



Fresno Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

JUNE 2009 Volume 70, Issue 6

Our next meeting will be June 12. At 7:00 PM

Meeting place: Cedar Lanes Bowl—Cedar & Shields Aves.

Be sure to come and enjoy the camaraderie with your fellow hams..



The Prez Sez

FARC General Meetings

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

2009 FARC BOARD MEETING DATES

1st Tuesday of each month
Woodward Park Library at
Champlain and Perrin.

FARC Nets

Morning Drive Time Net:
Weekday mornings-7:30—
8:00 a.m.

W6TO/R 146.940

Tech Net:

Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm
W6TO/R 146.940

FARC Net:

Sundays @ 7:00 pm
W6TO/R 146.940

CQ CQ

Our big event for 2009 is just around the corner, Field Day, June 27th and 28th. Our co-chairs for this event are Ken, WA6OIB and Pat, W6YEP. I want to apologize to Pat for leaving him out last month; he has been working with Ken on this event all along. Field Day gives us a chance to set up our equipment in a remote location and show that we can communicate in an emergency. We will need a lot of help setting up the equipment and taking it down. If you do not operate on Field Day you can still help out in the set up or tear down. I know you will enjoy watching how all this comes together. The events run from noon on Saturday until noon on Sunday. There is still plenty of time to sign up to operate the station. As most of you know I`m a member of Office of Emergency Services, State of California. We do Field Day as practice 4 times a year. I still find it amazing how we can get our equipment, go to a location and be on the air in a short period of time. The FARC has some amazing equipment. Some of it is club owned and some member owned. We have available a tower trailer, generator trailer and other items. Just watching these things being put to use is well worth your time on Friday night and Saturday morning. Please take some time this year to attend Field Day, operate the station, or just be amazed at how it`s all done.

(continued on page 4)



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

2008 FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FARC Officers:

Tom Jarvis, Pres. - KG6KYU	kg6kyu@w6to.com	(559) 916-2445	12/2009
Ken Holden, V.P. - WA6OIB	wa6oib@w6to.com	(559) 323-6753	12/2010
Jim Erbe, Sectry - WA6NIF	wa6nif@w6to.com	(559) 222-7524	12/2009
Ron Hunt, Treas - N6MTS	n6mts@w6to.com	(559) 289-8514	12/2010

Board Members:

Aaron Lusk: K6USY	k6usy@w6to.com	(559) 301-1022	12/2010
John McGraw: AE6QR	No E-Mail	(559) 255-2349	12/2010
Steve Brunt: K6AAB	k6aab@w6to.com	(559) 696-4319	12/2009
Chuck McConnell: W6DPD	w6dpd@w6to.com	(559) 431-2038	12/2010
Jack Baker: AC6LT	ac6lt@cvip.net	(559) 297-4311	12/2010
Joseph Capell: W0PJD	jtcapell@me.com	(559) 225-3582	12/2009
Dan Pruitt: AE6SX	ae6sx@arrl.net	(559) 779-2974	12/2009

Mark you calendars for every Thursday, for the lunch gathering at the *Silver Dollar Hofbrau* at the corner of Hwy 41 and Shaw. It starts at 12 noon and there is a table reserved in the back room.

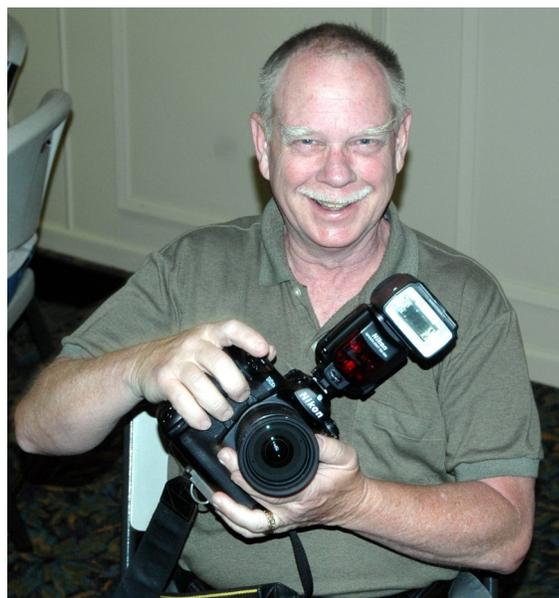
Also every Monday and Saturday at the *Country Waffles* at Blackstone and Dakota starting at 7am.

Lastly, Breakfast every Tuesday at *Yosemite Falls Cafe* at Blackstone and Shaw starting at 8am.



Amateur Radio Event Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
June 2	FARC BOD Meeting
June 5	CARP Meeting (Clovis Senior Center)
June 6	CARP Transmitter Hunt (Senior Bldg)
June 12	FARC Club Meeting
June 12-13	ARRL VHF QSO Party
June 19	SJVARS Club Meeting
June 20	Santa Maria Swapfest
June 26-28	Echoes of Apollo —World EME Day
June 27-28	ARRL Field Day
July 3	CARP Meeting (Senior Bldg)
July 4th	MI QRP July 4th CW Sprint
July 7	FARC BOD Meeting
July 10	FARC Club Meeting
July 11-12	IARU HF World Championship
July 17	SJVARS Club Meeting
July 18-19	CQ WW VHF Contest
July 18	NA QSO Party, RTTY



Thanks to Richard Pack, KE6SHL, for providing many of the photographs included in SKIP.

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

EDITOR'S COMMENTS by Dave Smith W6TE

Dear FARC Friends,

The FARC Technician Class that was held at Peoples Church last month produced 12 new Technician class Ham Radio operators and new club members. Congratulations to all the new hams as well as to the instructors: Ken Holden, WA6OIB, Joe Capell, W0PJD, and Dan Pruitt, AE6SX.

At the May FARC meeting Charles McConnell gave a great presentation on the ins and outs of Log Book of the World (LoTW).



Although LoTW meets a need, here's a different perspective:

I certainly enjoyed the club's presentation on Log Of The World at the last Club meeting. That was a very good presentation.

But something kept nagging me about that program. Yeah, the program does save a lot of postage, and the automated cross-checking to make sure of contacts [and I guess duplicates] and from that standpoint it is good.

But then today I received a QSL card from a chap in Boise Idaho. He said I was his 5th contact, and hoped we could ragchew again sometime soon.

Then it dawned on me. Remember when it was the saying "the QSL card is the ultimate courtesy."

Yes, LOTW is a good thing for contesters, DxCCers, and those who seek awards. But while that might be a useful tool, it does lack that final courtesy-that final touch-that someone acknowledges your ragchew, your contact. Yeah, I am aware that it costs a lot to send a card from overseas-they are tied into the Euro, and that makes the dollar a bit ore expensive, but for the non-awards seeker, there is still nothing nicer, in my book, than getting that QSL card to (continued on page 4)

Support our advertisers in SKIP. They support us not only in revenue for the club but they also allow us space on the counters and shelves for copies of SKIP and other club announcements.

M ANTENNA SYSTEMS, INC. Michael Staal
V.P. & Designer
K6MYC

- Antenna Design & Production from DC to Microwave
- Machine Work & Manufacturing Services
- System setup & Installations

4402 N. Selland Ave. Fresno, CA 93722
559.432.8873 Fax 559.432.3059 website: www.m2inc.com

2050 H st.
Fresno
93721

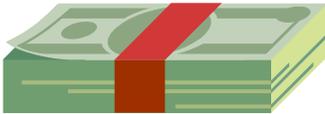


500 E 19th
Bakersfield
93305

Jack C. Arbuckle Company
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA DISTRIBUTORS OF
ELECTRONICS FOR RETAILERS AND INDUSTRY

2050 H st.
Fresno, Calif.
(559) 264-6554

Membership Attendance for May—No Winner



Local Amateur Radio Repeaters

Organization	Call Sign	Frequency	Offset	PL
AARC	WB6QDN	146.610	-	NONE
CARP	K6ARP	147.675	-	141.3
CARP	N6JXL	224.380	-	141.3
CARP	K6ARP	444.725	-	141.3
CONDOR	WB6BRU	224.900	-	156.7
FARC	W6TO	146.940	-	NONE
FARC	W6TO	223.940	-	NONE
FARC	W6TO	444.200	-	NONE
FRESNO	N6MTS	145.230	-	141.3
KINGS ARC	KA6Q	145.110	-	100.0
MADERA ARC	W6WGZ	147.180	+	NONE
MADERA ARC	W6WGZ	441.175	-	146.2
QCWA	WQ6CWA	146.850	-	141.3
RACES	N6HEW	147.150	+	141.3
SJVARs	WA6SJV	146.820	-	141.3
TURLOCK ARC	W6BXN	147.030	+	100.0
WA6NIF	WA6NIF	444.100	+	100.0
WIN/SYSTEM	K6JSI	147.790	-	141.3
WIN/SYSTEM	K6JSI	223.780	-	141.3
KJ6KO	KJ6KO	927.6625/902.0125	-	146.2

Birthdays, Anniversary's and Announcements

Stuart & Phyllis Holm Anniversary	6/1	Joe Capell, W0PJD	6/23
Terry Horak, KF6LXB	6/18	Rieber Hodve, KG6YTB	6/18
Joe Cardoza "Little Joe", WA6FFJ	6/23	Eric & Barbara Lauer, K6PAU Anniv.	6/28
Jack Prince, WY6B	6/11		
<p>The Prez Sez (Continued from page 1) I have never operated at Field Day but I have always been there for the set up, etc. I try to make three different Field Day sights each year. Marci and I enjoy seeing how each club operates and from what location. This is one time where you see a group of Hams doing what they enjoy. We also hope to show our friends and neighbors what Amateur Radio is all about. 73, Tom</p> <p>EDITORS COMMENTS (Continued from page 3) confirm that contact. so you might say that the QSL card is my award, and my reward.</p> <p>Lemme ask it this way-how many of youse hams don't get a thrill out of getting a QSL card?</p> <p>So while LOTW is useful for some, it is not for all. Stuart WB6VRJ [Wilson Island]</p>		<p>Ever hear of the "Fresno Ham Radio Flyers" (FHRF). Jim Nelson, W6ALE, tells us about some daring soles who frequently meet to defy gravity, and live to tell about it.</p> <p>Jim Clymer, WS6X, has contributed a great article this month. Jim depicts a 12 volt Emergency Power Supply with a 45 watt photovoltaic solar charging system. We should all consider having one of these nifty emergency supplies in our ham shack. Also be sure to check out Jim's yummy Field Day recipe.</p> <p>The ARRL VHF QSO Party is the second weekend in June (12th-13th). It starts at 11 AM on Saturday and ends at 8 PM on Sunday. Come on out and have some fun on any band 50 MHz and up. 73, Dave W6TE (w6te@msn.com)</p>	

"RADIO FLYERS" by Jim Nelson W6ALE

As many of you know the club has a few pilots among us, W6TE Dave, W6YEP Pat, and WA6OIB Ken. They take to the skies in and out of Chandler Field and Fresno Yosemite whenever they can. But, I just found another group of pilots flying out of the field near the Santa Maria building in north Fresno. WHERE you might ask?! But these are no ordinary pilots ... they "fly" planes of a different type. They are radio controlled airplane pilots. I use the term "fly" loosely, because flying is the hope that they have when they start up their engines.



This group of fearless flyers started with W6JUG Everett, a couple of years ago. Everett owns a large collection of vintage RC airplanes – and if you've ever had a chance to see them, they're very impressive. One day in conversation W6KEG Jerry, and KG6JFC Jim, were talking with Everett about his RC airplanes and mentioned they'd like to try their hand at piloting. Subsequently, Jim found himself at Harbor Freight one day for supplies, and came across the Yellow Bee line of remote controlled airplane. He bought three, and the group set out to go flying. Everett, having some skill at RC piloting, landed his. Jerry crashed his, and as for Jim's plane, well, we assume it's still in the air, flying into the wild blue yonder.



Not long after their first outing Jerry overheard KI6QEL Duane, talking on the radio about Yellow Bees. The two compared notes, and the rest you could say, is history. Through many now-famous flights and crashes, the Radio Flyers formed. The flights and the list of hams began to grow. What

started out as an informal fun outing, has turned into the Fresno Air Force, as I like to call them.

After logging so much time in the air - as well as on the ground – the air force has gathered their share of "there I was" stories. One in particular comes to mind ... A few weekends ago, W6KEG Jerry was flying his new super cub. He was in flight for quite a long while when he tried to turn back. The Cub ended up crashing on the roof of a rather large office building way out to the north. We lost sight of it, but had a general idea of where it went down. Fortunately, thanks to a crew of tree trimmers, the pilots were able to borrow a large ladder. KG6JFC Jim clambered up onto the roof and found Jerry's plane. The people in the building had no idea what was going on, and soon enough, a crowd gathered. But, the plane made it back safely into Jerry's hands, relatively unscathed.

With the pilots growing ability, the fleet has now grown from the modest Yellow Bees to some of the most sophisticated planes - everything from AT-46

trainers to Super Cubs, and now K6OSX Darin even has a WWII Corsair.

Some of the familiar ham/radio flyers that you might recognize are: AE6GE Rob, W6ALE Jim, KG6JFC Jim, N6MQG Tom, N6MTS Ron, KI6QOH Patrick, KI6QEL Duane, W6KEG Jerry, K6OSX Darin, KW6N Benny,

WB6VRJ Stu, W6PUB Ed and his son Casey. If you'd like venture out and jump into the fray, just get any of these guys on the radio where they can be found on 145.700. I'm sure they wouldn't mind adding to their group of Radio Flyers!

I'm including some links for you to see videos of all the action: [Video 1](#), [video 2](#), [video 3](#), 73, W6ALE

ANODIZED CHICKEN; A RECIPE for FIELD DAY CULINARY SUCCESS by Jim Clymer WS6X

Several decades ago, while an active part of a ham club in northern Indiana, year after year during Field Day planning, I observed the difficulty our club president had in finding volunteers to do the cooking. I further observed that the available talent pool consisted mostly of male types, with little or no experience behind a flapjack flipper!



Being an accomplished chef myself, I thought I knew the problem and a solution. I figured the problem was simply this: putting a mess of chow on a table in front of a hungry hoard of peers, undoubtedly including several whiners and complainers, was just too intimidating for someone who was already nervous about even being seen in a kitchen. The solution was this: I developed a series of recipes using terminology and ingredients that were an everyday part of any true-blooded male's reality. The icing on the cake, so to speak, was that preparation of these succulent delights required only simple hand tools, none of those fancy gadgets found in the typical female kitchen!

"Anodized Chicken", the first recipe I introduced was an instant hit! Heretofore kitchen stumblebums were consistently turning out heaps of mouth-watering, dark brown chicken. Yes, you may feel a bit insecure the first time you try this recipe, but I assure you, after a trial batch in the privacy of your own back yard, this fail-safe recipe will have you the envy of all your ham buddies. Your culinary skill will make you a perennial favorite for many a Field Day and club picnic to come! Just follow these simple directions. Here goes!

Tools You Will Need:

- metal oil collecting pan (If you don't change your own oil, you can sneak into your local ACE Hardware and when no one who might recognize you is around, ask the female sales assistant for a "heavy duty aluminum roasting pan." Don't worry if you don't know what this means. She will know exactly what you want!)
- heavy duty jumper cables
- cordless drill with 1/8" bit
- 10" pump pliers
- pump type oil can
- heavy leather gloves
- safety goggles

Stuff You Need to Make This Recipe:

- Cut up chicken parts (Buy mostly legs and thighs, the parts that men really like. You should purchase a few breasts to satisfy the rare dude who claims to be watching his weight, calories, cholesterol, or whatever. And you may find a few ladies present. They seem to prefer white meat.) How many parts to buy? You can figure 2-3 pieces for each 225 lb. line-backer type who says he'll be there.

- Heavy duty aluminum foil
- water
- Soaking Sauce
 - more water
 - salt
 - pepper
 - 10W-40 motor oil (Quaker State multi blend seems to impart the best flavor.)

How to Make This Recipe (follow closely):

- With the drill and 1/8" bit, drill several holes about 1/2" deep into each piece of chicken. You should have 1 hole per square inch. This promotes ingress of the soaking sauce and greatly enhances flavor. (Oh, most likely the cholesterol counters above will insist that you use "skinless" chicken for their servings. This is easily accomplished. Hold the part in one hand and grab a chunk of skin at one end with the pump pliers. A good yank on the pliers and the skin will be easily removed!)

- Arrange the chicken pieces in the metal oil pan. Pour enough water over the chicken to about half cover. With the oil can, uniformly squirt Quaker State over the pieces until the chicken is a nice gray color. Sprinkle about a half a fist of salt over the pieces, and finish with a generous sprinkling of pepper. Slosh the chicken pieces around in the soaking sauce until uniformly coated. Let the pan sit at room temperature for at least 2 hours.

- Save all the soaking sauce in the oil pan. Tear off 10" wide pieces of aluminum foil – 1 piece of foil for each chicken part. Starting on the shorter side, carefully wrap each piece of chicken in the foil. You should have 2 complete wraps. Twist the ends for a tight seal. Put the wrapped parts back in the oil pan. Carefully create a "lid" for the pan with at least 2 layers of the foil.

- Prepare the cooking area. Place the pan of chicken on a non-flammable table near enough to a "battery donor" (A 4WD Hummer works very well for this,) so that your jumper cables will reach from the battery to the chicken pan. Now put on the heavy leather gloves and the safety goggles.

- You will need 2 helpers for this final step. The first helper will apply the cable clamps to the battery, and the second helper will goose the accelerator in the Hummer on cue from you. OK. On your end, grip both battery clamps firmly, one in each hand. Have helper #1 at the battery end, clamp on to the POSITIVE terminal first, then the NEGATIVE terminal. Now, you firmly attach the POSITIVE clamp on to one side of the metal chicken pan. Cue helper #2 to gently goose the engine. Quickly, but firmly attach the NEGATIVE clamp to the opposite end of the metal pan. Please note: If the Hummer engine didn't die instantly, be prepared to remove the negative clamp from the oil pan as soon as the jumper cables get very warm to
(Continued on page 13)

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

THE DX CORNER by Charles McConnell W6DPD

If you want help with DX, you can contact the local members of the Central California DX Club for some assistance. Charles W6DPD 431-2038, Perry K6XJ 299-2802, or Jim WS6X 292-8353 can give you advice. The big thing about finding DX is to tune the bands. Check out the Central California DX Club Web page at <http://www.ccdxc.org> for information and useful links.



The local DX'ers meet on the first Saturday of the month for breakfast at Carrow's, 4280 N. Blackstone in Fresno. The group gathers between 0700 and 0800. All are welcome. The address of the Sixth District QSL Bureau is P. O. Box 970, Fairfax CA 94978-0970. You can send up to 10 address labels and \$0.70 for each envelope to the address above. They will put 1 unit of First Class postage on the envelope.

Postage rates around the world are constantly changing. To see current rates go to http://www.qsl.net/w9ol/IRC_Chart.htm where you can find the current postal rates for most of the countries of the world. Effective May 12, 2009, US overseas airmail is 98¢ per ounce and postage to Canada is 75¢ per ounce and Mexico is 79¢ per ounce. IRC purchases are \$2.10 each.

If you don't get a DX Bulletin and you belong to ARRL, you should register on the members only web page and check the box for the ARRL DX Bulletin. This one is emailed each Thursday. Or you can go to the ARRL web page in the News/ Bulletin section and view the bulletins there. You can also read the OP DX Bulletin on the web. Search OP DX Bulletin to get the URL. You can subscribe to the Daily DX, Weekly DX or QRZ DX too. These bulletins will keep you informed of DX operations

and QSL information.

The following operations are scheduled:
Marshall Islands V73NS now through 2009 and maybe 2 more years
Martinique FM/F5IRO Now through February 2009
Wake Island KH9/WA2YUN now until end of 2009
Bhutan A52VE April 2007 for 2 years
Djibouti J2800 soon for at least a year
Uganda 5X4X Now to June 2009
Crozet FT5WO Dec 15, 2008 to November 2009
Central African Republic TL0A, after January 1, 2009 active now
Macedonia Z30MCWG Feb 20 to Dec 31, 2009.
Nigeria 5N/KT3Q March 5 to July 24, 2009
Bahamas C6AMS June 1 to June 14, 2009
Fernando de Noronha PY0F June 10—15, 2009
Sao Tome S9LX June 13 to June 27, 2009
Nauru C21TI June 16 to June 26, 2009
San Andres Is. 5J0M June 17—28, primarily 6 M
Mali TZ6EI June 26 to July 5, 6M and some HF
Glorioso FR/G July 9 to 28, Hopefully this will happen.
Norfolk Island VK9AAA July 22 to July 29, 2009
Swaziland 3DA0SS July 31 to August 11, 2009
Curacao PJ2/PA1FJ Sept 24 to Oct 7, 2009
Australis TX5SPA Sept 29 to Oct 12, 2009
Midway K4M October 5 to October 19, 2009
Sable Island CY0 October 7 to October 14, 2009
Marquesas TX5SPM Oct 16 to Oct 22, 2009
Spratly Islands sometime in 2009
Juan Fernandez XR0ZN Nov 24 to Dec 3, 2009
Central Kiribati T31 End of September 2010
Tokelau ZK3 April 2010
Conway Reef 3D2C End of September 2011

Watch the DX Bulletins for up to date information. As the time for the operation is at hand, watch the DX Summit for listings. There are a number of state QSO parties each year. Check the contest corral in QST or the ARRL web page. State QSO parties are a good place to collect states for your Worked All States award. ARRL Log Book of the World now supports the Worked All States Award.

Good luck, tune the dial, and listen.

"...That this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that Government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

- Abraham Lincoln

Gettysburg Address November 19, 1863

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

AMATEUR OF THE MONTH, Stuart Holm WA6VRJ, by Joe Capell, W0PJD

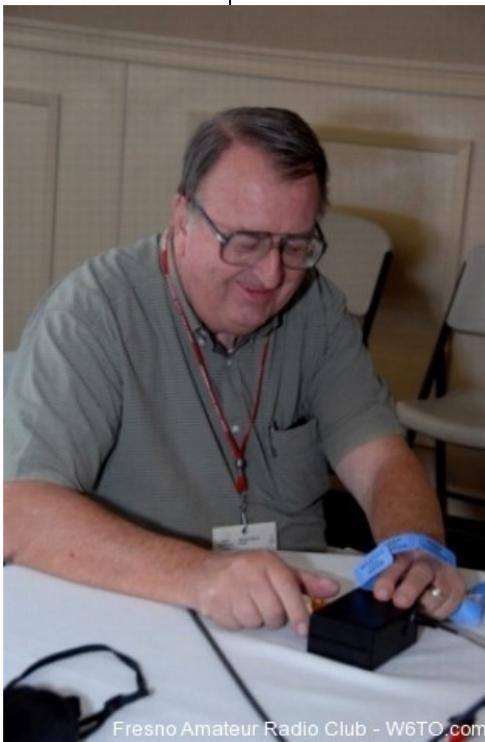
Hardly a radio club meeting, a get-together or a Sunday or Wednesday night net goes by without WB6VRJ suggesting that we should get, fire or change lawyers for whatever it was we were talking about.

Stuart Holmes is our ham bio of the month.

He was born in Beverly Hills and attended Loyola Jesuit High School in Los Angeles. He graduated from UCLA with a degree in microbiology and spent time in the US Army chasing streptococci in the San Francisco bay area. He went to law school there and after graduation, moved to Fresno in 1965 to practice. Apparently he got it right and has been here ever since.

His first ham radio license was soon thereafter, WN6VRJ. He became interested in ham radio from one of his early clients. He upgraded to general class then Advanced Class and has remained at that level even though the FCC phased it out years ago....classic Stuart.

He joined FARC soon after getting his first ticket and within a few years served as hamfest chairman and also served as FARC's President for a couple of years.



He reports that his favorite mode is CW and favorite aspect of ham radio is rag chewing and has an ARRL award certificate to prove it.

He attained a private pilot license after his interest was stirred in that direction by fellow FARC member, Ken Holden. Now days, his passion beyond radio is radio controlled flying, music and enjoying his grandchildren.

As many know, Stu had a serious accident ten years ago this month. He has recovered with his own courage and persistence as well as the support of medical professionals and the encouragement and love of his family and many friends. He

has returned to his beloved hobby of radio and to his profession of law where he tells us he works "full time til 2:30 every weekday afternoon."



TELEWAVE, INC.
Wireless Communications Manufacturer since 1972

Designs & Manufactures
High-Quality Radio System Products for the
AMATEUR RADIO INDUSTRY

Transmitter Combiners • Antennas • Filters • Wattmeters • RF Power Monitors
Cellco • High-Q Cavities • Preamplifiers • IM Suppression • Receiver Multicouplers • Preselectors
Duplexers • RF Loads & Terminations • Isolators • Wireless System Engineering

➤ Order Today! 800-331-3396 ◀

660 Giguere Court. San Jose. CA 95133
Email: sales@telewave.com . <http://www.telewave.com>

CMAS Contract # 3-06-58-0122B GSA Contract # GS-35F-0248J



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

FARC ENCOMM by Dan Pruitt AE6SX

Very exciting happenings this last month for EmComm. In Summary we had EmComm West/Pacificon on May 1, 2 and 3. Everything followed in rapid succession after that. The FARC meeting was the following Friday then ARES/RACES/SATERN sponsored a 3 week class for ARECC Level 1. Field day is getting close and Hamfest not that far beyond. Now it is June and there doesn't seem to be enough time to finish everything, old story I guess.



Dan Pruitt AE6SX

EmComm West/Pacificon 2009 -- Well I was impressed. More vendors, Very good forums and breakouts. Lots of ARRL participation. To top it off Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who "...No longer have to be Politically Correct.," was very candid in his views of the past and future FCC enforcement issues. Might I add a very entertaining speaker. Some take-aways I saw was the need for more Public Relations involvement locally and the increased need for digital type communications in a disaster mode. Discussions on the merits of Outpost and Airmail that I attended, projected capabilities and direction. I personally had some insight from the realm I'll be joining in July as Section Manager. All of the Pacific division Section Managers were present, even Hawaii. Steve Ewald, WV1X, the head of the Field Services Branch at ARRL invited me to participate in all the SM functions, were I was well handled, hi hi. It was a very enlightening experience and I found an unexpected camaraderie. Thank you Steve for the opportunity.

Everyone should be aware that I am a believer in the ARECC Level 1 EmComm Course. I had the luck of taking all three when we had grant money to reimburse us. Well when the money ran out I started looking for a way to cut the cost and have it taught locally. After researching it and getting all the requirements met, scheduling became a real problem. We accomplished this May 9 through May 23. One of the long time requesters actually donated 3 books and we registered 7 students. There were still scheduling conflicts and illness that threatened the class however I'm glad to say 6 completed and 100% of them passed the

test for certification. As they say in Hollywood, "It is in the can" and off to ARRL. We have already started the planning of a second session, and another instructor. Three students are already registered so get your name in the hat if you wish to sign up.

This is Field Day Month, and though I am an avid FARC Field Day participant, there is a need to set up an EOC for SATERN, at 1854 Fulton Street. The Salvation Army will be sponsoring station N6S (NOVEMBER-SIX-SATERN) as the SATERN EOC on Field Day. We will be open house, operating either 1 or 2 Foxtrot. Our main goals will be to pass a few pieces of traffic, operate for 24 hours, allow a tour for some Boy scouts and be available to those who would not normally be at another Field day site for what ever reason. Very low key, but functionality will be our hallmark. If you would like to participate, contact one of us or email me at the website with the subject line of "Field Day". Get out and operate. If you can't make your own club, feel free to stop by the Citadel.

This is June, October is not very far away and that means HAMFEST! We will have a booth or area or whatever, where we will display information and tools of the trade. We hope you will stop by and pass on your opinions and questions. Look for more Boy scouts as that will be JOTA weekend! Don't forget, tickets for the FT-857 will be out soon. 73!

Join us on the net at 1930 hours local, on Monday nights on 147.150+, PL 141.3. Or our Monthly meetings on the 4th Thursday of each Month at 1900 hrs. Come join us at the Salvation Army Citadel, 1854 N. Fulton St. and on the 3rd Friday of each month at Yosemite Falls Cafe on Blackstone, just North of Shaw ave, for EmComm and Coffee. Time is 0830 hours.

Check out the websites www.fresnoares.com or www.fresno-races.net . You can contact us on the website or me directly at ae6sx@fresnoares.com .73 TU ,.

12V EMERGENCY POWER SUPPLY WITH LOTS OF STAYING POWER By Jim Clymer WS6X

Since the early 70s I have been experimenting with various alternative energy, or energy-saving technologies. In the bitter cold of northern Indiana I used a whole-house central heating system based on a wood-burning furnace. I built a solar domestic water heating system using closed loop, active collectors. In California I was an early convert to using pelletized fuel stoves to heat my house. In 1986 I installed a sun-tracking solar water heating system, and for the past six years have enjoyed thumbing my nose at the energy moguls with a grid-tied, 2.7 kW photovoltaic electricity generating system.



Several years ago, while designing a plan for powering a small ham station during power outages, I purchased a 1200 peak Amp "Jump Start" system that uses a small gel cell battery. With the addition of several output connectors, and a solar charging input, I had a very portable emergency power supply. I was pleasantly surprised to find that the fully charged little box would "hold" a 100 Watt IC-706 for several hours. Many of you have seen the "yellow box" with the 7.5 Watt solar panel that was used to earn the Natural Power Bonus Points for the past 8 years at W6TO Field Day.

More recently I began plans for taking a significant part of my ham station off the grid. Central to the plan was to upgrade the yellow box with a much more heavy duty battery, and to add additional solar charging power. A most important design prerequisite was the system had to be reasonably portable (for on-site emergency use), and needed to be outfitted with standardized connec-

tors so that plug n' play compatibility was built in. Oh yes, this thing could not cost an arm and a leg!

After considerable research, I settled on a Group 27 deep cycle battery with a 20-Hr. 115 Ah rating (\$76 at Wal-Mart) and a 45 Watt photovoltaic solar system (\$200 at Harbor Freight, including a charge regulator and steel mounting frame). I added a plastic battery box, wire, terminals, misc. hardware and a hand full of appropriate connectors (\$20), and I now have a very efficient, off-grid power supply that will shortly be powering 80% of my station accessories, plus one HF radio.

Given that this power supply will provide 70 Watts, key down, for 20 hours, I thought perhaps others in the club might be interested in the project. What you see in the accompanying photo is the finished "battery box" with charge input terminals (1/4-20 hardware with wing nuts) and DC outputs consisting of hi-current dual binding posts, 30-A Power Poles, and a cigarette lighter socket. Best of all, you can throw this beauty together for less than \$100!



Not everyone will be interested in a solar charging system. Before you spend a bundle on an expensive automotive type battery charger, consider that a simple float charger (\$13 at Harbor Freight) will keep the battery "topped off" and ready to go. My preference is the Schauer Charge Master (\$25 at Pacific Battery). This little gem uses a sophisticated hi-frequency pulsing technology that can revive "dead" batteries - even those that were discharged to less than 10.5 V.

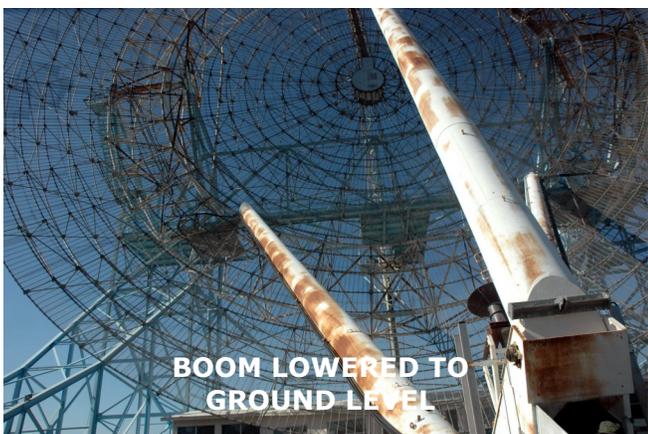
I would be happy to assist (answer questions) any club member who is interested in building this nifty 12 V emergency supply. Enjoy!

VISIT FARC'S WEBSITE AT WWW.W6TO.COM

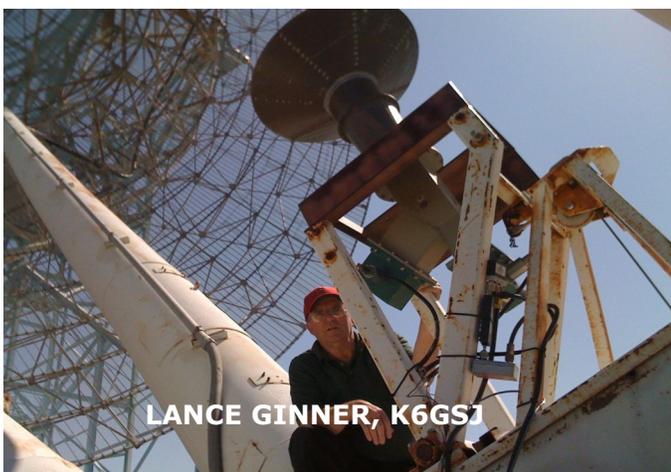
"ECHOES OF APOLLO" SHAKE DOWN TRIP & UPDATE by Dave Smith W6TE

Jim Klassen, W6JMK, Pat Barthelow, AA6EG and I picked Wayne Overbeck, N6NB, up at the San Jose Airport about 4 PM on Tuesday and headed to the Stanford, 150', SRI dish in Palo Alto. We were gathered to set up the 23 CM equipment for a "shake down test". For the "Echoes of Apollo" event June 26-28, 2009.

We arrived at the dish around 5PM to find the dish's feed housing lowered to the ground while Dr. Cousins and his vary capable engineers and technicians were installing SRI's dual-polarity septum feed horn for our use.



One of the volunteers helping on this project is well known satellite pioneer, Lance Ginner, K6GSJ. Lance worked (hands-on) on OSCARS I,



II and III and assisted on others up through OSCAR 7.

(You may recall that well publicized photo of someone transporting OSCAR I under their arm. That was Lance!)

Also at the site was a camera crew from the BBC. They were shooting a program for the BBC.

We spent the next 4 hours getting everything stalled, reengineering my concept of how circular polarization (CP) should be implemented. It was decided without the transfer relay (I had ordered but hadn't yet received) we would not be able to do CP. We set the feeds up to allow switching between the two horizontal and vertical linear ports on the feed horn.

Around 8 PM we decided to call it a day, Every-



one was hungry, tired and nerves were on edge. We left to go eat and get some sleep agreeing to meet the next morning at 9 AM.

Wednes-
day morn-
ing we all
met at 9
AM and
finished
trouble-
shooting
and in-
stalling the
e q u i p -



ment. Everything look like it was working so the SRI crew raised the feed horn into position.

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

Around noon everything came together and we were on the air AND TRACKING THE MOON.

I've never heard louder echoes off the moon before. Our return CW echoes were S9 + 20 db!



STANFORD SRI DISH TRACKING THE MOON

The SRI team seemed delighted at our overall success. It was a first for the Stanford dish as it has never been on the Amateur 23CM band before.



PAT BARTHELOW, AA6EG, 23CM EME JUST PRIOR TO WORKING CHRISTOPH, HB9HAL IN SWITZERLAND ON SSB

There were a group of stations waiting for us. The first station was Christoph HB9HAL in Switzerland. The contact was on SSB (voice). We were all able to get on the air and work some stations.

Around 4:30 PM The New York Times reporter, Ashlee Vance, and a photographer was on the scene. They are doing a story on "Echoes of



JIM KLASSEN, W6JMK, WORKING 23CM EME

Apollo and Amateur Radio EME. The interview lasted about 90 minutes. We demonstrated echoes and they were very impressed hearing our signals off the moon.

After that we loaded everything up and Jim and I headed for home. We got to Fresno at 9 PM. Jim had another :45 minutes to get to his Reedley residence.

All in all, it was a great experience. One I'll never



DAVE, W6TE, DIMONSTRATING EME TO NEW YORK TIME REPORTER

forget. This was great a shake down run. The big day (for Echoes of Apollo) is June 26th weekend.

Dave W6TE

Here's my [Shutterfly](#) website with the entire group of 78 photos.

(Anodized Chicken continued from page 6)

the touch (about 2 seconds). If you want extra tender chicken, you could allow the chicken to steam in the pan for an additional 1 or 2 minutes.

- I know, some of you are asking, "How could the chicken possibly be cooked in just a few seconds?" Truthfully, this process took me so long to perfect, that I claim it as proprietary, intellectual property, and am hoping to patent it some day. But here is a tiny clue. Remember Ohms law? If you think about the impedance of the oil pan, and the very warm jumper cables, you might guess that my secret involves super-heated water. You would be on the right track!

- That's it! Chicken is ready to serve!

Jim "Road Kill" Clymer WS6X

Recently, my wife, Phyllis, and I went to Morro Bay for a brief vacation. Among other things, I thought I would bring along my ICOM V-8. This rig, on two meters, offers the choice of including a CTCSS tone.

I contacted Chuck, W6DPD, who provided e with access to the information about repeater frequencies and their associated CTCSS tones. This was a big help to me.

Well, we went to Morro Bay. We stayed in a motel which overlooks the beach, and is up above the ocean level.

I was not able to hit any repeaters. I tried, several times, but no luck. There was a bunch of frequencies, and I followed the list, and made sure that the CTCSS tone was there, and the correct tone.

So while I do thank Chuck, W6DPD, for his help, I am curious whether anyone has experienced this in the Morro Bay area.

73, Stu WB6VRJ

Don't forget about the [Field Day Site Locator](#) on the ARRL Web site if you don't have Field Day plans yet. This is a good way to find sites to visit, refer new hams to some active groups, or maybe throw in and put your shoulder to another group's wheel. At the least, it would be interesting just to see who else will be active and from what locations.

(Editor: I see that none of the local clubs have taken advantage of this nifty tool.)

Veterans (survivors?) of the Dayton Hamvention Flea Market have often wondered just how much walking it really takes to see every parking lot

booth. Doug W9WI made a rough estimate of the distance by pacing off the width of a space. (He calculated 8 feet, about 2.4m) and used the map printed in the program to count the spaces. "Allowing for the aisles between the rows and allowing 8 ft to turn around at the end of each row, I arrived at 3.81 miles (about 6 km) as the distance of one lap of the flea market. This does not count the walk from the bus to the lot, nor does it include the distance spent backtracking to that thing you really needed and which sold before you got there, nor going to the porta-potty and back, nor hauling that rotor or plate transformer to the UPS Store." Funny thing - knowing how far it is doesn't make my feet feel any better at all! Dan WD8AAU suggests packing an extra pair of dry socks in a plastic bag as an instant refresher for those tired tootsies. "Priceless!" he opines.

A tidbit from the June issue of the [Potomac Valley Radio Club](#) newsletter comes from tower-climber Don K4ZA, "I've long supported the idea of having a feed line running to the feed point that ends at the boom to mast plate. It solves several problems. One, perhaps you're using something like LDF-5-50 to feed the antenna, so you'll need a jumper anyway. Two, you need a rotation loop. Three, should you ever need or want to check the antenna (the driven element's probably out of reach, huh?) OR the feed line needs to be checked, this short run of flexible cable makes that an easy task (I like to use BuryFlex for this jumper myself). The main argument against it is always waterproofing, but I am convinced I solved that issue long ago. Being able to insert an SWR meter or a dummy load right there is invaluable."

This short [Hamflight Video](#) touting Field Day is really GREAT!

Steve K7LXC has published "[The 10 Most Common Tower Building Mistakes](#)" on his Web site.

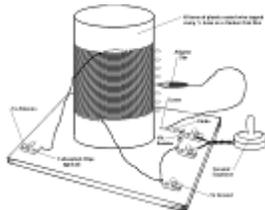
Making your own "staples" for laying and holding down radial wire is fairly straightforward. If you are looking for pre-formed staples, however, they may be available as "lawn staples" or "sod staples" at your local lawn and garden emporium. (Jim K8MK and Rick W0RIC)

Thanks to the ARRL's "Rate Sheet" for some of the articles.

An Elmer Session before the June 12th meeting, 6:30 PM.

GOT QUESTIONS?

Bring them to the Elmer Session. There will be Hams there set up to help with the Hobby! Want to use "Ladder Line" instead of coax, someone can explain the differences.



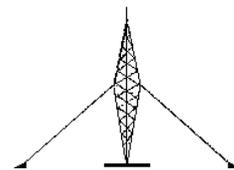
This a great time to casually mull over all those little puzzles that develop as you grow in Ham radio. Everything from SWR Bridges,

current meters, test equipment and techniques. New equipment is always a mystery. Find out how to change your modulation to suite yourself. Find other people working in the same modes as you do. Catch up on some new contest rules.



What someone else needs know, you can help! Volunteer as an Elmer to enlighten those in need.

Best ways of learning Morse Code? Fox Hunts? Best practices for RF grounding. Simple advice on transmission lines, Antennas, station set ups or just arranging a station for best wire dressing. You might even have knowledge you



have acquired that you did not know you had!



Come out early and visit with the Elmers or be an Elmer or both. 6:30 PM, 30 minutes before the regular meeting. Maybe someone will have the story on who and where

"Elmer" was first used, hi hi.

See you all there, de Dan Pruitt, AE6SX,

So pop a bowl of corn, open a cold 807, and prepare to be amazed at this [collection of Field Day video links](#) from Scot K9JY. There are plenty of good (and bad), thought-provoking examples of "operating on the hoof" to keep you watching "just one more!"

K0BG's excellent eham.net article on [mobile noise abatement](#) has been recirculated. Alan touches on several common problems that raise the noise floor and obscure calling stations. With the use of small antennas close to the ground, every extra dB counts!

From the Montana section newsletter by SM Doug K7YD, "(if you) have an old Vibroplex laying around the shack, the [Vibroplex Company](#) has a program to refurbish that old bug, clean it up and make it as much like new as they can. I sent in one of my older bugs and just got it back in super condition. It runs like a dream. If you are interested, just send it in (very well packed) to them and mark the package for "Betsy". She'll take it apart, shine it up and replace any worn or damaged parts." You might want to call first, of course. (Ken K0PP)

Fans of the contest and CW training program RUFZXP can now upload their scoreboard file

and receive a graphical analysis of how they did. Felipe PY1NP developed the [analyzer](#) and notes that it is a beta-test version.

Glenn K6NA found a new Google mashup toy for finding out what IS that [mystery tower](#) you drive by every day?

Chris N7ZWY has described a new [transmitting loop antenna](#) for 40 meters, in particular a new tuning method that does not involve a series capacitor or gamma matching. This would be handy for portable (and possibly mobile) contest operation where a full-sized antenna would be impractical.

Sooner or later those rotator control box dial-illuminator bulbs will burn out and you'll find that replacements are hard to find. [Idiom Press](#) has a new kit to replace the bulbs with a nice array of LEDs that improves dial illumination, but if you just want to put in a new bulb-like object, Joe W4TV suggests [LED bulb replacements](#) that can be had in white and other colors at voltages from 6 to 48 volts. These bulbs are probably available in electronics emporia everywhere.

(Source ARRL Rate Sheet)

2009 AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS

UNLICENSED THRU EXTRA CLASS
Sponsored By the FRESNO Volunteer Exam (VE) TEAM
And The
FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

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.

August 15

November 21

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. Priority 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), or FCC Registration Number (preferred). Fee \$15.00 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 pre-registration.

More Info?? Contact Charles, (559) 431-2038

4364 E. Ashlan Ave. * Fresno Ca. 93726
Phone (559) 227-2986



Shop at **SPARKY'S** for all your electronic needs.
Everything in electronics for:

HOBBYIST
DO-IT-YOURSELFER
EXPERIMENTER

Professional and Amateur Radio publications,
Since 1963

Shortwave radios-Parts-Tools
Computer Accessories-LAN-Data Comm.
Cables and wire.

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

F.A.R.C. DUES ARE \$15.00 PER YEAR FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP. Additional family members in the same household are \$5.00 each per year. Make checks payable to F.A.R.C. and send to:
P.O. Box 5912, Fresno, Ca. 93755-5912.

**Upcoming 2009
Fresno Amateur Radio
Club
Activities and Events**

**June 2nd Board Meeting
June 12th Club Meeting**

2009 Fresno Amateur Radio Club Application	
Name _____	Date _____
Address _____	Callsign _____
Home Phone _____	State _____ Zip _____
Business Phone _____	
Occupation _____	Birth Date _____
Spouses Name _____	Anniversary Date _____
License Class _____	First Year Licensed _____
Email Address _____	
I am interested in serving on one of the committees. Please contact me with more details. _____	
FARC – PO BOX 5912, FRESNO, CA 93755-5912	



FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
P.O. Box 5912
Fresno, CA 93755-5912

Send To: