



Fresno Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

SEPT 2009 Volume 70, Issue 9

Our next meeting will be Sept. 11th 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.

Again I would like to thank Ken and Gwynne for hosting our summer picnic. We had a wonderful turn out of our members and families. The side dishes that our members brought were delicious and Chef Ken did his famous barrel cooked tri-tip. After our feast we played Bingo with great prizes, a lot of fun was had by all. From the comments, Bingo is a must next year along with Ken`s tri-tip.



Our Hamfest is just around the corner, please contact Craig, K6QI if you can help, we need all of our members to help support this event. Admission is only \$5.00 and that includes a chance on a radio, YAESU FT 450 value about \$750. We will have tickets at our meeting on Sept. 11th at Cedar Lanes. This year we will have new vendors, speakers, service clubs and representatives from sister Ham clubs will be there. A lot of information and a great group of Hams to talk with.

Looking forward to our Sept 11th meeting.
73`s,,, Tom

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

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 | W0PJD@me.com | (559) 225-3582 | 12/2009 |
| Dan Pruitt: AE6SX | ae6sx@arrl.net | (559) 779-2974 | 12/2009 |

Mark your 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.

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.



Amateur Radio Event Calendar

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Sept 1 | FARC BOD Meeting | Oct 2 | CARP Meeting |
| Sept 3 | Madera ARC Meeting | Oct 3—4 | CA QSO Party |
| Sept 4 | CARP Meeting | Oct 3 | CCDXC Breakfast |
| Sept 5 | CCDXC Breakfast | Oct 6 | FARC BOD Meeting |
| Sept 11 | FARC Meeting | Oct 9 | FARC Club Meeting |
| Sept 12-13 | ARRL VHF Contest | Oct 16 | SJVARS Meeting |
| Sept 18 | SJVARS Club Meeting | Oct 17 | FARC HAMFEST |
| Sept 20 | North America Sprint | Oct 24-25 | CQ WW DX Contest SSB |
| Sept 22 | QCWA Lunch | Oct 24-25 | 10-10 Fall CW Contest |
| | | Oct 27 | QCWA Luncheon |

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

EDITOR'S COMMENTS by Dave Smith W6TE

Dear FARC Friends,

A very heart felt thanks to all who have contributed to SKIP Newsletter this month. What makes a club newsletter interesting (to me) is informing what other club members are up to. Another purpose of the newsletter is to archive, for future club members, what the club and club members did in the past. Thanks to those of you who have sent those great tidbits of information for the newsletter.

Have you ever wondered if it was possible to obtain DXCC if you have a small lot and no room for antennas? Jim Clymer, WS6X, gives us encouragement and information in this months newsletter on how this can be accomplished. He's done it. Jim has written an inspiring 2-part article entitled "Low Band DX'ing From a Small City Lot."

The ARRL QSO Party is the 2nd weekend in September (Sept. 12 & 13th.) A group of will be operating a multi-op from a mountain top above Tehachapi, CA (DM05). and will be listening around the various calling frequencies: 50.125, 144.200, 222.100, 432.100, 902.100, 1296.100, etc. We will also be on 146.55, 223.5 and 446.0 FM. Note that 146.52 is still off limits to contesting.

I have been diligently rebuilding my portable microwave station and intend to have it on the air for the ARRL Sept. VHF contest. Up until now, I have been borrowing one of Wayne Overbeck, N6NB's, "Toolbox Transverter" systems.

My new and improved transverter station includes a Rubidium frequency standard that will lock all the transverters to a very stable 10 MHz. This will remove one of the three "unknowns" in microwave DX'ing (frequency, position, and propagation.) The Rubidium standard nails down the frequency part of the equation so all you need to do is to point your antenna in the right direction and hope for propagation. When I'm done with the project I'll post some pictures.

The FARC Hamfest is October 17th. You can't beat the price \$5. This also gives you a chance to win the FT-450 Transceiver! There's also a swap meet, forums, vendors, special event station, and lunch.... See the flyer!

73, Dave Smith W6TE w6te@msn.com

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

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

- Antenna Design & Production from DC to Microwave
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4402 N. Selland Ave. Fresno, CA 93722
559.432.8873 Fax 559.432.3059 website: www.m2inc.com

Membership Attendance for August—No Winner



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) 264-8554

Local Amateur Radio Repeaters

| <i>Organization</i> | <i>Call Sign</i> | <i>Frequency</i> | <i>Offset</i> | <i>PL</i> |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|
| AARC | WB6QDN | 146.610 | - | NONE |
| CARP | K6ARP | 147.675 | - | 141.3 |
| CARP | N6JXL | 224.380 | - | 141.3 |
| CARP | K6ARP | 444.725 | - | 141.3 |
| CARP | NI6M | 440.350 | + | 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 |
| KJ6KO | KJ6JO | 927.6625/902.0125 | - | 146.2 |
| 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 | KE6JZ | 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 |

Birthdays, Anniversary's

Birthdays:

Dennis Freeman K6LYN Sept 25th
 Camille Pratt KB6LBN Sept 9th
 Sarah Moreno, KJ6OEA Sept ?

Anniversaries:

Jim & Elaine Clymer WS6X Sept. 4th
 Tom & Tammie Reinhart N6MQG Sept. 17th
 Gabriel & Sarah Moreno N6OSB, KJ6OEA Sept 23rd
 Cecil & Jean Howard KI6ZPB & KI6ZPA Sept. 12th



Gwynne and Ken Holden receiving a gratitude of thanks for again hosting the FARC Picnic.

Now is the time to upgrade your old radio. In an effort to further revive the weak economy, the government announced that it started a new Cash for Radio Clunkers program on August 17th. The program is aimed at members of the Amateur Radio Service, also known as ham radio operators. Operators with transceivers with less than 80 db Blocking Dynamic Range (2 kHz spacing) will be eligible to trade in their old units (which must be crushed) for new transceivers and will receive a credit based upon the improved BDR. Improvements of 20 dB are eligible for \$100 credit and 40dB or better are eligible for \$200. Operators must be currently licensed and must show proof of purchase of the old transceiver, which must be in working order. Tube transceivers are deemed to be museum pieces and not eligible for this program. See your retailer for further details. This program will expire April 1, 2010

FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESENTS

66TH ANNUAL HAMFEST

VENDORS **Swap Meet** PRIZES PRESENTATIONS



WIN

Grand Prize!

Yaesu FT-450 HF/50 MHz Transceiver!

Additional tickets \$5 each

Drawing at 2 PM — Need not be present to win!

Tickets: \$5

(includes entrance and a chance to win radio!)

Swap Vendors: \$5 per space

(in addition to Hamfest ticket)

*Each area one standard parking space—
reserve your spot now!*

Lunch: \$5

(Hamburger Meal)

October 17th 2009

JOTA Special

Event Station

8 am—2 pm

Salvation Army Event Center

1854 Fulton Street Fresno CA 93721

Talk-In: 146.94 -dup 141.3 pl (starting at 7 AM)

For More Information, contact

Hamfest Chair Craig Carter, K6QI at

k6qi@yahoo.com Or (559) 284-1722

Visit FARC on the web: www.w6to.com



FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PRESENTS

66TH ANNUAL HAMFEST

Mail to

Fresno Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
C/O Craig Carter, K6QI
856 Pistachio

HAMFEST REGISTRATION

Name/Call _____

Address _____

Phone _____

| Description | Qty. | Price | Subtotal |
|---|-------|--------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tickets | _____ | \$5.00 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swap Meet | _____ | \$5.00 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch | _____ | \$5.00 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Requests | _____ | | _____ |

Order total: _____

WWW.W6TO.COM for more HAMFEST Info!

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

AMATEUR OF THE MONTH, Joe Cardoza WA6FFJ, by Joe Capell W0PJD

Growing up in a ham family includes recollections of mountain trips that just happened to be repeater sites, nights out with Dad for doughnuts as well as a raffle of radio parts and a lecture on antenna matching or going to Jimmy Nichols' big yard in West Fresno and finding electronics treasures.

Joe Cardoza III, WA6FFJ is our ham biography of the month for September. He is the son of Joe Cardoza, Jr., WB6JQC, but he actually holds the call of his father which was given up when the family moved to the Texas-Oklahoma area back when regional call letters reflected the actual region in which one lived.

Joe III grew up in Fresno and in the hobby but didn't follow in his father's foot steps and become licensed until 2 years ago with the first call letters KI6NHV. He learned a lot of electronics from his Dad but also studied the subject in junior high school and Hoover High School where he graduated in 1977. He found the Morse code requirement a difficult barrier but with that gone, he had no trouble with the theory part of the license, surprising and pleasing his Dad with finally becoming a radio amateur.

His day (and often evening and weekend) job is being a self-employed home remodeling contractor. His married 22 years to his lovely wife, Julie, and has two children who have yet to be interested in amateur radio, but who knows?

He has a home station consisting in his Dad's old mobile Side Band Engineering rig and some "newer" hybrid equipment on HF. He still marvels when hams in distant states and other countries come back to his "CQ"--remember those days?

He had been net control from the FARC Sunday night club net and is net manager for the Amateur Radio Emergency Services net on N6HEW repeater, 147.150+ (PL 141.3). He volunteers as an assistant to Dan, AE6SX, in local ARES projects and operations. His favorite aspect of amateur radio is the fellowship with other hams and how generously they help each other with equipment, advice and getting on the air, as well as playing with "vintage" radio. When not talking about electronics, he is always willing to chat with all comers about the US constitution and guns and gun rights.



LOW-BAND DXing FROM A SMALL CITY LOT by Jim Clymer WS6X

Part 1 of 2

As the searing valley heat gives way to somewhat more moderate temperatures, many HF operators -- especially low band DX-ers -- begin "reinventing" their antenna farms. With the hint of fall comes the anticipation of another exciting winter DX season. Of course, fall is the time to check those sunburned antennas, make repairs, tweaks and adjustments, or perhaps try something entirely new. All effort is focused on gaining even the smallest improvement over last year.



While this may seem like a lot of effort for not much in return, the bite of the low band DX bug is very intoxicating. Those so bitten will often spin lengthy yarns, telling of conquests, new entities worked, and of the pure joy of 4-6 months spent trying to squeeze QSOs out of the noise on 160 meters. No, the annual fall effort to beef up the low band antennas is not wasted. It is a de facto part of the challenge -- part of the lure of being a low band DX-er.

Sadly, many otherwise enthusiastic HF operators have never experienced the thrill of working DX on the lower frequency bands. Seeing themselves as "real estate challenged", these folks typically have not even considered 40, 80, and 160 meters because of an unfortunate, but commonly held misconception. This prevailing "wisdom" suggests that it takes multiple acres, miles of wire, tall towers, high power, and very deep pockets to set up a station to successfully operate the low bands. The intent of this article is to challenge such "wisdom" and to encourage any would-be low band operators to take another look.

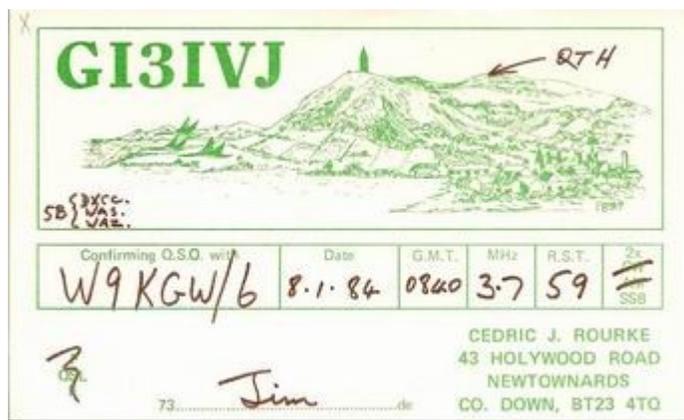
First, let's be clear. If you had 100 acres way out in the country, and 2 million bucks to build your station, would your chances of low band success be better than the little pistol with the 8000 sq. ft. lot in the city? We certainly hope so! Would you have to work as hard to scratch out 3 or 4 new entities per season? Emphatically not! However, does that mean that the little guy with lots of guts and fire in his belly can't do it? Again, emphatically not!

By way of encouragement for the "little guy" I offer a brief narrative of how I got started on the low bands. This is not at all intended to be a brag sheet. Rather, I hope that someone will be sufficiently inspired to think, "Hey, I bet I could do that too!"

Frankly, before I moved to my little 120' X 120' sand box here in Fresno in 1980, I had nary a clue that these low bands were even available for DX chasing. Back east, I thought 75 meters was for rag-chewing and for such activities as checking into the Virginia Phone Net.

After a few years of 20-15-10 meter DX-ing here in Fresno, I became aware that my neighbor, WD6AFC, was actually working DX on 40M and even had wire antennas for DX-ing on 75M! Wow, how interesting! I wonder if I could do that! I also became aware of the much-coveted 5-Band DXCC award. Wow, I wonder if I could ever earn that! You can see where this is headed! Before long I was hopelessly hooked, and thus began my 25+ year pursuit of chasing that elusive DX on the low bands.

In the winter of 1983 I put up a used Hy-gain 18AVT vertical mounted on a chain link fence -- my first antenna for 80 and 40. Even this grossly inefficient (on 80 meters) antenna produced enough DX contacts to get me hooked! I remember the thrill of working my first EU -- GI3IVJ -- on 75M using this little vertical! As you can imagine, I soon realized that the 18AVT was a serious limitation to serious DX chasing on the low bands. Thus began my never ending quest for "a better antenna."



My tower at that time was a Wilson TT-45 ... a 45 foot tall rotating, tubular tower, with a Hy-gain TH-5 mounted on an additional stinger at about 52 feet. I decided to try the W9INN 3-band half-slopers mounted on the tower at 42 feet. I designed a floating collar, which allowed the attachment of 2 slopers to the rotating tower. Happily, in most cases, the slopers were a big improvement over the trapped vertical. It was this very basic, simple setup that I used for the next 4 years to launch a serious low band DX-ing effort. During this time I also experimented with various homebrewed verticals, including a pair of phased 40M verticals. However, for the most part, the verticals were not as effective as the slopers.

LOW-BAND DXing FROM A SMALL CITY LOT by Jim Clymer WS6X

Now I'm sure the skeptics are calling attention to tall towers, 40M beams, and full-sized 80M delta loops that have been observed along Clovis Avenue. Yes of course, I have improved the antenna farm over the years. Let me assure you however (My logs are available for scrutiny.), that I earned DXCC on 40 and 80, and the first 40 entities on 160, with either this simple, sloper system or one of the verticals.

The point is this... with a modest effort, modest outlay of cash, and a ton of fun in the process, you too, can

earn DXCC on one or more low frequency bands -- even if your play pen is a small city lot.

Next month, in part two, we will look at some specific recommendations that are aimed at the little pistol low band operator. We will also introduce and discuss the importance of RX (receive only) antennas. In the meantime, throw a 100' piece of wire over the roof, hook it to your receiver, and start tuning 40, 80 and 160. You might be pleasantly surprised!

Lately, I have been checking into the slow speed version of the Northern California Net. This is at 0400 Z every night. It is on 3533 KHz in CW.

It is a fun net, because all but one of the fellows does slow down for your speed. The one chap that doesn't, I suspect his weighting on his keyer is off.

But disregarding that, it is fun to check in. There aren't any messages for Fresno. I have taken one message in the last two months. But it is fun, and the Net Control Station will sometimes chat with you. It is also fun to listen to some of the messages being sent, which are in ARRL form, and to check on your own ability to copy. It is good practice.

Then another place where CW chaps like to congregate on the web is SKCC-Straight Key Century Club. Lotsa forums there, and lotsa discussions. A good time is had by all.

I know that CW is NOT dying. One of our own club members, Gabriel, N6OSB, is working on CW and he even has a spare key to practice with when he

goes out of town. Like others, he listens to himself on a tape machine, so he knows when he sends good code.

CW is a lot of fun. There are a bunch of hams out there that like to converse at no more than 18 QPM, and that's fine with me..

73, STUART WB6VRJ

Jerry Jackson - W6KEG has been cooking fish at Florence Lake and Edison Lake this summer on 3810 KHz. Jerry reported in that all he had to do was drag a frying pan behind the boat and the trout just hopped right in. That give him more time for ham radio. First time trout has ever been cooked by a FT-101 final, not the campfire! (W6YEP)

Pat Fennacy - W6YEP has recently purchased a third Gates Model H (1kw) AM transmitter from another op in Texas. He plans to tune it up on 7290 KHz. The other two are tuned for 75 and 160 meters. Should be a real "stick shaker" for a pair of 833 tubes on 40 meters.

Don't let your license expire. Right now, right this minute, go check to see when it expires. Don't let it slip like I did. I not only lost my license but I lost the callsign that I have held since the early 1970's. I just forgot to renew, that's all. I also missed the two-year grace period by one month. US hams, don't expect the FCC to remind you. Also, don't think that updating a changed postal address will renew your license like it used to... it won't. I am so sad. 73, ex-W9IP

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. The current series of IRCS expire on Dec. 31, 2009. A new series will be available beginning July 1, 2009.

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 OPDX Bulletin or the 425 DX Bulletin on the web. Search OP DX Bulletin or 425 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.

Contacts with 7O1YGF, Yemen, for April of 2000 are now accepted for DXCC.

The following operations are scheduled:

- Marshall Islands V73NS through 09 and maybe two more years
- Martinique FM/F5IRO Now through Feb 2009
- Wake Is KH9/WA2YUN now until end of 2009
- Bhutan A52VE April 2007 for 2 years
- Djibouti J28OO soon for at least a year
- Crozet FT5WO Dec 15, 2008 to Nov 2009
- Central African Republic TL0A, after Jan 1, 2009 active now
- Macedonia Z30MCWG Feb 20 to Dec 31, 09
- Glorioso FT/G website says September 2009!!
- East Timor 4W August 3 to October 3, 2009
- Crete SV9/WB2GAI Aug 21 to Oct 5, 2009
- Curacao PJ2/PA1FJ Sep 24 to Oct 7, 2009
- Australis TX5SPA Sept 29 to Oct 12, 2009
- Conway Reef 3D20CR Oct 1 to Oct 10, 2009
- Midway K4M October 5 to October 19, 2009
- South Cook Is E51NOU Oct 5 to Oct 30, 2009
- Sable Is CY0 October 7 to October 14, 2009
- Marquesas TX5SPM Oct 16 to Oct 22, 2009
- Sprately Islands sometime in 2009
- Easter Island XR0YA Oct 31 to Nov 15, 2009
- Ghana 9G5TT Nov 13 to Nov 27, 2009
- Madagascar 5R8IC Nov 17 to Dec 15, 2009
- Chesterfield Is TX3A Nov 23 to Dec 6, 2009 (mainly Low bands)
- Aves Island YV0A late 2009
- Juan Fernandez XR0ZN March-April 2010
- Central Kiribati T31 End of September 2010
- Tokelau ZK3 April 2010

(Continued on page 11)



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

FRESNO ENCOMM ARES/RACES by Dan Pruitt AE6SX

Like a Wednesday in the week, August is like "Hump Day". Time to take stock in accomplishments and plan for the end of the Year. We are still implementing the New Procedures with the time consuming details. Some new directions are coming out of ARRL and even though the Monthly Meeting is not until the 27th of August, I will talk a little about the program.



The first thing on 'The Rest of the Year' Calendar is National Preparedness Month. Used to be "Amateur Radio Awareness Day". This is in conjunction with the DHS. We are going to operate in a public place on a Saturday (stay tuned....) and try and attract some attention, hi hi.

Next we have a whole list of events in October, not the least of which is Hamfest (got your tickets yet?). As always, we will be there to answer questions about the various Volunteer EmComm Agencies. There will also be a special event station at Hamfest for JOTA. Then October is always ARRL's SET. The "Simulated Emergency Test" is the ARES readiness test.

November is the Eye-Q Marathon and we have volunteered our assistance again this year. Last year was our first time and it is a good practice of having maximum tactical participation from all the clubs in the area. So please reserve Nov 8 in your PDA's.

December is always highlighted by SRD (Skywarn Recognition Day). Held the first weekend in December each year. It is The National Weather Services thank you to the

Hams. 24 hours of as many weather office QSOs as possible plus educating all who wish information about the Skywarn program. We have new antennas this year, software logging, APRS and an Extra Class Forecaster in house in Hanford. We are expecting a great time this year. Hanford people treat us well!

No events in our area, this month, but of interest; The Lockheed Fire in Santa Cruz County. The hams replayed the comms so you could listen, real time, to their nets on Internet feeds. Very enlightening and was a well handled net, a great example of EmComm in action.

The only other event was a SAR Exercise (Search And Rescue) that was conducted by the Navy off Road 200, Madera. The object of the exercise was locate a crash site.. Included was Navy MARS at NAS Lemoore. Headed by KA6PNL, Ed VonDerbeck, he enlisted my help. The intent was to use 75/40 meter communications back to NAS Lemoore where I manned the EOC. Worst conditions, on those days, all noise. Anticipating some problems, I contacted (or alerted) specific Hams in our group, to monitor and possibly relay. Thinking I would get a couple, I was pleased to have over half a dozen respond, and I want to acknowledge KE6SHL, Richard Pack and W6OEZ, Doyle Counterman who actually made the circuit work. They were in Fresno and Madera, however also on board were W6DYH, Dave in Reedley (SKYWARN), WA7YHX, Mike Enquist in Lemoore and others, Even KF6ZXO, Guss checked-in, mobile. Great mutual aid. TY



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

(Continued from page 10)

**FRESNO ENCOMM ARES/RACES by Dan Pruitt
AE6SX**

Our meeting will be on "What's in the bag?". We are trying to have everyone pay attention to the "grab and go kit" that we all should have in EmComm. In my case it is almost "Keys to the car and run" but that doesn't always work. Can't put the car on other transportation! It should be interesting to learn from the variety, Afterward we will modify the recommended kits on the website.

NET: Monday 1930 hours local on 147.150+, PL 141.3

Monthly meetings on the 4th Thursday of each Month
Salvation Army Citadel, 1854 N. Fulton St
1900 hrs

EmComm and Coffee. Time is 0830 hours.
Yosemite Falls Cafe on Blackstone, just North of Shaw

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 .

Join us on the net at 1930 hours local, on Monday.

(Continued from page 9)

**THE DX CORNER by Charles McConnell
W6DPD**

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.



TELEWAVE, INC.
Wireless Communications Manufacturer since 1972

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High-Quality Radio System Products for the
AMATEUR RADIO INDUSTRY

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Fresno Amateur Radio Club

"CONTESTING" By John Morrice K6MI

Some of our club members were on for the 2009 ARRL DX Phone Contest. No sunspots, but quiet conditions, so there was DX that was workable.



Call- points- q's- mults- category (Single op or Multi op)- power (A=qrp, B=low power, C=high power)

Highest score in our club:

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------|--------|-----|----|---|---|--|-----|--|
| KE6SHL | 22,815 | 120 | 65 | S | B | | SJV | |
|--------|--------|-----|----|---|---|--|-----|--|

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|--------|-----|----|----|---|--|---------|--|
| W6DPD | 16,848 | 109 | 52 | SA | B | | SJ V | |
|-------|--------|-----|----|----|---|--|---------|--|

| | | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|----|----|---|---|--|-----|--|
| NA6G | 2,508 | 39 | 22 | S | B | | SJV | |
|------|-------|----|----|---|---|--|-----|--|

| | | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|----|----|---|---|--|-----|--|
| K6MI | 1,350 | 25 | 18 | S | A | | SJV | |
|------|-------|----|----|---|---|--|-----|--|

2009 ARRL RTTY Roundup Scores:

San Joaquin Valley

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| KD4HXT | 27,966 | 487 | 59 | S | A |
| KE6SHL | 16,245 | 290 | 57 | S | A |
| KR7O | 4,998 | 121 | 42 | S | A |
| K6LE | 4,576 | 107 | 44 | S | A |
| K6AAB | 2,775 | 78 | 37 | S | A |
| N6FD | 2,244 | 68 | 34 | S | A |
| KA6GDT | 570 | 32 | 19 | S | A |
| WK6I | 194,236 | 1,996 | 98 | S | B |
| W6SX | 39,128 | 594 | 67 | S | B |
| NN6NN (W6XK, N6EE, ops) | | 1,136 | 99 | M | B |
| | 111,474 | | | | |
| KT6YL (+KG6D) | | 860 | 80 | M | B |
| | 67,840 | | | | |
| AK6DV (+packet) | AK6DV (+packet) | AK6DV (+packet) | AK6DV (+packet) | AK6DV (+packet) | AK6DV (+packet) |

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

Here is an item for you VHF/UHF fans. I was perusing one of my favourite Railroad magazines, since railroading is a pursuit of mine, and this one magazine has a regular column dedicated to those who use scanners. You know, the receivers that get police calls, ham calls, and aircraft calls, and, for this magazine, railroad voice signals.

For those of you who like to make your own antennae, in that over 144 MHz range, the antennas as you know are less than a foot and a half. How long?

Well, divide 2800 by the frequency in MHz, and the answer is for a vertical antenna in inches.

Thus for 146.94 MHz, the antenna length is close to 19 inches. That is the length of the antenna.

Easy huh?

For you railroad buffs, 160MHz is the approximate frequency for the BNSF railroad, so the antenna length is 17.5 inches-that's a quarter wavelength.

That seems to me to be a lot easier than trying it out in feet

STUART WB6VRJ

John Morrice - K6MI has two new additions to his ham family...A pair of Icom 575H transceivers for six and ten meters. John vows not to let any burst of RF on six meters to go unchallenged, Es or F layer, Africa or local Volkswagen ignition noise. (W6YEP)

Jeff Hueslid - WB6ZBX made the front cover of Electric Radio this month. "Wolfman Jeff" is seen at the console next to his newly acquired Collins Rockwell 820 D AM transmitter pumping RF out on 160 meters with a pair of 4-500s modulated by a pair of 4-500s. The last RF heard out of the ZBX shack was "QRZ" and "How's your boogaloo". (W6YEP)



From the FARC archives:

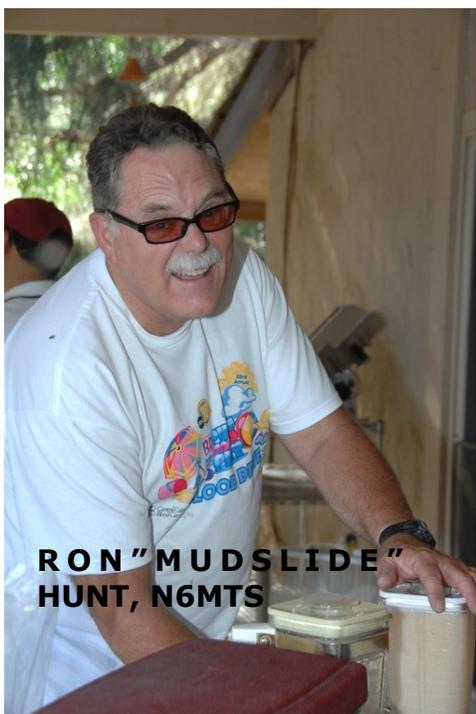
May - 1921: Phil Davis - 6TO is heard by most California stations while he was operating CW in Fresno. Pwr: 10 watts. (Source: QST -May 1921).

Phil changed from 6TO to W6TO in 1928, thanks to Herbert Hoover and the International Radio Conference. Phil lived at 3137 Townsend in Fresno. (Source: 1928 U.S. Department of Commerce Callbook). Phil operated Davis Radio Store in Fresno.

Ed: Hummm...W6TO....the call sure is familiar. (Thanks, W6YEP)

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

2009 FARC CLUB PICNIC



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

Benny William - KW6N is sporting a new six meter quad antenna that's leaving the locals in the dust. When pointed east, Benny claims he can hear grid current on the Atlantic seaboard. Benny was last seen at Pick-A-Part getting chrome headers for his six meter amplifier. (W6YEP)

Newsline directs us to a set of free [IARU locator maps](#) turned up by GØGQK. There are lots of maps from all over the world. They're in PDF format for convenient download and display.



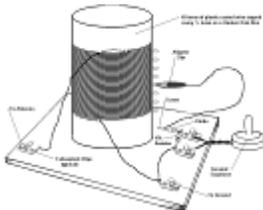
AUGUST 2009 FARC CLUB MEETING



An Elmer Session before the Sept 11th 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.



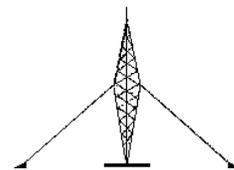
This a great time to casually mull over all those little puzzles that develop as you grow in Ham radio. Everything from SWR Bridges,

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,

The IC-9100 at Tokyo HamFair 2009

We are honored to announce the new IC-9100, which is being unveiled at Tokyo HamFair 2009 (August 22-23, 2009). Here are some salient points:

- HF(100W), 50 MHz (100W), 144 and 430/440 MHz (75W), 1.2 GHz with optional UX-9100 module (10W).
- Dual-conversion receiver with I/Q image-reject mixer.
- IF-DSP (32-bit operation and 24-bit ADC).
- Built-in ATU (HF/50 MHz).
- +13.8V DC primary power.

Rear-panel USB "B" port.

IC-9100 options:

- The optional 1.2 GHz module can be installed in the radio (concept similar to IC-910).
- The DV (digital voice) mode is supported by a D-STAR module in the IC-9100 (standard in the Japan version, optional in other versions.)

Optional 6 kHz (FL-430) and 3 kHz (FL-431) roofing filter modules can be installed for HF/50 MHz. The default 1st IF filter is 15 kHz wide.

D-Star operation:

- DV mode supported on 28, 50, 144, 430/440 and 1.2 GHz bands. DV only; no 128 kB/s data.



2009 AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS

UNLICENSED THRU EXTRA CLASS
Sponsored By the FRESNO Volunteer Exam (VE) TEAM
And The
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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.

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

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Fresno Amateur Radio Club

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| 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 | |

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

**Sept 1st Board Meeting
Sept 11th Club Meeting**



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

Send To: