN6AAA

P.S. Best wishes for a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Bob - AF6C

Ken - W6HHC

Note: the preceding letter originally appeared in "RF" in December of 1969!

WANTED: 2 Meter Mobile Rig
Les McCauley, KC6JJC (714) 839-6183

CLUB FUNCTIONS

MONTHLY MEETING: 3rd Friday of each month, 7:30PM at SECURITY NATIONAL BANK
Jan. 18th 1095 Irvine Blvd. (4th St. becomes Irvine)
Tustin, CA. Talk-in on 146.55 MHz
Feb. 15th
Mar. 15th (Take the 4th St. exit of the 55 Freeway
and head east. Continue past Newport Blvd.
about two blocks. It's on the left.)

CLUB BREAKFAST: 1st Saturday of each month, 8:00AM at DENNY'S Resturant
Jan. 5th 2314 E. Seventeenth Street Santa Ana, CA. (714) 543-0872
Feb. 2nd (Second bldg. west of the 55 Freeway)

CLUB NETS

BAND	MODE	DAY	LOCAL TIME	FREQ MHz	SPLIT	PL	OPERATOR
2 Meters	FM	Wed	2030 hrs.	146.550	splx	na	WB6IXN
15 Meters	SSB	Wed	2000 hrs.	21.375*	splx	na	W6HHC
15 Meters	CW	Thu	2000 hrs.	21.175*	splx	na	??????

(Listen for W6ZE, net control) *Plus or minus QRM

ARES DISTRICT NETS

2 Meters	FM	Mon	1900 hrs.	145.220	-600	1A	N6HQI 1
2 Meters	FM	Mon	~1915 hrs.	145.340	-600	4Z	K6KAA 2
2 Meters	FM	Mon	1930 hrs.	noted	splx	na	noted 3

1 - ARES Info net.

2 - ARES District 3 net starts after info net is completed (Usually about 1915 hrs).

3 - City Nets: Orange - 146.535 WB6FCP; Tustin - 146.505 WA6VKZ; Santa Ana - 147.585 W6HHC

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