



**February Meeting**—February 9th, 7:00 p.m.

Ernie Pyle Elementary School, 4140 N. Augusta., Corner of Ashlan and Augusta.

**Hamfest—April 28th**

Any ideas or suggestions please bring them to the next club meeting.

**2001 Meeting/Activity Dates**

February 9th .....Ernie Pyle School  
March 9th.....Ernie Pyle School  
April 20th.....Ernie Pyle School  
April 28th.....Hamfest (Tentative)  
June .....Field Day  
July.....Vacation

**Notice: Autopatch codes change mid-February**

**Weekly Gatherings**

**Country Waffles:**

Saturday and Monday mornings @ 7:00 a.m.  
Corner of Blackstone & Dakota

**Silver Dollar Hoffbrau:**

Thursdays @ Noon.  
Corner of Hwy 41 & Shaw

**“The Prez Sez”**

**Jim Bianchi – KF6GKC**



Well, it's almost that time of year again, when we change the autopatch code. So, make sure that you get your dues in before the next meeting for a chance at winning the atomic clock that we are giving away.

The Hamfest is also coming up, and we'll be asking all of you to help put this on. It will be held at Coombs' Ranch again this year. Your help makes this more fun for everyone. We will be appointing a Hamfest chairman at the next board meeting. He will be asking all of you to help make this another successful Hamfest. We will be making a few changes to make the Hamfest more enjoyable for everyone. If you have any suggestions, please contact me or any other board member with them. This is your Hamfest, and we want you all to have fun and enjoy it.

Also, if you have any other suggestions regarding the bus or know of anyone or any organization that may wish to purchase the bus, please let us know. It is sad to have to remove the bus from the club, but ongoing repairs and expenses have made it too expensive to maintain.

73's Jim Bianchi, President



## Board of Directors

President: Jim Bianchi KF6GKC  
 (559) 432-5517  
 diamondjames@earthlink.net

Vice-President: Harold Reeks KF6CL  
 (559) 224-0288

Secretary: Jim Haynes W6PXM  
 (559) 294-8390  
 w6pxm@pacbell.net

Treasurer: Ken Griffin WA6HII  
 (559) 292-4811  
 keng@qnis.net

## Board Members

Skip Tyson K6YRZ (559) 787-2529  
 John Pritchett W6JWK (559) 222-6793  
 Ken Holden WA6OIB (559) 323-6753  
 Gene Davis W7POR (559) 645-6849  
 Jim Clymer WS6X (550) 292-8353  
 John Morrice K6MI (559) 275-7373  
 Brandon Bianchi KE6THG (559) 432-5517

## Club Contacts

Papers & Cans Collections Contact:  
 John Prichett W6JWK (559) 222-6793

Educational, Public Service & Events Contact:  
 Jimmie Wakefield W6PSQ (559) 227-1057

Membership Contact:  
 Ken Griffin WA6HII (559) 292-4811

SKIP Editors:  
 Barbara Powell-Quillin KF6KDC  
 Rob Mavis KF6YLR (559) 227-6243

Technical Services:  
 Ken Holden WA6OIB (559) 323-6753

## Treasurer's Report

12/31/2000

### For the period of 01/01/2000 to 12/31/2000

Income:.....\$9,511.51  
 (Including Savings interest of \$26.88)

Expenses:.....\$8,586.48

Balances at end of Period:  
 Checking Account.....\$2,430.59  
 Savings Account.....\$3,609.94  
 Petty Cash on Hand.....\$50.00  
 Un-deposited Funds.....\$64.00  
 Total Cash 12/31/2000.....\$6,153.94

### Papers and Cans Year to 12/31/2000

Paper: (10 Loads 41,884 lbs).....\$1,230.82  
 Cans:.....\$108.95

### Membership F.A.R.C. Membership 12/31/2000

Full Memberships.....178  
 Family Memberships.....32  
 Comp Members.....24  
 Life Members.....15  
 Total Memberships.....249

## Unapproved Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

January 4, 2001

Members Present: KF6GKC, WS6X, W6JWK, K6YRZ, WA6OIB, KF6CL, WA6HII, W6PXM, KE6THG, W7POR.  
 The meeting was called to order by President Jim, KF6GKC at 07:00PM.

Old Business:  
 The minutes were read from the last board of directors meeting and approved as read. W6JWK motion to accept, WA6OIB second.

Discussion on the state of the repeater interference. More evidence has been gathered. The board discussed the possibility of turning over what we have to the FCC. No further discussion, no decision made.

New Business:  
 Auto patch code change. The auto patch will be changed to coincide with the mailing of the February Skip.  
 Channel 21 has donated some computer equipment to the club. The board wished to express its gratitude, and directed

### F.A.R.C.

PO Box 783,  
 Fresno, CA 93712

Memberships received will be grouped and forwarded with a check from the club.  
 FARC receives an instant rebate or discount on ARRL memberships processed in this manner.  
 No applications will be delayed.

the secretary to draft an official letter of thanks. Club radios discussed, primarily radios for the club to use on field day. Last year a members radio was used, and has not operated properly since. Since there was discussion prior to field day with the member regarding repair if the radio was damaged, the board decided to review the repair bills upon receipt, with the possibility of reimbursement.

Club banners for club events. There was discussion on the possibility of obtaining banners with the club name and logo to be displayed at club events and functions. Ken, WA6HII will gather estimates to be presented at the next club meeting. Club bus. The insurance premium is due April. Again, the board agrees that the bus must be sold. The board wanted to give any member the opportunity to purchase before placing general ads in the appropriate media. Ken, WA6HII will facilitate the announcement in Skip.

The hamfest was discussed. The board is already making plans. The menu was discussed, with various options suggested, Tri-Tip sandwiches, salad, chips, the possibility of catering the event, and other menu items to be decided at the next board meeting.

There was a motion to close the meeting by Jim, WS6X at 09:00PM, seconded by Ken, WA6OIB.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted;

Jim Haynes

W6PXM

Secretary.

## VE Corner

Amateur Radio VE Exams in Fresno  
Unlicensed thru Extra Class  
Fresno Amateur Radio Club – A.R.R.L. VEC

Exams for all Amateur license classes will be conducted on the following dates in Fresno, California. All exams are given on Sunday and Begin at 1:00 P.M.

February 18  
May 20  
August 19  
November 18

Theory Exams are multiple choice. Code Exam is fill in the blank.

**Location:** Seventh Day Adventist Central Church, 2980 East Yale, Fresno California 93703. One block south of Clinton and one block west of First Street, southwest corner of Yale and Orchard. Watch for signs.

**Directions:** From Hwy 99, take Clinton Ave. exit east four miles to First St., turn right (South), one block right on Yale, one block. Look for Signs.

From Highway 41, take Shields Ave exit, turn right (East), 1 mile to First St., turn right, continue one block past Clinton, right on Yale to Orchard. Look for Signs.

**Bring:** Two ID's, one with photo. Taxpayer ID Number (Social Security Number) or ULS registration number. Fee is \$10.00 per test session. Original copy of Amateur License and CSCE's if upgrading.

Talk in on W6TO/R 146.94/64 repeater.

Walk-in's only, no pre-registration.

More info contact Chuck, W6DPD, 559-431-2038

## Fresno County RACES

At the January meeting Glen Caine (N6HEW) spoke about the Fresno County RACES.

The purpose of the Fresno County RACES organization is to provide emergency communications in the event of a disaster, or to assist local governments in Fresno County with public communications in the event of an emergency.

For information an RACES or how to join you can contact the Fresno County Environmental Health Department at 559-445-3391

The Fresno County RACES net is held every Monday night at 8:00 p.m. on the N6HEW repeater. The frequency is 147.150 megahertz with a PL of 141.3. The Fresno County RACES website URL is: <http://races.sierrapac.net/>



## February Birthdays

KG6ALH	Francisco Santos	WB6GJG	Dave Finley
W6BBS	Frank Reynolds	KC6MKA	Jim Rogers
KG6DAK	Marlene Keith	W6OW	James Steinkraus
KG6DGW	Michael Stroud	KF6PEQ	Phil Steffora
W6DWU	Bob Haven	WB6QDK	Barbara Benson
KD6E	Ron Zastovnik	KE6THP	Eva Manley
KG6EIS	Konnie A Morris	KD6WBA	David Hoge
N6FUB	Richard Polson	WS6X	Jim Clymer

## ARRL

Renew your membership or join the ARRL through the FARC treasury. The Club benefits with each membership. Send completed ARRL membership form with payment made out to F.A.R.C. to:

F. A. R. C.  
P.O. Box 983  
Fresno, CA 93712

Memberships received will be grouped and forwarded with a check from the club. FARC receives an instant rebate or discount on ARRL memberships processed in this manner. No Applications will be delayed

## A Brief History Lesson

about pagers, walkie-talkies and cordless phones  
(as well as a lesson to be learned)

This is actually an obituary about the inventor that was written by the Los Angeles Times

Al Gross' ideas took decades to catch on. And by the time they gained wide-spread popularity, he had suffered the fate of a legion of inspired inventor: his patents had expired.

But what a difference Gross' gizmos made.

Gross, who died Dec. 21 in Sun City, Arizona at 82, invented the walkie-talkie, the wireless pager, and the cordless telephone. He also pioneered Citizen's Band radio. His patents led to technological developments that have become icons of the late 20th century, such as the cellular phone. Gross also inspired the wristwatch radio, that was indispensable to a 1950's cartoon-strip detective named Dick Tracy. Half a century ago, however, when Gross tried to market his pager at a medical convention, doctors smirked at the device. It would, they complained, ruin afternoons at the golf course. By the end of the 20th Century, 300 million pocket pagers were in use around the world. "I was born 35 years too soon," he once told The Arizona Republic. "If I still had the patents on my inventions, Bill Gates would have to stand aside for me." Gross was born in Toronto. By 1937 he had built a hand-held radio that could transmit messages across town. He called it a 'walkie-talkie.' In 1949, he devised the first wireless pager, and in 1951 the wireless telephone. In 1958 he came up with the first battery-operated calculator, developed for the military. Gross held about a dozen patents, all of which had expired around 1971. Last year Gross was honored with a \$500,000 Lemelson-Massachusetts Institute of Technology Lifetime Achievement Award for Invention. Along the way, he earned a degree in electrical engineering from what is now Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. He also studied under Albert Einstein at Princeton. Gross is survived by his wife Ethel Stanka Gross of Sun City.

## ARRL News

*The ARRL Letter, December 22, 2000*

### ALABAMA HAMS TACKLE TORNADO

Alabama amateurs took time out from holiday preparations to help their neighbors last weekend after tornadoes ripped through the state leaving 11 people dead, 65 injured and dozens of homes damaged or destroyed. Unusual December weather patterns spawned a strong F4 tornado in western Alabama that struck Tuscaloosa December 16 around midday.

The West Alabama Emergency Net was activated on the Tuscaloosa Amateur Radio Club's W4KCQ repeater with ARRL member Cal Davis, KF4LAR, as net control at the emergency operations center.

"This is my fourth tornado that I've been involved with in one way or another since I became a spotter, and this by far was the worst I've seen," Davis said. He reports that some three dozen hams played a role in storm spotting, disaster recovery, and damage assessment. Davis says several hams with emergency medical training entered the stricken areas on foot to render first aid as well as to establish a triage center at a local church.

A state of emergency was declared in the stricken area. Tuscaloosa Emergency Coordinator Kirk Junkin, KC4ZMP, set up an Amateur Radio communication link with the Tuscaloosa Fire Department's incident commander on the scene and relayed information to Davis at the EOC via W4KCQ. Amateurs activated the West Alabama Amateur Radio Association's W4WYN and the Druid Amateur Radio Association's WS4I repeaters. They established communication with the West Alabama Chapter of the American Red Cross and with three shelters in the stricken area. By 8 PM Saturday, the Red Cross had consolidated all the shelters into one at a local community college. The Red Cross estimated that up to 500 residents initially took advantage of the shelters.

By 10 PM, all amateurs but one at the Red Cross chapter house and one at the shelter were released from duty. Davis said most hams were back over the next few days to assist with damage assessment efforts.

More information on the Alabama amateurs' response to the tornado is available on the Alabama Emergency Response Team page, <http://www.alert-alabama.org/> --thanks to ALERT; Cal Davis, KF4LAR/TARC; press reports

### Amateur Radio Classes

The Clovis Amateur Radio Pioneers is Conducting a series of free ham radio licensing classes for Beginners to obtain a Technician Class License. The classes are held Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. at the Clovis Senior Center in downtown Clovis across from Clark Jr. high school.

For those of you who wish to learn Morse Code, there is also a class session for that as well.

For More info contact Ray Harkins (KB6LQV) at 875-9413.

### Worldradio

Subscribe or renew through FARC.  
Make check out to F.A.R.C. mail with Worldradio form to:

F.A.R.C.

PO Box 783,

Fresno, CA 93712

The club benefits with each one processed

The ARRL Letter, January 19, 2001

**HOLLINGSWORTH SAYS "RADIO RAGE" HAZARDOUS TO HAM RADIO**

Entering his third year spearheading the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement effort, Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth says "radio rage" could become a bigger danger to the future of Amateur Radio than rulebreaking.

"It's the infighting and arguments and juvenile spats," Hollingsworth said this week. "That's going to come back to haunt us if we don't just grow up. It will do the service in, if the ham community doesn't put a stop to it."

Hollingsworth said that he's encouraged that the FCC's enforcement program has the support of "99.9%" of the amateur community and that the vast

majority of hams follow the rules. But, he said that radio rage in the form of such things as on-air squabbles or frequency fights can degrade the bands just as quickly as outright rule-breaking. "The FCC can't do anything about that," he said. "It's up to the amateur community."

Hollingsworth said that while much radio rage technically is not illegal, it reflects poorly on Amateur Radio and can balloon into an enforcement issue. More important, he said, rude or intemperate on-air behavior might provide just the sort of ammunition that an entity seeking additional spectrum will use against Amateur Radio.

Hollingsworth predicted that the departure January 19 of FCC Chairman William Kennard (see "FCC CHAIRMAN WILLIAM KENNARD RESIGNS" below) and the changing of the guard the White House the next day will not alter the course of the current amateur enforcement effort. He said he sees nothing but positive changes ahead.

"I'm willing to bet my SX-115 that we won't miss a beat," he said, referring to one of his latest acquisitions of vintage ham gear, "as long as the amateur community lets it be known it still wants enforcement."

Hollingsworth said it was pressure from the ARRL and individual amateurs that prompted the resumption of amateur enforcement in 1998 during Kennard's tenure, "and it's the type of program that needs that continual pressure to keep it going," he added. Overall complaints are down, Hollingsworth said, "but no one can be complacent."

**MIR'S EXECUTION DATE SET**

According to news reports, two Russian space agencies have agreed that March 6 will be D-Day for the Mir space station--

"Deorbiting Day," that is.

The Russian space station has had Amateur Radio gear aboard. Over the years, countless hams on Earth have spoken directly with the crew--which, at times, has included US astronauts--or have accessed Mir's packet messaging system. Pictures transmitted via an SSTV experiment installed aboard Mir a few years ago also delighted earthbound amateurs.

While the ham gear was installed in part to help boost crew morale, it became a vital communication link after a nearly disastrous fire broke out and--not long after--when the space station's hull was pierced in a collision with a cargo rocket.

The more than 130-ton spacecraft will be pushed out of Earth orbit using Progress rockets. According to the Russian Aviation and Space Agency--Rosaviacosmos--and RKK Energia--Mir's operator--a Progress cargo ship with increased fuel capacity will be launched to Mir January 18. It will displace a Progress rocket already docked to Mir.

The second Progress--heavily loaded with fuel for the deorbiting missions--will dock January 22. In the event of docking problems, Russia is prepared to send up an emergency cosmonaut crew to complete the job.

Mir's attitude control system will be disabled. Then, on March 4 and 5, the Progress will fire its engines and brake the station's orbital velocity. On March 6, the Progress will deliver the killer blow, firing to decrease Mir's velocity to the

Local Repeaters			
Organization	Callsign	Frequency	Tone
FARC	W6TO/R	146.340/146.940	none
		222.340/222.940	none
		449.200/444.200	none
CARP	K6ARP/R	147.675/147.075	141.3
MARC	W6WGZ/R	147.180/147.780	none
		441.175/446.175	146.2
RACES	N6HEW	147.150/147.750	141.3

Local Nets			
<b>Sunday:</b>			
7:00pm	146.940	+	Fresno ARC
8:00pm	146.910	-	Kern County
<b>Monday:</b>			
7:00pm	224.900	-	156.7 Condor
	224.600	-	156.7 Condor
8:00pm	147.150	+	Fresno RACES
<b>Tuesday:</b>			
7:00pm	147.180	+	Madera ARC
7:30pm	146.880	-	136.5 Tulare ARC
7:30pm	147.030	+	100.0 Turlock ARC
<b>Wednesday:</b>			
7:00pm	146.940	-	Brown Sugar
8:00pm	28.445		10-Meter
<b>Thursday:</b>			
7:30pm	146.675	-	141.3 Clovis (CARP)

**Quote of the Month**

Higher than 40 feet it's an Antenna,  
Lower than 40 feet it's a Wire.

Orv in Sacramento (K6UEY)

point where it will drop out of orbit. What's left of the space station after it passes through Earth's atmosphere will plunge into the Pacific later that day. It's expected that the scuttling of Mir will generate a shower of debris that could reach Earth's surface.

Over the years, Mir has become a fixture in orbit and the focal point of pride for the Russian space program. The initial module of the space station was launched February 20, 1986. Recently, the Russian government confirmed its intention to continue its cooperation with the US, Canada, ESA, and Japan in the development of the International Space Station.-- Roy Neal, K6DUE, and AMSAT News Service, contributed information for this report

**BILL INTRODUCED TO AMEND PRB-1 IN STATE OF WASHINGTON**

Two State of Washington lawmakers have introduced a bill to amend sections of the Revised Code Of Washington to strengthen that state's PRB-1 law. Washington incorporated the federal preemption known as PRB-1 in 1994. The proposed amendment would specify that local governing bodies could not restrict antenna height to less than 70 feet without a clearly defined health, safety, or aesthetic reason.

Washington is one of 10 states that have adopted PRB-1 laws of their own. Only three states--Oregon, Virginia, and Wyoming--include minimum regulatory height limits.

Republicans Pam Roach and Dan Swecker introduced Senate Bill SB 5002 for a first reading on January 8 on behalf of ARRL member George B. Hutchison, W7KSJ, of Auburn. Hutchison has been promoting the PRB-1 amendment through an organization called "Hamtowerlaw" (<http://www.hamtowerlaw.com>). SB 5002 has been assigned to the Economic Development and Telecommunications Committee.

Washington's current PRB-1 law says any ordinances or regulations that localities adopt with respect to Amateur Radio antennas must "reasonably accommodate amateur communications" and "represent the minimal practicable regulation" to meet the local authority's legitimate purpose. Hutchison wants to add wording that would keep cities, counties or towns from restricting an Amateur Radio antenna's height to less than 70 feet, "unless the restriction is necessary to achieve a clearly defined health, safety, or aesthetic consideration."

For more information on PRB-1, visit the ARRL PRB-1 page, [http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/PRB-1\\_Pkg/index.html](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/PRB-1_Pkg/index.html).



**Editors Note**

Hi Everyone,

This months club meeting, which was about Racees, was very informative and interesting. Glen Caine-N6HEW, did a great job at informing us and answering all of our questions. We thank him very much for the time he took to do this for us.

Next months club meeting they will be doing the drawing for the clock. Good- Luck every one. We hope to see you all there.

I hope everyone enjoyed last month's newsletter. Rob-KF6YLR, did most of it. Being, that I have been quite busy. We also thank Ken-WA6HII for the finishing touches and the work he does for the newsletter also.

Also a special Thanks to the President for his time and input. But since he informed me that he thought his picture was nice, but a too small, I decided to fix it.

Thank you all very much, Barbara-KF6KDC.



**Swap Section**

Do you have a for Sale or Want? This is the place for it!

Place your for Sale or Want in the SKIP!

Your swap can be up to 30 words in length and must be Amateur Radio related.

**Members = \$FREE!** (\$2.50 for ea. 30 words after first 30)

**Non-Members=\$2.50** (\$2.50 for ea. 30 words after first 30)

**Items for Sale**

- ICOM 720-A xcvr.....\$350.00
- Ten-Tec 14V, 20 Amp Power Supply.....\$80.00
- Heath-Kit 2040 1KW Tuner .....\$80.00
- MFJ RF/SWR meter.....\$15.00
- AEA RF/SWR meter (cross-needle).....\$20.00
- Siltronix 2-meter SWR meter.....\$15.00
- Mars SWR meter .....\$10.00
- V-M Microphone (from VM Recorder) .....\$10.00
- Micronta Field Strength Meter/SWR .....\$15.00
- MFJ Frequency Standard .....\$15.00
- Hallicrafters World-Wide SW Receiver.....\$75.00  
(Vintage—Collectors Item)

Note—Ten Tec power supply and Heath Kit tuner from estate of W7LYA (SK)

All items have been stored away in boxes, but to my knowledge are in excellent condition. Icom 720-1 is 1984 vintage all-band with general coverage receiver.

All are O.B.O.— James Buntain W6VYM—559-291-5543



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Fresno, CA 93712-0783

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P.O. Box 783, Fresno, Ca. 93712-0783.

New licenses can receive a free membership during the first calendar year licensed. You must provide a copy of your license with your application.

### Contacting The Editors:

Barbara Powell-Quillin KF6KDC  
Rob Mavis KF6YLR  
(559) 227-6243  
P.O. Box 27375  
Fresno CA 93729  
skip@oldtuberadio.com

### Help Wanted:

News articles, pictures of your favorite radio station, DX contacts, and other printable Ham radio related items

### 2001 F.A.R.C. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name:		Date: _____
Address		Call Sign: _____
City:	State	Home Phone _____
Bus Address:	Zip:	ARRL Member? _____
Occupation: _____	Birthdate: _____	Bus Phone: _____
License Class _____	Year First Licensed: _____	