



FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2004 Volume 65, Issue 11

Our next FARC Board Meeting will be on Nov. 4th, 7 PM at Jan's/KG6SUL and Carole's/KG6TTF home (5056 N. Glenn Ave./coming from 41, take Shaw exit and cross Blackstone, turn right on Del Mar, right on Twain, corner of Glenn and Twain, 229-2554). Our next FARC General Meeting will be our Annual Swap on Nov. 12th, 7PM, Cedar Lanes in the Holiday Room. Please bring your treasures through the front door, the back door will be locked. Remember, what you don't sell you must take back with you! This is a free event and tables will be provided. This event is always a lot of fun; so please plan on attending!!!! Don't forget that the Holidays are almost here and please send in your reservations now for FARC's Holiday/Awards Banquet! We will see you there on Dec. 11th at The Ramada Inn!!!

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

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON
ELECTION DAY, NOV. 2ND!**

**HAPPY VETERAN'S DAY AND
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

We are all looking forward to our Annual Swap on Nov. 12th! This is always the highlight of the year! If you don't have anything to sell or don't want to buy anything please still attend; because we will have coffee and good conversation! Also, we all need more Ham stuff!

You must attend our 2004 Holiday/Awards Banquet on December 11th 6-11 PM at the Ramada Inn (please see reservation form inside SKIP); besides our awards, this is where we introduce your new FARC Board Of Directors and officers. We will be presenting awards for service on committees and events as well as our top (and fun) awards: J. Allen Ross Award, Boner Award and much more!

Some of us just returned from PACIFICON '04, and as always it was a lot of fun and very informative! We met Hams from all over! One of the many highlights this year was the Saturday evening banquet with speaker, ARRL Vice President Kay Craigie/N3KN. Kay had a wealth of information on ARRL programs. She is a member of the Administration and Finance Committee of the Board, and was the original designer of "The Big Project," an open-ended program enabling teachers to integrate Amateur Radio into their classroom curriculum. Kay's main focus of her talk was, **THE PAST IS A NICE PLACE TO VISIT; BUT WE SHOULDN'T LIVE IN THE PAST!** This should be the focus for FARC!!
(Continued on Page Three)



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

President:	Kim Davis	KF6ZSW	kdavis@gotnet.net	287-9051	12/31/04
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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

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

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!

HELPFUL CLUB COMMITTEES

- Field Day Committee Chairman:
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- Education/Scholarship Chairman:
Jim Bianchi KG6GKC432-5517
- Fund Raising Chairman:
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- 2005 Hamfest Chairmen:
Kim Davis KF6ZSW287-9051
Marcus Beedle KG6QNY360-7444
- Paper Fund Raiser Chairman:
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- Public Information Officer:
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- 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.net ...645-6849
- Web Site Manager:
Craig Carter K6QI k6qi@sbcglobal.net323-5742

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The Prez Says - *(Continued From Front Page)*

Since 9-11, etc. the focus of Ham Radio has changed with the many things Ham Radio now has to offer! It can be a lot of fun and informative for all age groups!!!

Another highlight of PACIFICON was the AMSAT presentation by Emily Clarke/W0EEC. Emily has been a Ham since Feb. 2003. Since becoming active on satellites 16 months ago, she logged over 8000 contacts in 46 countries and has earned a VUCC, WAC, and the W4AMI award. Emily is a board member of Project OSCAR filling a role VP of membership development, and was a co-chair of the Project OSCAR 2004 Space. She is also Director of Website development at AMSAT.

There was also the 47th Scout Jamboree on the Air at the Special Event Station. Even through the hotel lost power for a few hours; the Scouts were prepared with their own emergency power. The rest of us had flash lights, hi!

Some of us attended the Royal Order of the WOUFF HONG ceremony at Midnight on Saturday night. If you haven't done this, it is really worth doing!

There were just too many activities to go over now at this year's PACIFICON, we hope to see you there next year; the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club does an outstanding job!!!!

All of this shows you there is a lot more to Ham Radio than just 2 meter repeaters!

See you all at our November Swap!

73, Kim/KF6ZSW

FCC ADOPTS NEW BPL RULES, ACKNOWLEDGES ITS INTERFERENCE POTENTIAL

From The ARRL Letter October 15, 2004

As expected, the FCC this week adopted revised Part 15 (unlicensed services) rules to specifically regulate broadband over power line (BPL) systems. Meeting October 14 in open session, the Commission adopted a Report and Order in ET Docket 04-37. In comments before voting, three members of the Commission, including Chairman Michael Powell, specifically cited the concerns of Amateur Radio operators and expressed either assurances or hope that the new BPL rules will adequately address interference to licensed services. Republican FCC Commissioner Kevin Martin mentioned Amateur Radio's and broadcasters' interference concerns in a written statement. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said he was encouraged to see the Commission acknowledge interference to amateurs as a genuine issue in the proceeding.

"What the League has done in the last year and a half on this issue showed in the Commission's public meeting today," Haynie said Thursday. He cited the FCC's approval of three major points that the League had been pushing for: Certification of BPL equipment instead of verification, a requirement for a public BPL database -- something the BPL industry did not want--and mechanisms to deal swiftly with interference complaints. Haynie conceded, however, that the devil is in the details of the R&O, which likely will not be made public for at least a few weeks.

Anh Wride of the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET), acknowledged that Access BPL devices "pose a somewhat higher potential for interference to licensed radio services than typical Part 15 devices." But, Wride continued, "we believe the specific benefits of BPL warrant acceptance of a small degree of additional risk, and that this interference potential can be satisfactorily managed."

(Continued on Page Six)

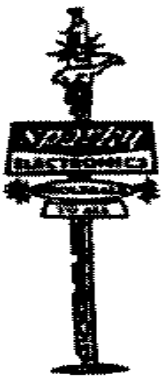
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Treasurer's Report

for the month of September - Summary
As of October 5, 2004

Assets

Petty Cash	50.00
Checking (current balance)	2975.10
Savings (current balance)	5133.30

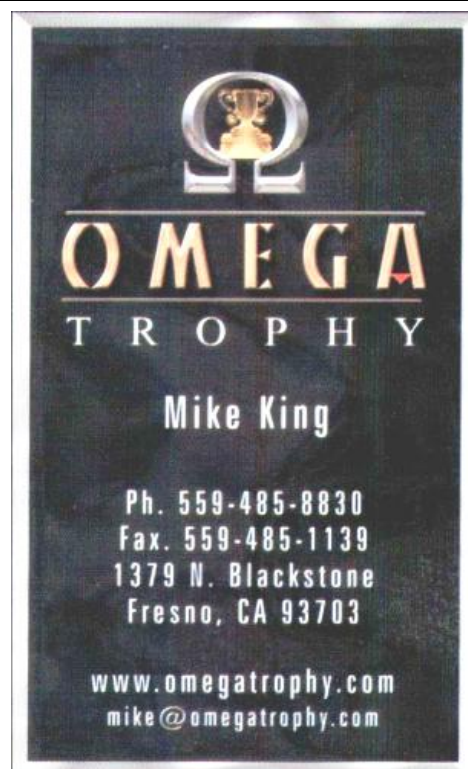
Income

Membership Dues	180.00
Papers	0.00
Drawing Tickets	111.00
Fundraiser - Ovations	50.00
Refreshments	10.00
Christmas Dinner	0.00
Total Income	351.00

Expenses

Printing	59.86
Drawings (not yet reimbursed)	0.00
Refreshments	13.97
Maintenance & Repairs (trailer tarp pin)	7.85
ARRL membership renewal	39.00
Postage	111.00
Total Expenses	231.68

Net income	119.32
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Please thank our advertisers the next time you walk in for that important item on your list. It is because we have these ads in our news letter that we can offset the costs of providing this publication. They need to know you appreciate them.

--Thanks, The Editors

Notes: Thanks to the folks who remembered to pay their 2004 dues in early September. Better late than never! Also, welcome to the new club members; we hope our club will both foster your interest in amateur radio as well as challenge you.

The Christmas Dinner is a little more than two months away. Please get your reservations in as soon as possible! The Club appreciates your support of events and the fellowship shared in the pursuit of the hobby.

Highlights of 2004 So Far

Major Income Sources: Membership Dues (\$1312.50); Drawing Tickets (\$1301.92); Grizzley Games (\$629.50); Hamfest (\$5242.34); Papers (\$506.19).

Major Expenditures: New Repeater (\$1999); a great Hamfest (\$5433.02); conversion to the trailer for communications equipment (\$1358.87).

Please note that we have not yet begun our major fundraisers for the year. Volunteer! We can use your help!

Also, payment for 2005 dues may commence at the end of October.

Respectfully submitted by,
Carole Whitteberry/KG6TTF, Treasurer

**HAPPY NOVEMBER
BIRTHDAY WISHES TO
THESE FELLOW CLUB
MEMBERS**



ANDREW BONDURANT
BERGE BULBULIAN
CRAIG CARTER
DENNIS THOMPSON
HAL TOROSIAN
JOHN MORRICE
KAREN PRITCHETT
JAY FLAHERTY
MATT YOUNG
RICHARD ESSEGAN
RICHARD PACK
ROBERT WILLIS II
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KB6GFD
K6OGX
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EC'S CORNER

- Gene Davis, W7POR

Here we are nearly a year into this project and looking pretty good. I would like to thank all FARECC participants for showing we can indeed serve the community with auxilliary communications. Not just "talking," but with highly efficient performance that rivals that of the Public Service Agencies. Then again, why not? We are Hams, but never mistake the fact that we in FARECC are not "amateurs" by any stretch of the imagination. Your club must know that we have launched a mission which has won the respect of Fresno officials and beyond. I was reading an article recently which seemed to say that emegency response organizations have trouble keeping membership enthusiasm going. This is particularly true when Government agencies insist we are needed, but seldom utilize our resources. I think the answer to that problem is to keep regular contacts and stay trained and ready! One might observe that during our regular net, there is seldom any traffic. My answer is that nets and simulations are designed to keep the troops on guard. The fact that FARECC stations are alert and committed enough to maintain a good check-in performance shows we have our communications skills and equipment poised to respond to the call. With heightened attention to potential trouble, be assured we will be needed. When the time comes, I am confident the FARECC Team will be able to not only answer, but will be prepared to adapt to whatever challenge is facing us. 73 and keep up the good work!

-Gene Davis, FARC Emergency Coordinator

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

BPL RULES ADOPTED
(Continued from Page Three)

Commissioner Michael Cops, a Democrat, said he remains concerned about interference to Amateur Radio users. "I take the concerns of this community very seriously and believe that the FCC has an obligation to work hard to monitor, investigate and take quick action, where appropriate, to resolve harmful interference."

Cops said if interference occurs, "we must have a system in place to resolve it immediately," and he expressed the hope that the new rules would include such "rapid turnaround" provisions. Cops, who dissented in part with the R&O, raised the question of whether utility ratepayers should have to "subsidize an electric power company's foray into broadband."

The Commission's other Democrat, Jonathan Adelstein, said the interference question made the proceeding a challenging one because it had to accommodate concerns raised by Public Safety licensees, federal government users and Amateur Radio operators. "These are important services that we need to protect from harmful interference," Adelstein said.

Adelstein also said that while it's clear that some BPL systems can co-exist with existing licensees, others "haven't fared so well." He said those systems shouldn't be deployed commercially until it's assured that they won't cause harmful interference.

Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy, a Republican, said the FCC had to "make some hard compromises" to deal with questions about interference. But she expressed confidence in "technical solutions."

Chairman Powell called it "a banner day" for communications in the US because, he said, BPL promises

"ubiquitous service to all Americans at affordable rates." The chairman, a Republican, conceded that BPL will affect some spectrum users--including "all those wonderful Amateur Radio operators out there."

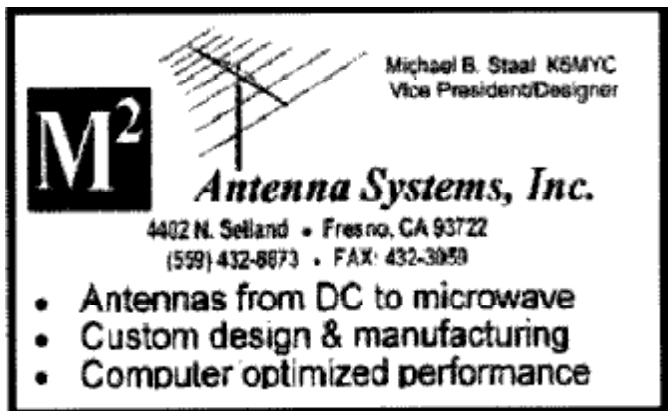
Powell said the FCC has taken Amateur Radio interference concerns seriously from the start and has put protections in place "to allow that service to continue." At the same time,

Powell implied that the FCC must balance the benefits of BPL against the relative value of other licensed services. Powell said BPL's potential for the US economy "is too great, too enormous, too potentially groundbreaking to sit idly by and allow any claim or any possible speculative fear" keep the Commission from promoting adoption of BPL technology.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, suggested that Powell was overstating the necessity of yet another broadband pipeline. "It's astonishing to me that the chairman of the FCC can talk about needing a 'third way' to provide broadband to consumers when multiple technologies already are available, including wireless broadband," he said.

The United Power Line Council (UPLC) applauded the FCC's action, saying the new rules should encourage BPL deployment while protecting licensed services from harmful interference. "We didn't get everything we wanted," said UPLC President and CEO William R. Moroney, who called the R&O "the result of close cooperation and compromise" with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to address its concerns about potential interference.

For more information on BPL, visit the "Broadband Over Power Line (BPL) and Amateur Radio" page on the ARRL Web site: <http://www.arrl.org/bpl>.



M²
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SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION

Report for the month of September 2004

September 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.

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

Thanks to AD6HP for his service as the EC for Merced County. N3TNQ is the new EC for Merced County. Thanks to AC4US for his service at the EC for San Joaquin County.

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.

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. W6XK 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.

If you Work All States between April 3 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.

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 N6REZ, K6IIA, WB6VIN, and W6PSQ have become a Silent Keys. They will be missed.

N6ZFN was sent to Florida to support Red Cross efforts there.

Congratulations to W6DWF and KG6ALC on completing the ARECC Level One course.

Sierra ARC members assisted the Kiwanis Walkathon and the Picnic in the Park bike ride on the same date.

Manteca ARC members participated in the Tracy Airport open house.

N6LHL helped provide communications for the Tevis Cup race. This is an annual horse race from Lake Tahoe to Auburn CA.

W6FRH has DXCC on 40 meters. W6RUJ has WAZ on CW.

K6XJ placed first in the SJV in the 2003 ARRL 10 Meter contest.

Traffic for September was 8. PSHR K6RAU 75, and N6SUZ 35.

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.

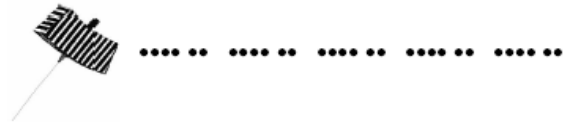
Bring: Two ID's, one with photo. Taxpayer ID Number (Social Security Number) or ULS registration number. Fee is \$12.00 per test session. Original copy of Amateur License and CSCE's if upgrading.

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

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

The Satellite Beacon

A monthly article presented by the
Project OSCAR Amateur Radio Club



This Month's Topic - Choosing A Satellite Radio
By Emily Clarke, W0EEC - VP of Project OSCAR

The purchase of a new radio is possibly the biggest decision and most debated decision a ham makes. When I started out I asked a dozen people and got as many answers. In the end, I made my decision not on what people told me, but by considering what I wanted the radio to do. Choosing a satellite radio is easy if you know what your needs are. Rather than make specific recommendations, lets examine some general capabilities.

Simultaneous Dual Band?: Satellites generally transmit on one band and receive on another. There are a number of dual band radios, but can you listen on 70cm and transmit on 2m at the same time? This cross band mode is an absolute requirement. If you have a radio that will do split band operation, this probably qualifies.

Full Duplex?: Generally you don't need a full duplex radio for repeaters, however when operating satellites it is important to monitor your own signal as it is retransmitted by the satellite. Although you can work the easy sats with a split band radio, full duplex is highly recommended. Radios with dual VFOs generally meet this criteria.

Handheld or Base?: If you plan on working satellites indoors, antennas will probably be up on the roof or on a tower. You will need extra power (10 watts or more) because you will also have cable losses to overcome. If most of your contacts will be made outside with a handheld antenna, a handheld radio might be all that you need.

All-Mode?: All mode radios are base or mobile radios that can do both FM and SSB/CW modes. They are more expensive but put out up to 100 watts. FM only radios can be used for many satellites, but high orbiting satellites always use SSB/CW modulation. If this is your goal, an all mode radio is for you. A word of caution - some handheld radios say they are all mode, but it is generally only AM receive not SSB.

HF?: Currently only two operational satellites use HF. AO-7 operates in Mode A (2m xmit, 10m receive) and AO-51 has a PSK mode that is 10m xmit and 2m receive. Note that you need HF privileges to operate AO-51 in this mode.

Packet?: Some radios have built in terminal node controllers or TNCs. These convert data from the satellite and display them on a screen or computer, and vice versa. Other radios don't have built in TNCs but have a data port for a TNC. Make sure it supports 9600 baud data.

Computer Interface?: Not all radios have the ability to be controlled by a PC running a tracking program that will

automatically correct for Doppler shift. While not very important for FM, it is a highly desirable feature for SSB/CW operation. This feature is generally only available on all-mode base station radios.

Whatever your decision, they can sometimes become permanent. Though you can quickly sell a radio you aren't happy with using online auctions it's generally a decision that is difficult for hams to make. So the best advice is to buy a radio that meets your needs and possibly needs you may have in the future.

THE PERSON BEHIND THE ANNUAL AWARD FOR EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE "A Piece of FARC History"

J. ALLEN ROSS - W6JPS

Allen was involved in amateur radio since about 1930. He and Ralph Saroyan, W6JPU were good friends and became licensed at the same time.

Like most amateurs, Allen enjoyed making contacts. He also enjoyed building his own equipment, although he used more modern gear later on.

The service aspect of amateur radio was very important to Allen. When the call went out for amateurs to assist at disasters, Allen was eager to go. Fran, N6JQW recalled quickly filling their motor home with gas and heading out to assist at the Coalinga earthquake, where their portable generator was used to power the lights initially. They also provided emergency communications at the King City fire, among others.

Allen was also involved in virtually every aspect of the Fresno Amateur Radio Club. He set up poles for antennas for many people around Fresno and had a good eye for balancing the structures.

One of his greatest pleasures was helping younger people obtain their licenses, and many kept in contact with him until he passed away. Some have stayed in contact with his wife, Fran, as well.

The spirit of J. Allen Ross lives on in the amateur radio community. Each year, a ham is chosen whose years of hard work and dedication to the club exemplify this spirit

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Fresno Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Minutes for the
Annual Business Meeting
10-15-04

Jan Whitteberry, Assistant Secretary

President Kim Davis, KF6ZSW called meeting to order @ 1906 Steve Miller, K6FDR , Nominations Chairperson announced that due to the recent passing of Jimmy Wakefield, W6PSQ (SK), the top 6 Candidates would not include Jimmy. He also stated that the cut-off for walk in ballots would be @ 1930.

Introduction of Board Members (all of whom were present except for Craig, K6QI) and attendees were made. Kim advised the attendees that portions of the last meeting were covertly taped by an unknown person or persons. She then stated that anyone wishing to tape the meeting should advise all at the meeting. No one made such advisement.

Steve again announced, (1910), that the cut-off for receiving ballots would occur at 1930.

Glen Blomgren, KG6VWG gave his Homeland Security presentation. Harold Reeks, KF6CL announced that ballot acceptance was closed @ 1932.

Carole Whitteberry, KG6TTF gave the Treasurer's Report. She stated that report will appear in the next issue of SKIP.

Kim called a recess to allow for the counting of the ballots and the selling of raffle tickets.

The meeting was called back to order @ 2039 by Kim. Steve then read the results of the vote.

The following 6 individuals were elected to Fresno Amateur Radio Club, Board of Directors.

Ken Holden, WA6OIB, ----- 75 votes
 Dave Smith, W6TE, ----- 70 votes
 Rick Fornes , KA6Y, ----- 67 votes
 Rob Mavis, AE6GE, ----- 63 votes (Incumbent)
 Jimmy Wakefield, W6PSQ ---- 55 votes (Silent Key)
 Craig Carter, K6QI, ----- 51 votes (Incumbent)
 Jim Nelson, W6ALE, ----- 51 votes

The votes for the remaining candidates are as follows:

Kim Davis, KF6ZSW, ----- 49 votes (Incumbent)
 Bob Allen, WA6ITN, ----- 48 votes (Incumbent)
 Jan Whitteberry, KG6SUL,----47 votes (Incumbent)
 John Martin, KG6AWB,----- 30 votes
 Varouj Kalinian, N6DBH,---- 28 votes
 Marcus Beedle, KG6QNY, --- 27 votes
 Richard Pack, KE6SHL , -----23 votes
 Tom Whitlock , WD6DGR ----17 votes

The balloting committee consisted of Steve Miller, K6FDR, Harold Reeks, KF6CL, Steve Cook, KB9ORK, and Patty Kenny. They were thanked for their service. 176 ballots were mailed, 124 ballots were received, and 2 ballots were disqualified for unnecessary marks.

The raffle was held immediately after the election results were announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 2058.

Whatever Happened to Jane?

by Carole Whitteberry, KG6TTF

In putting together plans to start a historical column in SKIP, I came across a bit of a mystery.

I'd thought that Kim was the first woman president of FARC, but it turns out that she's the second. The first was Jane Price/WA6HSU, who served in the 80's. I thought a story about women board members would be interesting for SKIP. Unfortunately, most of them are elderly now or are silent keys-including Jane.

The rumor around the club is that Jane was horribly murdered. I did manage to trace her through public records to Texas, under her legal name of Sarah Jane McMurry (she had remarried). However, there the trail ends, and although she is listed on the Texas Death Rolls, no cause of death was mentioned.

So what happened to Jane? I've talked to some club members, but no one seems to remember much about her, and no one seems to know how the rumor of her demise came to be.

Puzzles intrigue me, which is why I've spent some time researching this matter. So if you do remember Jane, or what happened to her, I'd appreciate a call or an email. Solving a mystery would be a great start to the history column, which we hope to kick off in December!

October Meeting Program Notes...

Carole Whitteberry

Glen/KG6VWG gave an outstanding presentation on Homeland Security, which about 40 of our members attended. He covered examples of both domestic and foreign terrorism and outlined potential targets for terrorism here in the San Joaquin Valley. He also emphasized the need to be prepared for any emergency, suggesting the following measures: stay alert, take emergency response team courses (such as CERT or Red Cross), have fire resistant roofing on houses, save 2-liter bottles and freeze with water, and store water and non-perishable supplies in at least a three-day quantity. Glen also recommended the "Refuse To Be A Victim" classes, which will be offered soon. The classes teach how to see that potential trouble is coming, recognize it, and get away from it before coming to harm. CERT classes will also be offered in the near future. Contact Glen for details on any of these classes.

Notes from Pacificon 2004

My first time to Pacificon left quite an impression. It was great seeing so many hams in one place! I particularly enjoyed meeting the Sonora club and the YLs. They even have a YL net on Sunday nights at 8 pm on 147.94 (PL 100), and all ladies are welcome to check in.

A special nod has to go to the Scouts, who continued their JOTA (Jamboree On The Air) despite a brief power outage. They were, fittingly, prepared with a generator, and kept on making QSOs while many of the adults stumbled through the darkened lobby with flashlights.

Among many good forums was the one done by Emily Clarke, our satellite columnist, and two others from AMSAT. They provided great tips for making satellite contacts; the presentation will be available at www.projectoscar.com <<http://www.projectoscar.com>>.

The vendors had lots of interesting items as well, and of course I have a yen for a new radio after looking at the displays! As Kay Craigie, the keynote speaker at the banquet, said, "Hams don't know the meaning of 'enough.'"

Ms. Craigie, Vice President of the American Radio Relay League, has worked on the League's Enforcement Task force, and was assigned to the ARRL Education and Technology Program. She gave a rousing half hour talk, one focus of which was summarized nicely in an early remark: "The past is a nice place to visit, but we can't afford to stay there." The survival of ham radio is at stake, and amateurs must move forward.

The Wouff-Hong Society initiation at midnight was truly something to behold. If you are not yet a member of this august society, you should plan to participate next year! It is, however, for those

who are stout of heart and pure of intent.

The early morning swap came far too soon after the trials of the Wouff-Hong. I was going to take pictures, but there simply was not enough light! There were many radio and computer treasures to behold; perhaps the most unusual items I saw were antique short-wave radios.

All in all, Pacificon was a great experience! I hope to go next year, and to see more familiar faces from the Valley. Kudos to the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club members and their hard work to make Pacificon happen each year in grand style!

Submitted by Carole/KG6TTF

FARC, Inc. Special Board Meeting 9-22-04

All directors were notified of the meeting pursuant to FARC By-Laws. In attendance were Kim/KF6ZSW; Carole/KG6TTF; Gene/W7POR; Jim/KF6GKC; Jan/KG6SUL; and John/K6MI. Unable to attend: Richard/KE6SHL (on military duty); Mark/K6ORJ (work); Craig/K6QI (work); Rob/AE6GE (work); Bob/WA6ITN (ill spouse).

Kim called the meeting to order at 7:05 at Bianchi Designs. The Board went immediately into Executive Session, emerging at 7:45. Executive Session was defined according to Robert's Rules of Order, and the need for conducting club business according to Robert's Rules was reiterated.

During Executive Session, personnel issues were discussed. As Rob is very busy with work and family duties and has been able to make few meetings this year, the Board discussed the need for an Assistant Secretary, provision for which may be found in the FARC By-Laws. It was agreed that Jan/KG6SUL will act as Assistant Secretary for the balance of the year.

Respectfully submitted by
Carole Whitteberry/KG6TTF, Acting Secretary

JAMES "JIMMIE" WAKEFIELD
W6PSQ
SILENT KEY
1920 - 2004

FRESNO AND CENTRAL CALIFORNIA HAMS TURN OUT FOR THE BIG PACIFICON 2004 EVENT IN SAN RAMON



The crowd at Pacificon 2004 (left)

The dynamite Mt. Diablo emergency trailer, which apparently they got sponsors for, as there are stickers on the back of it from various businesses and organizations. (right)

Photos courtesy of Carole/KG6TTF



FARC, Inc. Board Meeting Minutes 9/2/04

Kim called meeting to order at 7:02 with a quorum present: Kim/KF6ZSW, Craig/K6QI, Carole/KG6TTF, Jim/KF6GKC, Gene/W7POR, Bob/WA6ITN, Jan/KG6SUL. John Morrice/K6MI arrived at about 7:30.

Board meeting minutes of August 5 were corrected. Craig moved to approve the corrections; Jim seconded it. All approved, none opposed.

Treasurer's report: Jim motioned to approve, Craig seconded. All approved, none opposed.

Hamfest: Discussed.

The board went into Executive Session for approximately ten minutes (7:10 to 7:20) to discuss matters concerning equipment and personnel.

FARECC: Gene reported that Steve/K6FDR is planning an exercise to be staged at Holland Elementary School. The team can use his classroom to plug into electricity. Dan Pruitt's Parks Systems plan will be used to coordinate the activity. Twenty-one of the FARECC slots are filled, with primary and secondary responders in tiers.

Fall classes will be starting Sept 14-Nov 2 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Monty's KD6DRY; tech and upgrade to general.

Holiday Awards Banquet: Prizes were discussed, including the AES IC-T2H Sport HT as the grand prize plus "guy" prizes and "girl" prizes; budget would be under \$200. Craig motioned, Jan seconded, all approved.

Picnic: Harold is a committee of one looking into places. He suggested Woodward Park; the date will be July 9, 2005 11 am to 2 pm. As the city parks are already booking for next year, we need to send the deposit (\$87.50) within the next month or so. Some discussion was had; no motion made.

Field Day: FARC is trying to locate at a local high school, such as CART or Sanger High School. City Parks might not allow overnight visitors. Jim suggested Kearney Park; Harold will check into it.

FARC Fund Raising: Discussed fund raising. 501c(3) status is necessary for a lot of grants and donations. There is a company which will prepare the filing package; the cost would be approximately \$649 + \$500 filing fee. It will take 2-3 months to get all the documentation together; the goal is to get it in by December or January, as it may take 6 months to get approval. Jim motioned to approve \$1200 to lock that in, Craig seconded, all approved.

Paper Drive: Bob made a couple swings through town. Marcus is looking into a tarp. After the next Friday meeting, they will haul and empty papers. Members at the meeting can dump papers in Bob's truck or Paul's to take to paper trailer.

Web site: working great. QSL.net cleaned out, just left link to new site.

Old Business: Kim said that the new management that took over at Cedar Lanes (Ribs and Tips) does not seem as generous as previous owners. To help save money, it's likely to have board meetings at Bianchi Designs now or at board members' homes. The last general meeting was moved at the last minute by Cedar Lanes to the Walnut Room, which is much smaller. To reduce costs, we may use the Walnut Room from now on. The November swap will be in the Holiday Room.

New Business: Gene reported on the last FARECC meeting. FARECC needs an operating budget. So far, Gene has been furnishing items needed by FARECC, such as laminator for ID cards. Patches need to be ordered with FARECC logo, at an approximate cost of \$200. Each FARECC member will pay for his or her own uniform and personal gear. Steve Miller had suggested proceeds from one Save Mart Center to fund FARECC needs at FARECC. Discussion of earmarking funds or a \$20 fee to pay for patches, etc.

Craig motioned to establish \$300 account for FARECC for the balance of 2004 fiscal year; Jim seconded. All approved. Jim motioned that patches be resold to FARECC members at a price to be determined at the next FARECC meeting to cover the initial costs of items; Craig seconded. All approved.

Craig moved to adjourn; Jim seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.



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

SEND TO:

**Hurry! Sign up for this year's Holiday
Dinner and Awards Ceremony
December 11, 2004 from 6 P.M. to 11 P.M.**



**It's at the Fresno Ramada Inn and you must be
"paid in advance." Check the reservation form in
this issue of SKIP on page Five. Bring a guest.
Join the fun and festivities. We will be presenting
the annual J. Allen Ross Award; awards for
service on committees and events, as well as our
fun awards, and much more!**

**Upcoming 2004
Fresno Amateur Radio Club
Activities and Events**

November 12th -- Swap Meet

**December 11th --Holiday Awards
Banquet
at The Ramada Inn, Fresno**