



## Special Hamfest Edition

August 2005

Fresno Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Volume 66, Issue 8

Our next general meeting will be on August 12th at Cedar Lanes at Cedar and Shields. The meeting starts promptly at 7:00 pm. The next board meeting is August 9th at the Woodward Park Library at the corner of Perrin and Champlain. That meeting also starts promptly at 7:00 pm. We'd like to see everybody at the general meeting for some good fun. See you there!

### FARC General Meetings

are the 2nd Friday of each month,  
7 p.m. at Cedar Lanes  
unless otherwise noted.

### 2005 FARC BOARD MEETING DATES

AT 7 PM—Woodward Park Regional Library  
July 5th

### FARC Nets

Morning Drive Time Net:  
Weekday mornings-7:30—  
8:00 a.m.  
W6TO/R 146.940 PL-141.3

### Tech Net:

Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm  
W6TO/R 146.940 PL-141.3

### FARC Net:

Sundays @ 7:00 pm  
W6TO/R 146.940 PL-141.3

# The Prez Sez

Well the long hot days of summer are upon us, I hope everyone is finding a way to stay cool in these 100 degree plus days.

The HAMFEST 2005 committee has been working hard and has a great Hamfest planned. I hope to see everyone there!

The Hamfest is a great place for local (and some not so local) hams to get together and see what is going on in ham radio and the Central Valley. This years Hamfest will be highlighting some of the latest technology available to us. Some of our notable speakers include Dave Smith W6TE, Mike Stahl K6MYC and Ted Freitas KE6YJC. There will also be booths and demonstrations by local clubs and organizations. Along with some great drawings for some very nice prizes. Lets not forget our most excellent Keynote speaker for the luncheon, Bob Heil.

Plan on attending the FARC Hamfest 2005 on Saturday, August 13th.

See you at the Hamfest!  
Rob - AE6GE

*This issue of the Skip has everything you need for hamfest. Please see all of the information and be sure to either send in your registration or buy a ticket. We need to know 4 days in advance of how many people will be at the luncheon. It is a sit-down lunch and a count needs to be turned in.*

**2005 FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Lunch Gathering  
 Every Thursday at  
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 Silver Dollar Hofbrau:  
 Corner of  
 Hwy 41 and Shaw  
Breakfast Gathering  
 Mondays and Saturdays  
 Country Waffles  
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 7:00 AM



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**Club Contacts**

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 Bob Hervatine, W6FRH, Assistant Section Manager  
 Victor Magana, N1VM, Official Observer Coordinator  
 Barbara J Gardiner, KE6IGJ, Public Information Coordinator  
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 David Smith, W6TE, Section Technical Coordinator

AMSAT Field Organization:

David Smith, W6TE, AMSAT AREA Coordinator

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## Fresno Amateur Radio Club

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## CONTACT:

Lisa Nelson, Hamfest Coordinator  
 Fresno Amateur Radio Club  
 (559) 447-5422  
 Email: KG6SZA@comcast.net  
 URL: www.W6TO.com

**RENOWNED AUDIO GURU TO SPEAK IN FRESNO**

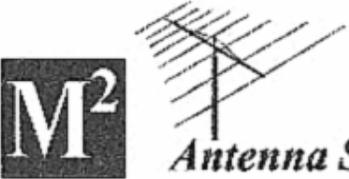
*Fresno, California* – Bob Heil (K9EID), the renowned audio guru who made a name for himself enhancing and amplifying the sounds of the biggest rock 'n roll bands of the 1970's will be the keynote luncheon speaker at the 63rd annual *Hamfest*, sponsored by the Fresno Amateur Radio Club (F.A.R.C.), on August 13, 2005.

Heil, known for designing audio consoles for acts such as the Eagles, Jeff Beck, the Grateful Dead, Genesis, Humble Pie, Bachman-Turner-Overdrive, Emerson, Lake & Palmer, and ZZ-Top, is slated to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame for co-creating the first ever "live-mixing" console, for The Who. This audio console, along with many other Heil audio creations, will go on display upon his induction to the Hall of Fame.

It was while touring with The Who in 1970 that Heil invented a microphone dubbed "the Talk Box." He gave one to his friend, Eagles guitarist/frontman Joe Walsh. Heil's creation literally made electric guitars sing -- and talk. Walsh used it to record his hit, "Rocky Mountain Way." Heil then gave one to rocker Peter Frampton, who made the invention famous with his 1976 mega-hit, "Show Me the Way" on the "Frampton Comes Alive!" album.

While counting rock stars among his list of friends, Heil's first love has always been amateur "Ham" radio. He in fact shares this passion with fellow Ham, rocker Walsh (WB6ACU). First licensed to operate amateur radios in 1956, the audio engineering side of Bob Heil soon took over, which led him to develop a revolutionary new microphone which has since become the standard for serious Ham radio contest and DX (long distance) operators world wide. Ultimately, it is Heil's love of the hobby that brings him to Fresno to speak to Ham enthusiasts throughout the Valley.

F.A.R.C.'s *Hamfest* will take place on Saturday, August 13, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at California State University – Fresno, Satellite Student Union (Whitfield Hall). In addition to the luncheon featuring keynote speaker Heil, *Hamfest* will feature various other forums conducted by experts in the field of communication, as well as exhibits and vendor booths. For further information, please contact *Hamfest* coordinator Lisa Nelson (KG6SZA) at (559) 447-5422, or visit the Fresno Amateur Radio Club's website at: www.W6TO.com



Michael B. Staal K6MYC  
Vice President/Designer

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The  
Fresno Amateur Radio Club  
*Invites you to*  
**HAMFEST 2005**



Saturday, August 13  
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
CSU-Fresno, Whitfield Hall



(Satellite Student Union)

**Featuring ~**

- \* Swap Meet
- \* Forums
- \* Vendors
- \* Drawings and Prizes
- \* *Amateur Exams, 9 a.m.*
- \* Luncheon with **Bob Heil K9EID**

**Admission ~**

- \* \$5.00 General Admission
- \* Students/Military free with ID
- \* Sit-down luncheon, \$13.00

**Grand Prize  
- Raffle -  
Yaesu FT-897D**



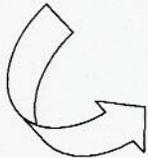
**Don't miss the Radio Check-In Raffle!**

On your way in to Hamfest, log-in on the 146.94 repeater between 7:30-11:30 a.m. to be entered. Prizes awarded at the luncheon. Must be present to win.

**For further information, swap meet or vendor details, visit the club website at:  
[www.W6TO.com](http://www.W6TO.com), or by phone at: (559)447-5422**

**The  
Fresno Amateur Radio Club**  
*Is proud to present our 63rd Annual Hamfest 2005  
**With Luncheon Speaker Bob Heil of Heil Sound Ltd.**  
*Saturday, August 13, 2005 ~ 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

	Fee:	Total:
<input type="checkbox"/> General Admission _____ attendees @ \$5/each	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Hamfest Luncheon _____ guests @ \$13/each	\$ 13.00	\$ _____
Check or Money Order # _____	Total Enclosed	\$ _____



*Every luncheon ticket purchased receives entry into a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to AES! ...*

Your Name	Call Sign (if applicable)
Mailing Address	
City/State/Zip	
Phone	Email Address

*Please list any additional guests/attendees on reverse, including name and call sign*



**Return To:**  
Fresno Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 783  
Fresno CA, 93712

**Questions?**  
Contact Hamfest coordinator Lisa Nelson , KG6SZA  
(559) 447-5422

Location:  
CSU - Fresno  
*Satellite Student Union*  
(Whitfield Hall)  
2485 San Ramon  
Fresno, CA 93740

(Located south of Barstow Ave., between Cedar and Maple Ave.)

## ***Planned events for Hamfest 2005***

Some of the events planned for the hamfest are as follows:

License Exams given by our local VE team headed by AE6QP

### **Speakers on the following:**

Ted Freitas KE6YJC on Digital Communications IRLP and APRS

Dave Smith W6TE on Satellite Communications and PHASE III

Mike Staal K6MYC on DXpeditions

### **Luncheon Keynote Speaker Bob Heil K9EID**

### **Clubs and organizations scheduled to participate are:**

Madera	ARRL
Mountain Club	Search and Rescue
ARES	QCWA
Red Cross	DX Club
OES	
Cart School	

Some of the prizes to be given away:

Yaesu FT-897D Main prize need not be present to win.

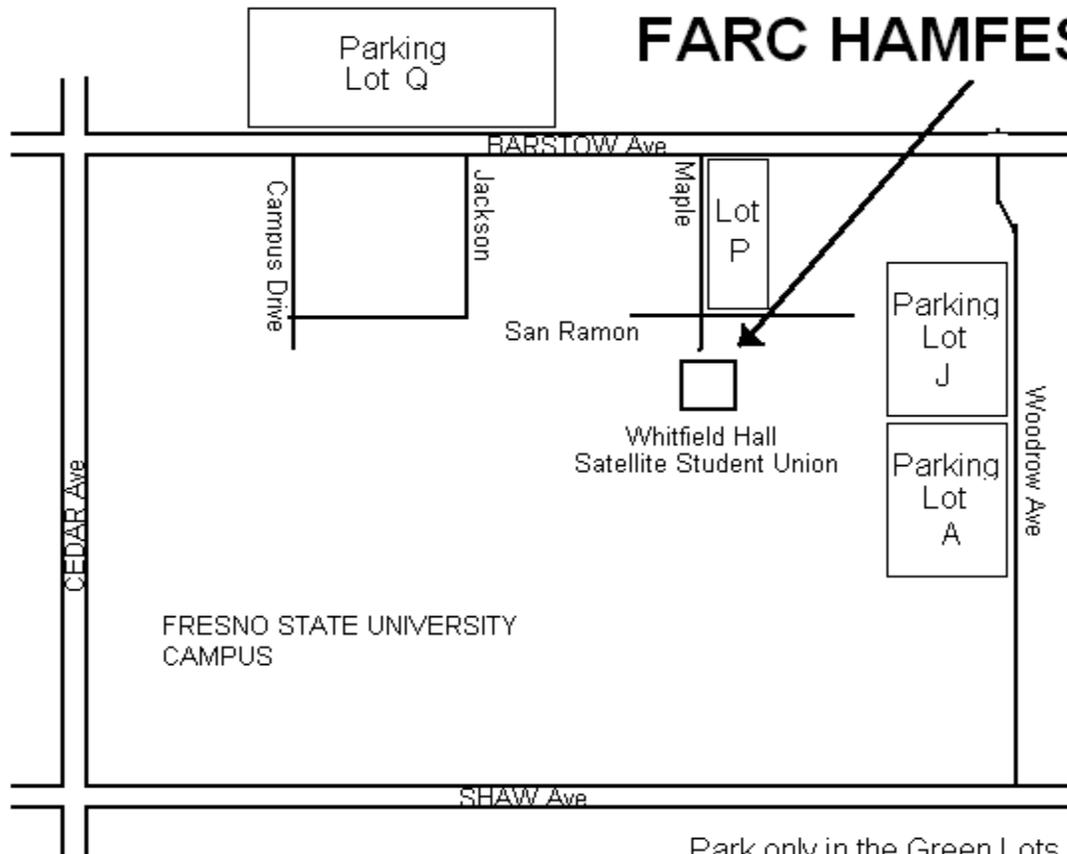
Yaesu VX-150 HT	Dxpedition Software	many many more
ARRL books	AES Gift certificates	raffles during the day

## **A special hamfest bonus!**

"ARES ONE" will be on the air and in the air for the Fresno Hamfest, August 13. ARES ONE is Pat Fennacy's (W6YEP) highly modified Cessna 172 with air-to ground ham TV equipment. Pat plans to fly over parts of Madera and Fresno counties from 9:00 a.m. to 10:35 a.m. transmitting live video to the hamfest. Besides viewing public areas affecting home security, Pat may buzz by a lake or two including repeater sites. Cameraman Ron Hunt (N6MTS) promises good stuff. The "bird" will clear the air at 10:36 for the Zarya ((International Space Station) pass over Fresno, elevation 73 degrees from the northwest to the southeast, duration: 10 minutes. Dave Smith (W6TE) and the AMSAT guys suggest waving to the high-level flyers (200 miles up). The two meter radio might do a better job of communicating!

Maps to Fresno State Satellite Student Union

# FARC HAMFEST



Park only in the Green Lots



THE DX CORNER  
By  
Charles McConnell W6DPD

Equipment

What kind of equipment is needed to be successful in working DX?

The basic radios now are a transceiver and antenna. The transceiver should have 2 vfos for split operation. Most of the current transceivers have 2 vfos. A good noise blanker is a real asset too. Antennas range from dipoles, verticals, quads and yagis. There are hams who are successful DX'ers using only 100 watts and wire antennas. It may take a little longer to work the DX pileup, but this will help improve your operating skill. Vertical antennas work for those who are antenna challenged. They can be camouflaged as flagpoles. The small stations will not be the first to break the DX pileup but with persistence they will make the contact. A linear amplifier makes the QSO easier to complete. Directional antennas (quads and yagis) make it easier to complete the QSO because they have some forward gain.

The digital modes work well for the antenna challenged. PSK 31 uses low power for successful QSOs. The other digital modes would fit the low power regimen too.

Some of the bands don't lend themselves to Yagi antennas because of the size needed, so wire antennas can be used. These can be in the form of Delta loops, dipoles or slopers. Some stations use 4 slopers with switching to change directions of the antennas. Slopers will give some gain.

The big gun DX'ers have big stations with top of the line transceivers, big amplifiers, and tall towers with lots of antennas on them. They will be in the first layer to crash a pile up. The little pistols have smaller stations and they take a little longer, but with persistence all who want to QSO with the DX will be successful. Some areas have restrictions which determine the size of the antenna system the DX'er can install.

The best way to find the DX is to tune the bands and listen.

There are a number of DX operations planned for the first half of 2005. CYOAA Sable Island July 26-August 5. PY0 Fernando de Noronha August 1-14. Kure Island, KH7K, will be activated during September-October. Glorioso is scheduled for October-November. VK9XG (Christmas Island) is scheduled for Oct. 24 to Oct. 15 and VK9CC (Cocos Keeling) is scheduled for November 7-21.

The fall contest season is rapidly approaching with the California QSO party the first weekend in October followed by the CQ World Wide SSB contest at the end of October. ARRL Sweepstakes is in November with the CQ WW CW at the end of November.

Good Luck.

**Editors Note:** Chuck will be at our hamfest make sure you stop and tell him thanks for taking the time to write articles for your Skip!

Jim



I think we finally fixed the repeater. By the way where are Holden and Fennacy when you need them!

## Fresno VE Page

### AMATEUR RADIO VE EXAMS IN FRESNO UNLICENSED THRU EXTRA CLASS FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ARRL VEC AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE 2005

Exams for all Amateur license classes will be conducted on the following dates in the Fresno California area. All exams are given on Saturday and begin at 9:30 AM.

August 13

November 12.

LOCATION: Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART), 2555 Clovis Ave, Clovis CA 93612. This is on the southeast corner of Clovis Ave and Santa Ana.

DIRECTIONS: From Highway 99 South of Fresno, take Clovis Ave. Go north to Santa Ana Ave and turn right to the campus. From Highway 41 or Highway 99 North of Fresno, take Shaw Ave. exit, turn right (East), go to Clovis Ave, turn right to Santa Ana Ave, turn left, then on to the campus. The exams will be on the north side of the campus.

Theory exams are multiple choice. Code Exam is fill in the blanks. Express mail is used to send paperwork to ARRL, which sends data to FCC via electronic mail, thus assuring the fastest possible service. New licenses typically arrive in about two weeks.

IDENTIFICATION: Bring two forms of ID. One must have a photo. Taxpayer ID Number (Social Security Number), ULS registration Number or FCC Registration Number. Fee \$14.00 per test session. Bring Exact change. Original and copy of Amateur License and CSCE's if upgrading. Talk in on 146.94 repeater. Walk ins only, no pre-registration.

More Info?? Contact Paul AE6QP, (559) 297-8478

**Please note:** *The exam on August 13th will be given at the Fresno Hamfest at the Fresno State Satellite Student Union. 2485 San Ramon Fresno, Ca. 93740*

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 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 2005  
 Fresno Amateur Radio  
 Club  
 Activities and Events**

**August 9th – Board  
 meeting**  
**August 12 – Membership  
 meeting**  
**August 13th FARC Ham-  
 fest**



FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
 P.O. Box 783  
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