



Dec 2005

Merry Christmas

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

2005 FARC BOARD MEET-
ING DATES
AT 7 PM—Woodward Park Re-
gional Library
Dec 6th

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

A hearty thank you goes out to all the members for your support of the Fresno Amateur Radio club. You helped make this another great year for the club.

The November meeting was the FARC Swap night. It was great to see such a large turn out and there were lots of great deals to be had.

The FARC Christmas Party will be on our regular meeting night, December 9th at 7pm at Tang Dynasty Buffet at Shaw and West. Please join us for a great time. See you there!

SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) starts Friday December 2nd 4:00pm and runs for 24 hours. The station at the Hanford Weather Service Office will be activated for the SRD event. Hanford as well as WX offices around the country will be operating HF and VHF. If you wish to operate the station please contact me at 559-284-2066.

Friday January 6th at 7pm at the Clovis Senior Center the CARP Club will be hosting the National Weather Service for the Fresno/Clovis area Severe Weather Spotter training program. This is part of the annual training program by the National Weather Service which is also open to the public. The knowledge gained from this program will allow attendees to spot severe weather and report it to the local weather office and creates trained personnel for the SKYWARN program.

Merry Christmas,
Rob AE6GE

2005 FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Rob Mavis	AE6GE	ae6ge@w6to.com	284-2066	12/31/06
Vice-President:	John Morrice	K6MI	k6mi@w6to.com	275-7373	12/31/05
Secretary:	Dave Smith	W6TE	w6te@w6to.com	323-6095	12/31/06
Treasurer:	Jim Nelson	W6ALE	w6ale@w6to.com	447-5422	12/31/06

Board Members

Ken Holden	WA6OIB	wa6oib@w6to.com	323-6753	12/31/06
Bob Sawyer	KF6FIG	kf6fig@w6to.com	251-2686	12/31/06
Paul Lambert	W6WYT	w6wyt@w6to.com	240-8519	12/31/06
Dan Pruitt	AE6SX	ae6sx@w6to.com	779-2974	12/31/05
Ted Miller	W6TLM	k6fge@w6to.com	431-1441	12/31/05
Marcus Beedle	KG6QNY	kg6qny@w6to.com	360-7444	12/31/05
Tom Jarvis	KG6KYU	kg6kyu@w6to.com	916-2445	12/31/05

Lunch Gathering
 Every Thursday at 12:00 PM
 Silver Dollar Hofbrau:
 Corner of
 Hwy 41 and Shaw
Breakfast Gathering
 Mondays and Saturdays
 Country Waffles
 Blackstone and Dakota
 7:00 AM

Tuesday
 Denny's
 Shaw and West
 8:00 AM

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ARRL Field Organization - San Joaquin Valley Section:

Chuck McConnell, W6DPD, Section Manager
 Bob Hervatine, W6FRH, Assistant Section Manager
 Victor Magana, N1VM, Official Observer Coordinator
 Barbara J Gardiner, KE6IGJ, Public Information Coordinator
 Marie S Thompson, N6ZFN, Section Emergency Coordinator
 Fred B Silveira, K6RAU, Section Traffic Manager
 David Smith, W6TE, Section Technical Coordinator

AMSAT Field Organization:

David Smith, W6TE, AMSAT AREA Coordinator

Club Contacts

Field Day Committee Chairman:

Dave Smith W6TE323-6095

Education/Scholarship Chairman:

Ted Miller W6TLM431-1441

Hamfest Co-Chair:

Tom Jarvis KG6KYU916-2445
 Darin Land KG6YLE259-8965

Net Manager

John Morrice K6MI275-7373

SKIP Newsletter Editor:

Jim Nelson W6ALE.....447-5422

Tech Committee:

Ken Holden WA6OIB.....323-6753
 Dave Smith W6TE.....323-6095
 Paul Lambert W6WYT.....240-8519

Now accepting dues for 2006.

If paid before the 1st of the year you pay this years price! After the 1st it will be \$20.00 See page 10!



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Happy Holidays



*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year
From your Board of Directors!*

Local Amateur Radio Repeaters

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Call sign</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Freq</u>	<u>Offset</u>	<u>Tone</u>
AARC	WB6QDN	FRESNO	146.610	-	NONE
CARP	K6ARP	MEADOW LAKES	147.675	-	141.3
CARP	N6VYT	MEADOW LAKES	444.725	-	141.3
CARP	N6JXL	MEADOW LAKES	1286.300	+	141.3
CCAC/WIN	K6JSI	MEADOW LAKES	146.790	-	141.3
CCAC/WIN	K6JSI	MEADOW LAKES	444.250	+	141.3
CONDOR	WB6BRU	FRESNO	224.900	-	156.7
FARC	W6TO	MEADOW LAKES	146.940	-	141.3
FARC	W6TO	MEADOW LAKES	223.940	-	down
FARC	W6TO	MEADOW LAKES	444.200	+	down
K6SIX	K6SIX	MARIPOSA	441.350	+	107.2
KARC	W6EMS	FRESNO	440.675	+	110.9
KARC	W6EMS	FRESNO	1286.475	-	110.9
KINGS ARC	KA6Q	HANFORD	145.110	-	100.0
MADERA ARC	W6WGZ	OAKHURST	147.180	+	146.2
MADERA ARC	W6WGZ	OAKHURST	441.175	-	146.2
MTS	N6MTS	FRESNO ST.	145.23	-	141.3
QCWA	WQ6CWA	FRESNO	146.85	-	141.3
QCWA	WQ6CWA	FRESNO	443.25	+	107.2
RACES	N6HEW	FRESNO	147.150	+	141.3
W6DCP	W6DCP	PARKFIELD	147.24	+	NONE

Important news from the Editor

First of all I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I will be traveling back to Pennsylvania during December and also moving into a new house. So the January Skip will either be delayed or abbreviated or both. Thank you in advance for your understanding. 73 W6ALE Jim Skip Ed.

At the November Board meeting your new officers for the year 2006 were elected. Your new officers are as follows.

President Rob Mavis AE6GE
 Vice President Ken Holden WA6OIB
 Secretary Darin Land KG6YLE
 Treasurer Jim Nelson W6ALE

Please see these people for any club business. We will be glad to answer all questions. Watch for the Jan Skip for phone numbers and email addresses. We thank you for your continued support!

Christmas Party

Tang Dynasty
Northwest corner
of Shaw and West
December 9th
\$15.00 per person.
Pay at the door or
pay the treasurer.
Hope to see you
there!!

AM DX'ING IN THE MODERN DAY

Many of you remember the thrill of turning around with that old radio and marveling at the signals you would hear and from great distances. That thrill still exists albeit much more crowded and fewer stations in the clear.

No longer is that huge table top radio needed nor that 200 foot wire running out the window. You can use a small clock radio, your car's radio and even that small 5 dollar walkman you bought!!!

The broadcast AM band has changed much over the last 40 years. The FCC has taken away the notion of the powerful "clear channel" station, which makes DX a little more difficult. Just tuning around with the radio in our car, I'm able to hear 9 western states with little or no effort and fairly clear signals. Using my portable ShortWave radio, I am able to hear 16 states with no external antenna. Some are clear, and some obviously take effort.

Simple steps as turning around your clock radio, moving your car to a new position, or maybe even tilting that walkman on its side will produce 'nulls' causing some stations to disappear and others to pop up out of nowhere! Your mileage may vary. Each radio has its own properties and you will have to experiment a little to see what is best for you.

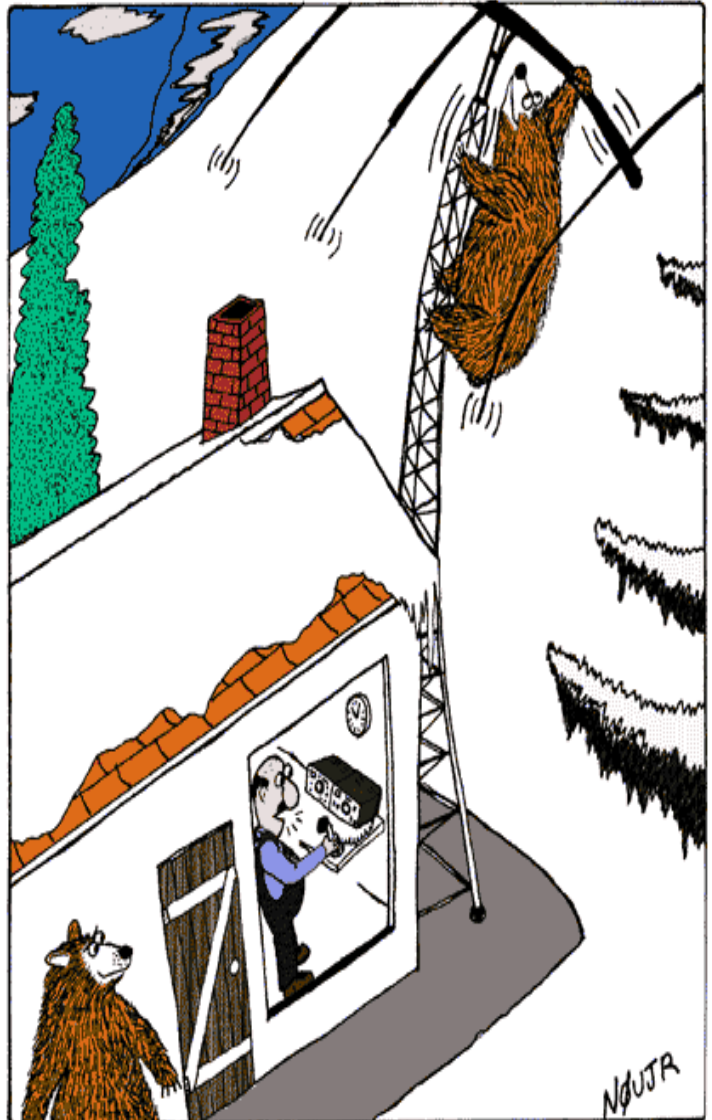
There are online resources available for helping to identify those stations you hear and where they are. My favorite is www.radio-locator.com. They also list TV and FM stations as well. If you search with Google, I'm quite sure you could find hundreds more resources.

I write this as many of us caught the 'radio' bug from these humble beginnings, and that excitement is still available if you want it. No 2,000 dollar radio required. Only your time and your patience.

Take the time to relive that! Tune around the AM dial at night. You will be surprised! I sure was!

Editors note: This was written by my good friend Mike. It sure it brings back memories of the old am radio and ear plug!

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"Hang on a minute Larry...my SWR is jumping...I'm going outside and see what the problem is..."

Thomas L. Whitlock



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Emergency Communications

Dan Pruitt, AE6SX

I would like to start this column by inviting any emergency communications entity to participate by submitting articles, information and/or corrections. The purpose of this column is to inform and enlighten those in Fresno ARC about Emergency Communications in our area. Just send me a note to: ae6sx@w6to.com or write to the club.

As Fresno's Amateur Radio Emergency Services Emergency Coordinator (ARES EC) since September, my main goal has been to open lines of communications between the different emergency communication groups in the county. As of this writing we have been working with California's Office of Emergency Services (OES) Region #4 who have been very active here. We have been in contact with Fresno RACES, Madera ARES and Mountain Club's RACES/ARES. Regarding Served agencies; we have had ground breaking talks with California Dept. of Forestry (CDF), their VIP program covers more than just communications. The Red Cross is in the process of rewriting their disaster response plan(s) and I am one of those helping to update their plan(s).

Over the past couple of months we participated (with the clubs help) in "Amateur Awareness Day" where we set up as in an emergency stance and made contacts around the country on HF. We were also a participant in Placer County "Simulated Emergency Test". Their goal was to contact all ARES groups in the state. Although we made contacts with other groups, none we talked to made contact with the Placer group. Their frequency of choice was 3987Khz during daylight hours? I would have thought nearby groups would relay? This is the reason for simulations. We intend other exercises in the future.

The lessons from this hurricane season are just beginning to emerge. The first is the screening of volunteers by requiring at least a level I certificate in ARRL's Emergency Communications course. The other is the recognized need of emergency calling frequencies. 14.265MHz has been used in the past and was the first. 3987KHz was also agreed upon awhile back. Now 40m has 7.232 as it's emergency calling frequency. Both QST and World Radio had extensive articles in their latest issues.

Fresno ARES monthly meetings are open to all interested parties. Our next meeting is Friday De-

ember 16, 0830hrs, at Perko's restaurant, just East of Hwy 41 on west bound Bullard Ave. See you there! 73 Dan

'Tis the Reason for the Season!

If my fellow FARC members would indulge me momentarily, I'd like to extend an invitation to you, to join me in a project close to my heart. Briefly, Any Soldier, Inc. is a non-profit group connecting "contact soldiers" with folks state-side, who then send letters and/or care packages to the troops. A majority of these soldiers are away from home for the first time; many without a support system. Matches made via Any Soldier have been a tremendous blessing to them. As space here is limited, please visit the group's website so you can learn more about this terrific organization: www.anysoldier.com Click the "Where to Send" tab to read firsthand accounts of life in the Big Sandbox ... You'll definitely be inspired!

That said, I'm hoping to make this a club project ... I'm willing to collect *your* care package donations and assemble the boxes for mailing to the Middle East. Jim (W6ALE) and I will pick up the tab for postage. If this is something that interests you, just send me an e-mail and I'll get a list to you of the soldiers wants and needs. I'll then make arrangements to collect your donated items at the club Christmas party, Hofbrau, etc. This is just a way, however small, to show *our* appreciation to those fighting for the freedoms we so enjoy!

Sincerely, Lisa Nelson (KG6SZA)
kg6sza@comcast.net



THE DX CORNER
By
Charles McConnell W6DPD

NOTICE: The address of the Sixth District QSL Bureau is now P. O. Box 970, Fairfax CA 94978-0970. You can send address labels and \$0.60 for each envelope to the address above. They will put 1 unit of First Class postage on the envelope.

The following operations are scheduled:

Sri Lanka Nov. 28-Dec. 16

Thailand HS0ZFI Dec. 5-31

Namibia V5 Dec. 11-22

Cayman Islands Dec. 28- Jan. 1

Micronesia Dec. 28-Dec. 31

Peter One Island 3Y0X late Jan. to early Feb. 2006

Glorioso Island tentatively **March 17-April 7 2006** depending on the French military

The ARRL 160 meter Contest (CW) is the first weekend in December and the ARRL 10 meter contest is the second weekend.

Straight Key Night is January 1.

The ARRL RTTY Roundup is January 7-8, 2006

CQ WW CW 160 Meter Contest is Jan. 29-30, 2006

ARRL VHF Sweepstakes is Jan. 29-30, 2006

The CQ DX Marathon begins on January 1 of each year. You contact as many entities in the calendar year on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands. The entity list includes the DXCC list, and the WAE DX contest list. The CQ IDX Award is for contacting different entities using VOIP technology. You must use a radio to initiate the contact. Both IRLP and ECHO Link may be used for contacts. You can not use computer to computer contacts, there must be a radio involved. These are CQ's method to "wake up DX". For information go to [www.cq-amateur-](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)

radio.com.

Watch the DX Bulletins for up to date information. As the time for the operation is at hand, watch the DX Summit for listings.

Good luck and tune the dial.

VE News

The Fresno VE Team held 2 exam sessions, in October and November.

On October 29, 2005, 21 candidates took 21 Elements with 16 Tech licenses earned. This was the culmination of a one day Tech class at CART School. The following VE's participated: AE6QP, W6DPD, AE6QR, WA6RTS, KF6QJM, and K6BD.

On Nov, 12 2005, 8 candidates took 8 exam elements resulting in 3 Tech and 2 Amateur Extra Class licenses earned. The following VE's participated AE6QP, W6DPD, AE6QR,

Echolink Available

For all of you that might be interested in echolink one of our own club members now has it available. Kevin Perry AE6ER has made it available to all us. The link is on 146.580 simplex and is up 24/7. All you have to do is download the software from www.echolink.org. It is self explanatory and very easy to use.



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ARRL Section Report

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION Report for the month of October 2005:

SM Charles McConnell, W6DPD- ASMs K6YK and W6FRH, ACC W6DPD, SEC N6ZFN, OOC N1VM, STM K6RAU, PIC KE6IGJ, TC W6TE.

ARRL is again sponsoring a toy drive to brighten the holidays for children left homeless or displaced as a result of the hurricanes. Country Singer and ARRL member Patty Loveless, KD4WUJ, has agreed to serve at the honorary chairperson for the 2005 toy drive. Clubs and individual Amateurs can send new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls aged 1 to 14 to ARRL Toy Drive/Salvation Army, 1775 Moriah Blvd-Suite 12, Memphis TN 38177-7125. Mailings and shipments need to arrive **before Thanksgiving, November 24, 2005** so toys can be distributed during the holidays. Monetary donations may be sent to ARRL Toy Drive, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington CT 06111-1494. In 2004 the Amateur Community came through and made the holidays special for boys and girls in Florida.

The 7th annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) special event will take place Saturday, December 3, 2005. SKYWARN Recognition Day is an event co-sponsored by the National Weather Service and the American Radio Relay League. SKYWARN Recognition Day is the National Weather Service's way of saying "thank you" to Amateur Radio operators for their commitment to helping keep their communities safe. During the 24-hour special event, amateur radio operators visit their local National Weather Service (NWS) office and work as a team to contact other hams across the world. To learn more, check out the web site: <http://hamradio.noaa.gov>.

Emergency Coordinators are needed in Kings, Mariposa and Merced Counties. Contact N6ZFN (n6zfn@ares-races.net) or W6DPD (w6dpd@arrl.org) if you can help. WA8SME is the EC for Mono County. Thanks to N6RDY for serving as EC for Mariposa County.

Mark your calendars. The International DX Convention is April 21-23, 2006 at Visalia. Check <http://www.dxconvention.org/> for information. EMCOMM West is May 6-7, 2006 in Reno. Check www.emcommwsst.org for information. Field Day is June 24-25, 2006. Pacificon 06 will be October 13-15, 2006 at the San Ramon Marriott. Check www.pacificon.org for information.

When your affiliated club elects officers for the next year, be sure to update your club's informa-

tion on the affiliated club area of the ARRL web page.

Need to take an Amateur exam? Check the ARRL web page, www.arrl.org for exam information. You can also search for Amateur Radio Classes in your area.

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. The Daytime Region 6 Traffic Net meets daily at 3:30 pacific time on or near 7.275 MHZ.

It is my sad duty to report that K6EOR, KA6EDL, AC6DK, KG6UZN, KB6AR and KK6IS are Silent Keys. They will be missed.

Congratulations to KF6QKL and K6SWE on completing the ARECC Level 1 course and to N6SUZ on completing the ARECC Level 2 Course. In the SJV Section 9 June VHF QSO Party logs were submitted. K6MI was first, KR7O was second, and KF6KDA was third.

In the SJV Section 26 Field Day logs were submitted. The San Andreas Fault Line Survivors has the highest score and competed in 5A. The Fresno ARC was second overall and competed in 2A. The Madera ARC was third overall and competed in 3A. The Los Banos ARC competed in 1A and had the highest score in that category.

The Turlock ARC 2005-2006 officers are pres KE6RGB, vp KI6PR, sec KD6UCX, and treas K6CP. The club meets the second Tuesday at 7:30 PM at the War Memorial Building in Turlock. Check www.w6bxn.org for information.

Manteca ARC 2006 officers are pres KD6PCT, vp KE6OGL, sec and editor WA6FQM, and treas WA6KTK and KE6UTO share the job. The club meets the first Thursday in Manteca.

The Los Banos ARC has a new transceiver for the club to use in FD and other events.



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 Fresno California. All exams are given on Saturday and begin at 9:30 AM.

Feb 16th

May 20th

August 19th

Nov. 18th

LOCATION: ...Bonaventure Mobile Home Park, 1724 Minnewawa Ave Clovis CA 93612-2545. Exams are held in the community room.

DIRECTIONS: From Highway 99 South of Fresno, exit Clovis Ave. Go north to Shaw and turn left on Shaw to Minnewawa. Turn right on Minnewawa and then left to the Mobile Home Park.. From Highway 41 or Highway 99 North of Fresno, take Shaw Ave. exit, turn right (East), to Minnewawa Ave and turn left. Then turn left into the Mobile Home Park.

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 two weeks.

BRING. Two ID's, one with 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 in's only, no preregistration.

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



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2006 Fresno Amateur Radio Club Application

Name _____ Date _____
 _____ Callsign _____
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 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 2006
 Fresno Amateur Radio
 Club
 Activities and Events**

Dec. 6th – Board meeting
**Dec. 9th – Christmas
 party**



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

Send To: