



FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2004 Volume 65, Issue 10

Our upcoming General Meeting will be on October 8th at Cedar Lanes. Our program will be on Homeland Security (please see Program Speaker Glen's/KG6VWG article inside this edition of Skip). Please plan on attending this very informative meeting!!!!

I will also have chocolate treats for everyone!

The next Board Meeting will be on October 7th at Bianchi Designs (7050 Fresno St., #210). The meeting begins at 7 PM.

FARC GENERAL MEETINGS

are the second Friday of each month,
7 P.M. at Cedar Lanes unless
otherwise noted.

FARC NETS

MORNING DRIVE TIME NET:

Weekday mornings from 7:30 to
8:00 A.M. W6TO/R on 146.940 -
141.3 PL

TECH NET:

Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M. W6TO/R
146.940 - 141.3 PL

FARC NET:

Sundays at 7:00 P.M. W6TO/R
146.940 - 141.3 PL

THE PREZ SAYS

KF6ZSW, Kim Davis

"Happy Halloween!"

We enjoyed seeing so many members and visitors at our September General Meeting! Jan/KG6SUL and Carole/KG6TTF did an outstanding Amateur Satellite Presentation (More SAT info inside Skip with the AMSAT column Page Four).



Just a reminder that we are running our meetings according to Robert's Rules. If you need to add a topic to our Board Meeting agenda; please submit to your Board of Directors in writing prior to a Board Meeting (FARC Board of Directors, P. O. Box 783, Fresno, CA 93712). Also, FARC By-Laws have been printed in Skip and handed out at meetings. If you need a copy please contact me.

This has been a great year and we will be doing more positive events, meetings, etc. to continue to move forward.

Please contact me with any of your questions or comments.

73, Kim/KF6ZSW :)

**2004 F.A.R. C.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President:	Kim Davis	KF6ZSW	kdavis@gotnet.net	287-9051	12/31/04
Vice President:	Craig Carter	K6QI	k6qi@sbcglobal.net	323-5742	12/31/04
Secretary:	Rob Mavis	AE6GE	ae6ge@ae6ge.com	237-7583	12/31/04
Treasurer:	Carole Whitteberry	KG6TTF	kg6ttf@amsat.org	288-7597	12/31/05
Member:	Jim Bianchi	KF6GKC		432-5517	12/31/05
Member:	Gene Davis	W7POR	gdavis@gotnet.net	645-6849	12/31/05
Member:	Jan Whitteberry	KG6SUL		229-2554	12/31/04
Member:	John Morrice	K6MI		275-7373	12/31/05
Member:	Bob Allen	WA6ITN		435-3786	12/31/04
Member:	Mark Carpenter	K6ORJ		250-7317	12/31/05
Member:	Richard Pack	KE6SHL	ke6shl@arrl.net	291-2175	12/31/04

CLUB BADGES

Your unique badge can be ordered through Kim/KF6ZSW for only \$5.00 each. These sharp looking badges are produced by Omega Trophy. Order yours at the Club Meeting and have it back to you by the following meeting!

Remember! All Articles for submission to the Newsletter must arrive no later than the 20th of the month in order to be eligible for the next publication. Please send to Carole KG6TTF kg6ttf@amsat.org

HELPFUL CLUB COMMITTEES

Community Awareness Chairman:

Steve Miller K6FDR448-0142

Field Day Committee Chairman:

Jim Bianchi KG6GKC432-5517

Education/Scholarship Chairman:

Jim Bianchi KF6GKC432-5517

Fund Raising Chairman:

Terry Horak KF6LXB453-2911

2005 Hamfest Chairmen:

Kim Davis KF6ZSW287-9051

Marcus Beedle KG6QNY360-7444

Paper Fund Raiser Chairman:

Marcus Beedle KG6QNY360-7444

Public Information Officer:

Jan Whitteberry KG6SUL jwhitt1@comcast.net...229-2554

Membership:

Gene Davis W7POR645-6849

Net Manager:

Kim Davis KF6ZSW287-9051

FARC Emergency Coordinator/FARECC:

Gene Davis W7POR645-6849

SKIP Newsletter Editors:

Carole Whitteberry KG6TTF kg6ttf@amsat.org...288-7597

Gene Davis W7POR gdavis@gotnet.net645-6849

Web Site Manager:

Craig Carter K6QI k6qi@sbcglobal.net323-5742

Nomination Committee Chairman:

Steve Miller K6FDR488-4102

Thomas L. Whitlock

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Happy October Birthday Greetings to these FARC Members

**DAVID HATCH
JERRY BOGDANOFF
KEN WALSH
LISA NELSON
RED STILLMAN
SHARON ANDERSON
TED MILLER**

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WB6C
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October 8, 2004 Topic: Terrorism and Disasters in the San Joaquin Valley.

The San Joaquin Valley is considered a fairly likely area for both terrorism and terrorists. Fresno is a target-rich area for terrorism, and a lot of support for terrorists has come from the San Joaquin Valley. Possible targets, including some "outside the box", will be discussed. And not all terrorists are middle-easterners--we have our own domestic terrorists, too.

Disasters can be man made (including terrorism) and natural. The most likely natural disasters in the San Joaquin Valley are earthquakes and floods. The two largest flood plains in the United States are the Mississippi River valley and the Central Valley of California. Earthquakes, flooding including dam failure, wild fires, and volcanic eruptions (entirely possible) will be discussed.

The speaker:

Glen H. Blomgren, KG6VWG
Born August 10, 1930 in Fresno
Orange Center Elementary School
Washington Union High School 48
Fresno State College BA 58, MA 62
UCLA EdD 72

US Army Corps of Engineers 51-53, Combat
Engineer Officer

First Class Radiotelephone License 63
Private Pilot--SEL License
Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic License
Married to Gwen since November 51
Three sons, five grand kids, seven great grand kids
Twenty-nine years experience teaching electricity, electronics, integrated circuits applications, digital logic, machine language programming, automatic process control, etc. at California State University, Fresno.
Retired 91

Now doing volunteer work for the Fresno Police Department Civilians On Patrol (COP) program, and as an instructor in the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.

HAPPY



HALLOWEEN



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The Satellite Beacon

*A monthly article presented by the Project OSCAR
Amateur Radio Club*

This Month's Topic - What is an OSCAR Satellite?

By Don Ferguson KD6IRE - President of Project OSCAR

Project OSCAR (Orbiting Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio) started in 1960 and was responsible for the construction of the first Amateur Radio Satellite OSCAR-1, that was successfully launched from Vandenberg AFB in California. OSCAR-1 orbited the earth for 22 days, transmitting the "HI" greeting you see in Morse Code above.

In the beginning, OSCAR satellites were mostly beacons in the sky, encouraging hams all over the world to listen to them. Later, OSCARS became more sophisticated and hams could use them to communicate across great distances. OSCAR 40, for example, enabled people to communicate across distances up to 13,000 miles at one time!

Most FM satellites are not as sophisticated as AO-40, though AO-51 or Echo approaches that level of sophistication. AO-51 orbits the earth at an altitude of 800km every 94 minutes, and allows hams to communicate across continents using small hand held FM radios or easy to assemble ground stations. This easy to use radio system means that working satellites is not limited to a select few - all hams are entitled to use them. If you want to look beyond you local repeater, this is for you

If you have never used a satellite to communicate before, here are some tips

Visit the Project OSCAR website at <http://www.projectoscar.net> to find some information, or visit the AMSAT website at <http://www.amsat.org>. Both websites will give you some great information to get started such as the proper frequencies and PL tones, as well as some easy to follow instructions.

More importantly, contact your local representative for AMSAT who is called your area coordinator, or drop us a line through the Project OSCAR website. If you need additional help, or if you belong to a local radio club, invite your local AMSAT area coordinator to come and speak to your group.

Contributed by Don Ferguson KD6IRE - President of Project OSCAR

Program Notes - September 10, 2004

by Carole KG6TTF

Last month's program was about satellite communication, presented by Jan/KG6SUL and Carole/KG6TTF. About 50 people attended. Carole gave a brief history of amateur satellites and key terms, utilizing an AMSAT presentation created by Emily Clark/W0EEC, with her permission. Jan gave a hands-on demonstration of how to make satellite contacts using simple equipment, such as a Kenwood TH6-FA and an Arrow Yagi antenna. Many great questions were asked, and the audience interest and participation was much appreciated. If you missed the program and would like the handout sheet with links to relevant websites, or if you'd just like to talk about satellites, you can call Jan and Carole at 229-2554, or email them at jwhitt1@comcast.net (Jan) and kg6ttf@amsat.org (Carole).

Nominations for available Board positions were opened. President Kim/KF6ZSW nominated the following members: Craig Carter/K6QI; John Martin/KG6AWB; Marcus Beedle/KG6QNY and Varouj Kalinian/N6DBH. Craig/K6QI nominated Kim Davis/KF6ZSW; Jan Whitteberry/KG6SUL; Rob Mavis/AE6GE; Bob Allen/WA6ITN and Richard Pack/KE6SHL. Dave Smith/W6TE nominated Rick Fornes/KA6Y; Jim Nelson/W6ALE and Jimmie Wakefield/W6PSQ. Keith Harter/WB6CXX nominated Tom Whittlock/WD6DGR. Previously, Jimmie had nominated Ken Holden/WA6OIB and Dave Smith/W6TE. This makes a total of fifteen candidates for the six openings on the board. Nominations for the board of directors were closed on a motion from John/W6JWK and a second by Stu/WB6VRJ. Membership approved. Nominations Chair Steve Miller/K6FDR confirmed the list. Each candidate will be confirmed via telephone call from a member of Steve's committee, and each may submit a 50-word statement for publication in SKIP.

All ballots will be mailed according to the club by-laws. Ballots must be marked in accordance with the instructions printed on them and must be returned by mail on or before October 8, 2004, or be brought sealed in the provided return envelope to the October 8th FARC meeting. A return envelope without a name or call sign on it will be considered invalid. (FARC Bylaws, Sect. 8).

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**ROBERT'S
RULES OF
ORDER**

Some members have inquired as to the meaning of Robert's Rules and why they are used by most organizations. Here's a helpful and informational web site:
www.rulesonline.com

Note from the Editors: We held the publication of SKIP for as long as possible in order to give every candidate a chance to submit a written statement. We know that you all care about your club and want to carefully consider the candidates before casting your very important vote. To save space, candidates were asked to limit their statements to 50 words, and we appreciate those who diligently did so.

FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Bob Allen/WA6ITN: I first became a member of FARC in 1974 and was active on 15 meters for a short time and, due to various reasons, I became inactive. In 1985 I rejoined FARC and resumed activity on 220 MHz and then on 2 meters. Since 2002, I have helped with newspaper collection and also printing and mailing SKIP. I have been a Director since 2003 and was treasurer for 2003. I have also served on several committees. I would appreciate your vote.

Marcus Beedle/KG6QNY: I've worked for the City of Fresno for 6 years as a Licensed Bus Operator. I have always been interested in ham radio, to where I finally joined FARC and became licensed. I've helped with the Paper drive, Community Awareness, and Hamfest. I have met many folks in FARC and have had the pleasure to help our president in many ways.

Craig Carter/K6QI: Originally licensed as wn6rmp in the late 60's, upgraded to wb6rmp, but with kids, work etc... I let the ticket go. In 1998, I got interested again. In 2000 I got my Extra, and got my new call. I still do work code, but not as much. Now you can find me 75, 40 or 10 meter AM. In 2001 I joined FARC, got elected and here we are! It's been a great two years, and I think the club has come a long way.

Kim Davis/KF6ZSW: It's been an honor to serve as your FARC President for the past two years. I've made lasting friendships with many of you. Together, we have been able to do so many positive things for our club, including a donated Emergency Communications trailer, a high profile Hamfest, fundraisers, and much more! Please vote for me and I will continue this positive direction! I love this club! For the six Board positions open, I recommend the following very involved people: Craig/K6QI, Jan/KG6SUL, Bob/WA6ITN, Richard/KE6SHL, Varouj/N6DBH, John/KG6AWB, and Marcus/KG6QNY.

Rick Fornes/KA6Y: I would like to offer the FARC my 33 years of amateur radio expertise and engineering experience. I enjoy helping other become technical experts in the field of amateur radio as well as showing others the fun side of the hobby. I feel the club needs a change in direction with more unity and FUN. My goal is to help the club grow and enjoy the hobby without all the politics we have seen over the last year.

Ken Holden/WA6OIB: Extra Class License; First Licensed in 1959. I've been a Ham since 11. My uncle W6NEE (SK) used to take me to the FARC meetings up in the old PG&E Building downtown. That's where I met many of the hams that would help me shape my life and endear me to this great hobby. I've been a member of FARC for most of my life and have served as a board member for many years. Until recently I maintained the club's repeater system at Meadow Lakes for over 30 years. I look forward to again serve with a board dedicated to serving the present and future membership.

John Martin/KG6AWB: I became a Ham and joined FARC in April 2000. I 'm proud to be running for a Board position, partly because in the past four years the Club has given me a great deal of pleasure and a lot of help with Ham Radio. I love being a Ham, but what I like most are the great people I've met and am able to fellowship with. I've seen this Club grow and become very active in the community. I want to give back something; this is why I'm running.

Rob Mavis/AE6GE: holds an Extra Class Amateur Radio License and has been licensed since 1999. Rob has served the club as its newsletter editor for the last four years and the Secretary for 2004. Rob is active in contesting, club activities and has served on many club committees.

Continued on the next page)

FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATE STATEMENTS
(Continued from previous page)

VAROUJ Kalinian/N6DBH: Advanced call sign N6DBH, licensed in 1982, but I've been in ham radio since 1959 operating from overseas as OD5CS and F0HN. I'm in love with radio. It's my only hobby. I practice it wholeheartedly. If elected, I'd like to help in the swap meets, auctions and estate sales, and run the swap net on Sundays.

Jim Nelson/W6ALE: I moved to Fresno from Pennsylvania 6 years ago. I have been in Amateur Radio for almost 5 years. I have been a member of FARC for 3 years. I believe a change in leadership is needed. We need a much happier club. Thanks for your consideration.

Richard Pack/KE6SHL: The fellow going around taking pictures at the club meetings and events. This past year you may have talked with me at Field Day between running power cables, working the SSB phone station, operating the VHF station, or taking pictures. I look forward to getting more members "Radio Active" on the radio and with club events. Getting more amateurs "radio active" is good for the amateur radio community as a whole and FARC.

Dave Smith/W6TE: I am asking for your support for the FARC BOD. Many are unhappy with the direction the BOD is taking the club. The main focus the BOD should have is "UNITING" the club instead of "DIVIDING" the club. My focus will be to build bridges and re-unite the FARC members.

Jimmie Wakefield/W6PSQ: I was licensed in 1938 as W6PSQ. I was AA6Q in Hawaii, and used the Vanity Call System to get my old call back. I joined the club in 1936, and except for 14 years in the islands, I've belonged to FARC, originally San Joaquin Radio Club. I've been active in club activities during my entire membership.

Tom Whitlock/WD6DGR: NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

Jan Whitteberry/KG6SUL: As a board member and PIO, I've been involved in Hamfest, Field Day, the Picnic, FARECC, and fundraising. I have 20 years of telecommunications and PC experience to offer as part of the Tech Committee. My goal is to continue the positive path FARC is on and promote the sharing of ideas and technical knowledge for which hams are known.

2004 Christmas Party/Awards Banquet:

Saturday, Dec. 11, 6-11 PM, Ramada Inn's Van Ness Room, 324 E. Shaw Ave. (Shaw and 41). Tri-Tip Dinner/\$20 per person. We must have your money in by 12-09-04. (no tickets at the door; you must pay in advance and we will have your name as you check in). Seating is limited; please mail your check in today:

Mail your check to FARC/Christmas Awards Banquet, P.O. Box 783, Fresno CA 93712-0783

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Guest(s) _____

Please reserve _____ dinners @ \$20 each. _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Thank you and Merry Christmas/Happy Holidays, Kim/KF6ZSW, 287-9051

Treasurer's Report for the month of August - Summary As of September 2, 2004

Assets

Petty Cash.....	50.00
Checking (current balance).....	2855.78
Savings (current balance).....	5133.30

Income

Membership Dues.....	80.00
Papers	0.00
Drawing Tickets.....	135.00
Fundraiser - Ovations.....	150.00
Refreshments	15.50
Skip Advertising.....	40.00
Christmas Dinner.....	80.00
ARRL renewal.....	39.00
Total Income.....	517.11

Expenses

Printing	47.40
Drawings	50.02
Refreshments	13.97
Licenses and Permits	20.00
Office Supplies	83.65
Postage	37.00
Rent (6 months@Squaw Valley)....	72.00
Total Expenses	324.04

Net income 193.07

Notes: Thanks to the four people who paid for their Christmas dinners! Under Fundraisers, we had income from two Grizzley games. We had several new members and a couple returning ones who paid their dues. The ARRL notation indicates that a member chose to renew through our club. The State of California is now charging a fee for licensing non-profits who have official raffles; we have our license and are in compliance.

Respectfully submitted by,
Carole Whitteberry/KG6TTF, Treasurer

FUNDRAISING starts with YOU!

As I went through the books to begin preparing the financial report for our annual business meeting in October, I realized how important fund raising has become to our club in the last few years.

Here is a comparison of the total income from the last three years. All figures are calculated according to the calendar year, spanning January 1 to December 31.

2003	2002	2001
14,847.78	8,199.40	10,736.59

2003 was our biggest year to date. I only ran detailed reports for the four most recent years for comparison purposes because our fixed costs are most similar for that time period.

The reason for the huge increase? Fundraising.

The deals Kim/KF6ZSW negotiated with Ovations led to \$4,282.29 being added to our coffers in 2003.

Our next greatest fundraiser was the recycling of newspapers, which brought in \$1,132.77.

In comparison, membership dues brought in \$2,800 in 2003; a \$397 increase over the figures for 2002. (By the way, dues have remained at \$15 per year since at least 1992!)

Our yearly operating expenses are much larger than the income provided by membership dues, approximately \$10,000 per year over the last four years. Consequently, we rely on membership participation in events and fundraisers in order to maintain our current level of operations.

And how are we doing this year? Final figures are being compiled for the October

meeting, but our current income total (just through early September) is already \$10,006.73. This is without the influx of membership renewals that begins in October-and most importantly, without our major fall fundraisers. The Grizzley games through Ovations netted \$629.50, which

helped keep our summer totals up.

Comparing this year with last, you can see that the club's financial health is even better; the difference is the fundraising combined with good fiscal management by the board.

2004	2003	Difference	%
10,006.73	8,477.24	+1,529.49	+18

So where does the money go? It doesn't sit in a bank account. Instead, it is put to work for the club! Major endeavors this year have included the purchase of new repeater equipment, a spectacular Hamfest that cost about a third more than previous ones, and the preparations for a Christmas banquet to be enjoyed by members and guests.

Currently, the board is researching even more fundraising options; we should have details by January.

I would like to thank the following people who have been integral to the fundraising efforts during the last fiscal year:



Kim/KF6ZSW; Steve/K6FDR; Jim/KF6GKC; Craig/K6QL, wife Vickie, and their friends; Jan/KG6SUL; Richard/KE6SHL; Bob/WA6ITN; Bob/KF6FIG; John/KG6AWB; Pat/KG6BXZ; Marcus/KG6QNY; Ted/K6FGE; Paul/W6VPS; Tom/KG6KYU; Marcie/KG6KYT; Dan/KG6ALC; Patty Kenny; and all the others who have taken the time to give back to our club. You are all terrific!

I would also like to thank the current board for all their help as I adjusted to the position of Treasurer in the middle of the year. I've worked closely with many of them on projects and have the utmost respect for their integrity and abilities.

As treasurer, I ask you, the membership, to participate in these fundraising efforts as much as you can, in order to support your club.

If you have any questions regarding the financial status of the club, or any concerns regarding the club, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Michael B. Staal K5MYC
Vice President/Designer

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SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION Report for the month of August 2004:

SM Charles McConnell, W6DPD- ASM K6YK, ACC W6DPD, SEC N6ZFN, OOC N1VM, STM K6RAU, PIC KE6IGJ, TC W6TE.

Greetings from the ARRL San Joaquin Valley Section.

The new Section Emergency Coordinator is Marie Thompson, N6ZFN. She has distinguished herself as the EC for W. Kern County for many years. Thanks to Kent, K6IN for his years of service as SEC, and good luck in your move to Nevada.

Need to take an Amateur Exam? Exams are given on various times of each month throughout the San Joaquin Valley Section. Check the ARRL web page, www.arrl.org for the schedule by clicking on the Exams button in the upper left corner. You should be able to find an exam near you. You can also check your local radio club newsletter or web page for an exam schedule. Remember the General Class Exam changed on July 1, 2004. Make sure the study material for General has an effective date of July 1, 2004.

Card Checking in the Section. You can get cards checked for awards within the section. W6XX and W6DPD can check your cards for DXCC in accordance with the rules for field checking. W6DPD can check cards for the CQ Awards, WAZ, DX, and Prefixes, and ARRL WAS and VUCC. Special Service Clubs may appoint a HF awards manager for WAS and a VHF Awards Manager for VUCC.

The Western States Weak Signal Society (WSWSS) presents a Ham Radio VHF/UHF Conference on Saturday October 9, 2004. The conference will be at M2 Antenna Systems at 4402 N. Selland in Fresno. The conference cost is \$30. For registration information contact ki6ff@juno.com and the web page at www.wswss.org. The annual Turlock ARC Auction is Saturday October 16, 2004 in Turlock. Check www.w6bxn.org for information.

Pacificon 04 is October 15-17, 2004 at the San Ramon Marriott. Check www.pacificon.org for information. This should be another fine show under the direction of the Mt. Diablo ARC. You can order tickets from the webpage.

If you Work All States between April 1 and the end of 2004, you can apply for a WAS/90 certificate from ARRL. No QSL cards are needed, only log information. The cost is \$10. This is to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of ARRL.

When your affiliated club elects officers for the next year, be sure to update your club's information on the affiliated club area of the ARRL web page.

Emergency Coordinators are needed in Mono and Calaveras Counties. Contact N6ZFN (n6zfn@ares-races.net) or W6DPD (w6dpd@arrl.org) if you can help.

Please write your congressional representative and urge support and co-sponsorship of HR 713, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act and HR 1478, which would apply PRB-1 to CC&Rs. Also contact your Senators and urge support and co-sponsorship of S 537, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act.

BPL. All Amateurs are urged to contact President Bush (president@whitehouse.gov) to urge him to change his position on BPL. Also, please contact your senators and representative to urge them to oppose the implementation of BPL. Check the ARRL web page (arrl.org) for more information, sample letters and email addresses. The Northern California Net (NCN), the Section Traffic Net, meets nightly on 3.630 MHz at 7 PM Pacific Time. The slow speed training session of the net meets nightly on 3.705 MHz at 9 PM Pacific Time.

Handling traffic on CW is a good way to improve your CW skills. It is my sad duty to report that KF6HNG has become a Silent Key. She will be missed. N6SUZ is an ORS.

Six TCARES members participated in Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) training. The Red Cross has 9 Ford Excursions outfitted as ERVs. The nearest one is located in Sacramento.

W6WTG presented a forum on internet remote bases at the ARRL SW Division Convention in Phoenix.

Congratulations to AA6K, K6LLD, AD6NY, AJ6LS and W6VPS on completing the ARECC Level One course, and to WA6MFV on completing ARECC Level Two course.

Sierra ARC members supported a Boy Scout Cam at Big Meadow near Kernville. They provided communications and taught the Radio Merit Badge. Five Scouts were able to earn the merit badge.

WR6M placed first and W6TE placed second in the section in the 2004 ARRL SSB DX contest. N6HK was 5th as a single op 15 meter entry and N6EE was 6th as a single op 10 meter entry. There were 9 entries from the section in the SSB contest. K6OQ placed first and W6TE placed second in the section in the 2004 ARRL CW International DX Contest. There were 10 entries from the Section in the CW contest. Traffic for August was 0. PSHR K6RAU 70.

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 day in Fresno, California. Exams are given on Sunday and Begin at 1:00 P.M.

* November 7

Location: Seventh Day Adventist Central Church, 2980 East Yale, Fresno CA 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.

Theory Exams are multiple choice. Code Exam is fill in the blank. Express mail is used to send paperwork to ARRL, who sends data to FCC via electronic mail, thus assuring the fastest possible service on new licenses which typically arrive in about 2 weeks.

Bring: Two ID's, one with photo. Taxpayer ID Number (Social Security Number) or ULS registration number. Fee is \$12.00 per test session. Original copy of Amateur License and CSCE's if upgrading.

Talk in on W6TO/R 146.940 repeater. Walk-in's only, no pre-registration.

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

**FARC Meeting of the Board of Directors - 8/5/2004
Whitteberry Residence
5056 North Glenn Ave., Fresno, CA 93704**

**CORRECTED AND APPROVED MINUTES AT
THE SEPT. 2, 04 BOARD MEETING.**

Board Members present:

Bob Allen WA6ITN, Kim Davis KF6ZSW, Carole Whitteberry KG6TTF, Jan Whitteberry KG6SUL, Gene Davis W7POR, Jim Bianchi KF6GKC, Rob Mavis AE6GE, Craig Carter K6QI, and Mark Carpenter K6ORJ.

Guest, Marsha Allen.

Board Members absent: John Morrice K6MI and Richard Pack KE6SHL.

Meeting called to order at 1955 by President Kim Davis.

Kim greeted and thanked Board Members for their participation in activities throughout the year. Kim also wanted to point out what a great job Community Awareness Chairman Steve Miller/K6FDR has done.

The minutes of the last Board Meeting were approved and printed in SKIP; so no copies were handed out to the Board Members. Craig K6QI made the motion to accept the minutes as printed in SKIP and Jim KF6GKC seconded. Vote: 9 yes, unanimous.

Carole KG6TTF reported on the treasury. The summary of the Treasurer's report will be printed in the next edition of SKIP.

While filing the State paperwork for the club, Carole found that the club now has to register to hold drawings. There was a discussion on the rules and procedures for holding raffles verses drawings. Jan KG6SUL made the motion "Task the Treasurer to file the Raffle Registration Form with the State of California with the dates of the meetings that we plan on holding a drawing and pay \$20.00 annual fee" and Gene W7POR seconded. Vote: 7 yes, and 2 no (Jim KF6GKC and Rob AE6GE).

Carole is researching how to lower the insurance for the club's trailer.

Kim KF6ZSW adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 2020. There were discussions on the club repeater and a past club member.

Returned from Executive Session at 2114. Jan made the motion to have the club's Attorney (who is donating his time) send a letter to Pat Fennacy W6YEP clarifying and reiterating that he is to stay off the club's W6TO repeater system (A cc will be sent to Riley Hollingsworth) and Gene W7POR seconded. Vote: 9 yes, unanimous.

Kim KF6ZSW reported that Technician and General classes will be held this Fall. They will be taught by Gene W7POR and Kim KF6ZSW. Jan KG6SUL stated he would fill in when needed for the Technician classes.

Kim KF6ZSW reported that the deposit had been sent to The Ramada Inn for our 2004 Holiday/Awards Banquet.

Kim thanked Bob WA6ITN and Marcus KG6QNY for their assistance with the Paper Recycling Fundraiser.

Craig K6QI reported that the website is going good and is now at the new address: <http://www.w6to.com>. Craig also needs any information or pictures to add to the website.

Kim reported that Terry KF6LXB is researching the 501 (c)(3) info, etc.

Kim thanked Carole and Jan for their hospitality for having the meeting at their residence.

Kim adjourned the meeting at 2123.



FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - 501(c)3 - THE RIGHT THING TO DO -

By: Terry E. Horak, KF6LXB

The IRS grants tax exempt status to a wide variety of organizations - everything from social clubs to churches, and charitable organizations that serve their communities. They have very strict criteria for making their determinations. Currently the Fresno Amateur Radio Club is a 501(c)7 - a social club, which was fine when the club first organized and presented itself to the IRS for determination. However, since 9/11, our world and community has changed. With our skills and potential, we can no longer be just a social club. We have a duty to step up and put our skills and knowledge to work for the well being of our community. In fact, our founders had community service in mind when our Articles of Incorporation were written. One of the purposes is "To promote and encourage in the owners and operators of amateur radio stations a sense of greater responsibility to the public, to each other, and to the governments of the United States of America and the State of California." Our club is presently presenting itself in many new and exciting arenas to fulfill our responsibility: Obtainment of the Emergency Communications Trailer, FARECC, an expanded Hamfest and License Training Programs.

With this renewed exciting and bright future, it becomes necessary to provide funding beyond our current abilities for equipment, training, scholarships, and much more. Many of us have a limited budget for our hobby (as a recent retiree, I certainly know the consequences of living on a fixed income) A whole new avenue becomes available to the FARC by obtaining a 501(c)3 determination from the IRS. It opens the doors to donations that can be written off on a person's Federal Income Tax: it makes us eligible to apply for numerous grants - both private and government and it potentially makes possible starting an Endowment Fund to support our activities.

Our current 501(c)7 status ties our hands - the 501(c)3 determination will not only open new doors financially, but will help us focus on our real mission, and being in the Fresno arena. It will focus us to develop and follow aggressive goals. Will we still have social opportunities - YOU BET, but they will become CELEBRATIONS of what we have accomplished as Amateur Radio Operators.



EC'S CORNER

-Gene W7POR

Your FARECC team continues to sharpen its communications and response skills. Assistant Emergency Coordinator Steve Miller/K6FDR organized a drill with a call-up on the W6TO two meter repeater, then moved off to a simplex frequency. Stations were dispatched to a number of locations to simulate a real event. There will be more of these exercises as we fine tune the system. However, it has become evident that the Fresno Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Corps is able to perform its mission right now. We are constantly reminded by Homeland Security

officials that we must maintain constant vigilance. From potential terrorist attacks to natural and man-made disasters, to helping charitable organizations safely run their events, we are ready. As we watch and listen to the various Amateur Radio groups around the country step up to help people in need, we know the community has been reminded of our mission and definition of purpose. Our FARECC members have a right to be proud of what we are doing.

73,

Gene Davis – W7POR

FARC Emergency Coordinator



FCC POISED TO ACT ON BPL REPORT AND ORDER IN MID-OCTOBER

From the ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League

The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) will present a draft broadband over power line (BPL) Report and Order to the full Commission when it meets October 14, the ARRL has learned. More than 6100 comments have been filed on the topic since the FCC released its initial Notice of Inquiry in the proceeding, ET Docket 03-104, in April 2003 and a subsequent Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), ET Docket 04-37, in February of this year. The ARRL so far on this round has taken its concerns regarding Amateur Radio and BPL to three of the Commission's five members. In a meeting this week with FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein, an ARRL delegation again asserted that the FCC is pushing the proceeding to a predetermined conclusion with little regard for technical issues.

"Because the FCC has been unwilling to release for public review the results of its own tests and observations of BPL systems, the ARRL has no confidence that the draft Report and Order will be based on sound engineering and believes the rush to adoption is unwarranted and premature," ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said in a follow-up letter to Adelstein. The letter reiterated the League's key points that, it said, "represent the minimum protection" that should be incorporated into the BPL Report and Order prior to Commission adoption.

"Without adequate safeguards, the deployment of BPL systems will result in the pollution and degradation of the unique natural resource of the high-frequency radio spectrum," Sumner said.

The League argued that the R&O include a reduction in the radiated emission limit. The ARRL wants the limit set 30 dB below current Part 15 requirements, which, it says, were established with narrowband point-source radiators in mind. "The record in this proceeding clearly establishes that BPL is not a point-source radiator," the ARRL's letter asserted.

The ARRL pointed out that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has concluded that at the current Part 15 limit, interference is "likely" to receivers in land vehicles 75 meters from BPL-connected power lines and to fixed stations 460 meters from such power lines.

"Given the number of amateur stations and the fact that they almost invariably are located near power lines, the areas of potential interference at the existing Part 15 limit are clearly too large to permit case-by-case resolution of interference issues," Sumner said. "Based on experience with the very limited test deployments of BPL systems to date, notably in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Southern Wake County, North Carolina, and Cottonwood, Arizona," the ARRL told Adelstein, "widespread BPL deployment at the existing Part 15 radiated emission limit

will result in an unmanageable incidence of interference."

The only way to reduce these areas of potential interference is to reduce the radiated emission limit, the ARRL maintained. Mandatory "notching" of the amateur bands by 30 dB would reduce the probability of interference to amateur stations sufficiently that the remaining interference cases might be resolved on a case-by-case basis. "However," the League added, "such notching would not solve the problem for other radio services."

The ARRL contingent, which included Sumner, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, decried the FCC's lack of response to issues Sumner raised two months ago regarding a North Carolina Amateur Radio interference complaint. The ARRL representatives carried copies of correspondence questioning a July OET report that essentially gave the Progress Energy Corp BPL field trial a clean bill of health despite continued interference on amateur frequencies.

The League delegation suggested to Adelstein that the OET has swept the North Carolina BPL interference case under the rug and has attempted to discount interference issues in general while overstating the FCC's ability to address them.

Other points the ARRL has stressed in its meetings with Commission members include:

- * consider including the NTIA's recommendations to standardize measurement procedures and to require that Access BPL systems be certificated, not merely verified.
- * requiring independent confirmation of rules compliance before a BPL system is placed in operation.
- * the need for advance public notification of BPL system locations and characteristics, something not included in the NPRM
- * performance standards for interference mitigation that would require that interference be terminated immediately upon notification to the operator; and meaningful penalties for non-compliance, including fines.
- * require BPL marketers to "give clear notice to potential customers that licensed radio services have priority and that the delivery of broadband service via BPL cannot be guaranteed."

In addition to Adelstein, ARRL representatives have met so far with Commissioners Kevin J. Martin, and Michael J. Copps. The League hopes to meet with the principal advisors to Chairman Michael K. Powell and Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy before the October 7 cutoff for exparte communications in the proceeding.



FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
P.O. Box 783
Fresno, CA 93712-0783

Send To:

F.A.R.C. DUES ARE \$15.00 PER YEAR FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP.
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Name _____ Date _____
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Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____
Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____
Occupation _____ Birthdate _____
License Class _____ Year first Licensed _____
E-mail Address _____ ARRL Member? _____

I am interested in serving on one of the committees; please contact me with more details _____.

FARC – P.O. Box 783, Fresno CA 93712-0783

Upcoming 2004 Fresno Amateur Radio Club Activities and Events

Oct 8 Homeland Security Presentation
Ballots are in & counted
Nov 12 Swap meet
Dec 11 Holiday Awards Banquet -Ramada Inn