



A Fresno Amateur Radio Club Newsletter      January, 2012      Volume 74, Issue 1

Our next meeting will be the second Friday, January 13. Friday the 13th? Yikes! Join us for the start of the new year.

*Stu Home, WB6VRJ*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



Happy New Year!!

Here we are at the start of a new year-but let's NOT ring out all of the old! Our hobby, highlighted so recently on KMPH news is an old hobby, one that is rich in the history of wireless communications, starting with SPARK [some say that I still use that-not true] thru CW and phone. It is interesting to note that since the FCC decided to do away with CW on the licensing test, I have heard more CW operators. That's great.

On phone, we have graduated from AM, although there are still some very dedicated hams using that, to SideBand. The AM'ers are to be lauded since they have done so much to develop electronics applications and techniques. The sidebanders also have a very colorful history going from double sideband to single side band and going higher and higher in frequency.

What does the future hold? I dunno, and I won't hazard a guess. This OM was learning to use vector sockets when transistors came into being. I think I still have a bunch of CK722s lying around somewhere.

So. . .let's all get off our duffs, and get into ham radio and away from the computer world. Yes, that does offer a lot, but let's not forget why we are hams-get on the air and have fun!

I want to thank all those who supported me and asked me to serve-that is what I want to do-serve you. If there is anything at all, let me know.

I want to thank Tom for his service, as well as the past boards of directors. All of you have been wonderful, and I look forward to serving under your guidance.

I was going to have a picture of me as the new-year baby, but I could not find a diaper with the proper tartan!



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

**2012 FARC BOARD MEETING DATES**  
1st Tuesday of each month at WB6VRJ's QTH.

**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

*Come ride along with KI6QEL on his first attempt at a VHF contest as a rover*

**January 13, 2012**  
**19:00**  
**Cedar Lanes**

**This short documentary film will leave you wanting to try it yourself!**

Starring Duane Lutz (KI6QEL) and Karen Lutz (WIFE)

**RATED G**  
The critics have given it 5 stars  
☆☆☆☆☆

**Fresno Amateur Radio Club  
FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

FARC Officers:

Stu Home, Pres. -WB6VRJ	wb6vrj@w6to.com	(559) 485-8659	12/2013
Jim Erbe, Sec. - W6NIF	w6nif@w6to.com	(559) 222-7524	12/2012
Ron Hunt, Treas - N6MTS	n6mts@w6to.com	(559) 289-8514	12/2012

Board Members:

Aaron Lusk, K6USY	k6usy@w6to.com	(559) 301-1022	12/2012
Ken Holden, WA6OIB	wa6oib@w6to.com	(559) 323-6753	12/2012
Joseph Capell, W0PJD	W0PJD@me.com	(559) 225-3582	12/2013
Jack Baker, AC6LT	ac6lt@CVIP.net	(559) 297-4311	12/2012
Mark Ward, N6IB	n6ib@w6to.com	(559) 299-7808	12/2013
VP Gabriel Moreno, N6OSB	n6osb@w6to.com	(559) 225-0701	12/2013
John McGraw, AE6QR	-----	(559) 255-2349	12/2012

Mark your calendars for every Thursday, for the lunch gathering at the *Silver Dollar Hofbrau* at the corner of Hwy 41 and Shaw. Gathering at 11:30 A.M. at a table reserved in the back room.

Breakfast on Mondays and Saturdays at the *Country Waffles* at Blackstone and Dakota starting at 7am.

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

Join the DX'ers for breakfast on the first Sat. of the month at Carrows on Blackstone/Ashlan at 7 A.M. in the back room.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association Lunch is held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at Carrows on Blackstone.

**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.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Straight Key Night	Dec. 31
DX Breakfast	Jan. 7
ARRL RTTY Roundup	Jan 7-8
FARC meeting	Jan. 13
Hidden TX Hunt	Jan. 14
VHF SS	Jan. 21-22
CQ 160 CW	Jan. 21-22
DX Breakfast	Feb. 4
NA Sprint	Feb. 4
FARC meeting	Feb. 10
CQ WW RTTY WPX	Feb. 11-12



Send Skip items to Skip editor John Morrice, K6MI at: k6mi@pacbell.net

You can download this and past Skip issues under the Document Archive menu by visiting [w6to.com](http://w6to.com).

Be a net control op! Contact Joe, WA6FFJ at: joenailbender@earthlink.net

NA Sprint SSB	Feb. 11
ARRL School Club Roundup	Feb. 13-17
ARRL DX CW	Feb. 18-19
CQ 160M SSB	Feb. 25-26
ARRL DX Ph	March 3-4
<b>2012 M2 Open House Date Set</b>	
The 2012 M2 Annual Open House and BBQ has been scheduled for March 17, 2012.	
Visalia DX Convention	April 20-22
Field Day	June 23-24

**ARRL sanctioned Palm Springs Hamfest!**

January 28, 2012 opens 9:30- 4:30 PM  
<http://www.dxsummit.fi> to spot us  
Presented by the Desert RATS Club of Palm Springs  
\*\*see our Forum at <http://desertrats.am>

**CCDXC News**

**NEXT MEETING:**

**Saturday Jan. 28, 2012, at 11:30 AM at  
Apple Annie's in Tulare.**

There is an obscure but important law in cosmology called Conservation of Fruitcake.

All the fruitcake in the entire universe was created at the Big Bang. It fell [rapidly, since it was the heaviest thing in the new universe -- all the rest was hydrogen and floated of course] into all the galaxies that were forming.

Fruitcake comes in discrete quanta shaped like bricks. It is composed of fundamental particles of multicolored fruit with multiple quantum states such as orange, sweet, sour, yellow, green, purple, and yuck. These particles are all held together by a sticky field called glue. "Sticky" is a technical astrophysical term.

Fruitcake cannot be destroyed, it can only be given away. Fruitcakes are not individually identifiable. Like the power company which sends us electrons on one wire and gets them back immediately on another wire, it is impossible to know how many times a fruitcake may have passed through your house.

Thanks to Richard, KE6SHL, Duane, KI6QEL, and Jim, W6NIF for providing the photographs included in SKIP.

ARRL Section Manager for the SJV Section, Dan, AE6SX.



**2012 M2 Open House  
Date Set**

The 2012 M2 Annual Open House and BBQ has been scheduled for March 17, 2012.

Mike, K6MYC, at last year's event.



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Membership Attendance drawing will start again in January. The \$60 prize dinner was won by John, AE6QR. Must be present to win.



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## 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	-	141.3
FARC	W6TO	223.940	-	141.3
FARC	W6TO	444.200	-	141.3
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	+	146.2
MADERA ARC	W6WGZ	441.175	-	146.2
QCWA	WQ6CWA	146.850	-	141.3
QCWA	WQ6CWA	443.250	+	107.2
RACES	N6HEW	147.150	+	141.3
SJVARs	KE6JZ	146.820	-	141.3
TURLOCK ARC	W6BXN	147.030	+	100.0
W6NIF	W6NIF	444.100	+	100.0
WIN/SYSTEM	K6JSI	146.790	-	100.0

### ***Birthdays:***

**Dave, N6BYI 01/10**  
**Ron, KJ6FNF 01/11**  
**Dave, KC6OMU 01/12**  
**Glen, N6HEW 01/19**  
**Stephen, KJ6FNF 01/27**

### ***Anniversaries:***

**K6XJ, Perry and Joan 01/19**  
**K6KRW, William and Nanci**  
**01/24**  
**WY6B, Jack and Glenita 01/25**

### **DX Breakfast**

The next Fresno DX Breakfast is Saturday Jan. 7, 2011 at **Carrow's Restaurant, 4280 N. Blackstone** in Fresno. The group gathers between 0700 and 0800 hours. We have the back room until about 10:00 AM. The breakfast is the first Sat. of the month.

Feb. 4 is the next breakfast for the DX group.

"The only way to be loud....is to transmit."

DX is the one you do not have confirmed!!

DXing is 90% mental -- the other half is physical.  
 N2MG

To check on foreign postage go to <http://www.k4hb.com/postage/html>

Ten meter net, CW and Phone, every Wednesday

7 P.M. for CW at 28.140

8 P.M. for SSB at 28.445

This is a local SJV net run by KF6ZXO.

Have fun checking in on one or both modes.

Also at 7 P.M. is our own FARC Tech Net, with AC6LT on the W6TO repeaters.

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 Worth a look!

<http://www.flixy.com/japanese-tsunami-viewed-from-a-car.htm>

## ***Fresno Amateur Radio Club***

### **Rod Benson, WB6QDN (SK)**

It was only three months ago that while I was having lunch at the Silver Dollar with fellow hams that Ken Holden (WB6OIB) introduced me to a gentleman that he thought would be a great subject for the ham bio of the month here in SKIP.

I met Rod and discussed getting together to get some information for the article. He gave me his phone number and said that he would be glad to let me write about him.

I waited too long.

Rod became, unexpectedly, a silent key a month later. I thought that I owed it to him, though, to go ahead with the article if his wife, Barbara would agree. Ken did the honors of contacting her and she graciously agreed as a tribute to Rod's enduring interest in the hobby.

He was born in Tacoma, Washington and lived 'til the age of seven in nearby Puyallup. His family moved to the Fresno area in 1949. He graduated from high school from the Fresno Adventist Academy which in those days was near Roeding Park.

He attended and graduated from City College and later from Fresno State in 1979 with a degree in Business Administration which he earned going to night school.

Rod served in the US Army in the late fifties, spending time at Fort Knox and a year and a half in Germany. Ham radio first interested him in 1965. His mentor at that time was Nick Delgado (W6MEY). The first license he held was a novice with the call letters WN6QDN and within the year that it ran, he traveled up to the FCC building in San Francisco for his general class examination. His wife, Barbara, now WB6QDK, got her novice and general class licenses at the same time and has remained active in the hobby with her husband.

Rod's favorite aspect of ham radio was contacting distant countries where his church missions had operation and stations. He provided that essential link for persons serving far from home. In earlier years phone patches were a large part of his interest and more recently satellite communication, establishing earth stations for local church congregations and individuals. He has been a member and officer of the Bible Study Net on 75 meters. His other passions were mentoring new ham and fellowship with the amateur radio community friends by going to hamfests, especially The Monterey Bay Academy Hamfest which occurred annually over the Fourth of July holiday.

His career was following his father in the home building business. He built many in the Fresno area, including his own in 1974. He also built the transmitter building for KFTV at Meadow Lakes.

He will remain in our thoughts and memories.

Bio by Joe, W0PJD



**Fresno Amateur Radio Club**

Farewell, adieu, arrivederci...

Well no... just because I'm not Vice Pres. anymore does not mean you're rid of me!

Frankly, it's been an honor and all that, but what it has really been is fun... yeah, even field day. So the next time you need shack pictures, or vintage operating videos, or the PA is broken... just call. I'm always glad to help. There are a number of you that I'd like to thank, but it's 5:03 AM and 40 meters still seems to be going long. So, you know who you are, and thanks!

And so: Farewell, adieu, arrivederci... 73 Craig K6QI



**Subject:** Tracking the Cal Poly Rose Parade Float de N6MTS, Ron

This link will show you where the Cal Poly Rose Parade Float is located, now and during the parade on New Year's Day.

[http://aprs.fi/?call=n6cp-3&mt=roadmap&z=11&timerange=3600&s=ss\\_call](http://aprs.fi/?call=n6cp-3&mt=roadmap&z=11&timerange=3600&s=ss_call)

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## Fresno Amateur Radio Club

### THE DX CORNER by Charles McConnell W6DPD

January 2012

DX is the one you don't have confirmed

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.

Check out [www.spaceweather.com](http://www.spaceweather.com) and [www.solarham.com](http://www.solarham.com) for information on the solar cycle. The higher the solar flux and the lower the A and K Indices, the better the band conditions. The sun is not cooperating by providing sunspots at this time; there are lots of blank days.

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. If you work DX, you should have envelopes at the bureau so you can get your cards.

The ARRL Outgoing QSL Service has raised the rates for sending ARRL members QSL cards to foreign countries. The new rate is \$2 for up to 10 cards in one envelope, \$3 for 11 to 20 cards in one envelope and 75 cents per ounce for more than 20 cards.

Postage rates around the world are constantly changing. To see current rates go to [http://www.qsl.net/w9ol/IRC\\_Chart.htm](http://www.qsl.net/w9ol/IRC_Chart.htm) where you can find the current postal rates for most of the countries of the world. IRCs can be ordered online from the US Post Office. To check on foreign postage, you can go to <http://www.k4hb.com/postage.html>. To learn about addressing envelopes to everywhere in the world, go to <http://www.columbia.edu/~fdc/postal/> for a discussion and examples. IMPORTANT. U.S. Postage rates increase on January 22, 2012. First Class Letters will be \$0.45. Postcards will be \$0.32. Letters to Canada and Mexico will be \$0.85. Letters to other countries will be \$1.05. There is no word on a cost increase for IRCs.

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.

MV Island, R1MV, will probably become a deleted entity during 2012 due to changes in the treaty between Finland and Russia.

The following operations are scheduled:

Djibouti J28AA now for at least a year  
Djibouti J28JV soon for at least a year, maybe 2  
Djibouti J28UC July to 2013  
Angola D2CQ February 2010 for a few years.  
Midway Island, KH4/W5FJG May 29, 2011 for 1 year  
Ascension Island ZD8D maybe an October 2011 start  
Rotuma 3D2AG/p December 12, 2011 to January 10, 2012  
TOGO 5V7MA December 19, 2011 to January 4, 2012  
Palau T8CW December 23, 2011 to January 8, 2012  
Ogasawara J11LET/JDI December 24, 2011 to January 1, 2012  
Sable Island Cy0 December 28, 2011 to January 6, 2012  
Bonaire PJ4C January 12 to January 23, 2012  
Tuvalu T2HA January 12 to January 26, 2012  
Fiji 3D2HA January 27 to January 30, 2012  
Tarawa, West Kirabati January 31 to February 23, 2012  
Banaba T33HA 7 to 10 days between February 2 and February 23, 2012  
Conway Reef 3D2/C postponed to 2012  
Jarvis Island KH5 Postponed to November-December 2012  
East Kiribati T32 January 17 to February 2, 2012  
Pitcairn Island VP6T January 20 to January 29, 2012  
Malpelo HKONA January 21 to February 5/6, 2012  
Wallis and Fortuna FW0R January 25 to February 23, 2012  
Tonga A35YZ March 7 to March 24, 2012  
Clipperton Island TX5Q? March 10 to March 15, 2012  
Fiji 3D2YA March 15 to March 21, 2012  
Guinea-Bissau J52DX March 24 to April 16, 2012  
Swaziland 3DA0FC April 4 to April 11, 2012  
Heard Island VK0/H February 2013 in planning stages



Watch the DX Bulletins for up to date information. As the time for the operation is at hand, watch the DX Summit ([www.dxsummit.fi](http://www.dxsummit.fi)) 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.

## **Fresno Amateur Radio Club**

### ARRL Diamond DXCC Challenge

2012 is the 75th anniversary of the ARRL's DXCC Award. The world's preeminent DXing award continues to be DXCC, so reaching the "Diamond milestone" is an event that we all want to celebrate. Going back to the roots of the award, and specifically reading the 1937 DXCC List (January, 1937 QST pages 52-3) to learn what countries were counted at the onset led us to create the Diamond DXCC Challenge.

The country list we will use for the Diamond DXCC Challenge is based upon the list of 231 places shown in 1937. We tried to find corresponding entities today that would represent the places listed in 1937, but there are four places (Baluchistan, British Cameroons, Canal Zone, Hejas) which were on the oldest list that just don't exist today in a form that could even loosely be represented by someplace current. The Diamond DXCC List represents 227 of the 233 1937 "countries." The list is fascinating and leads us to learn more about world history and how geopolitics has changed leading up to today. As you "check-off" these entities during the course of 2012 working DX (which is an achievement even today) using spotting networks, pan-adapters, 200 watt rigs, and stacked tribanders, imagine how DXing was different in the early years of radio and DXCC! Working Tibet or Aldabra with 50 watts and crystal-controlled transmitters to simple wire antennas, had to be a thrill like no other in that time for ham radio operators.

We anticipate that this award will be very popular thanks to the unique nature of the entities which we will try to put-into the log in 2012. Not only are there traditional DXCC entities, but there are cities, Islands on the Air (*IOTA by RSGB*) island groups, and various sub-political entities inside DXCC entities, such as the Indian State of Goa and many States in Malaysia and islands in Indonesia. There are even three individual "countries" that make up today's Yemen (7O -- Yemen, Socotra Islands and the City of Aden)! Yes, we would like to have even one of them on the air. An interesting factoid about this 1937 list came via the late Jim Maxwell, W6CF. Jim said the only entity from the 1937 list to be removed without a single QSO being made was Wrangel Island.

For some entities that today consist of multiple countries, you may work any of today's entities to qualify for that single, 1937 country. For example, French Equatorial Africa will be considered worked if you log a station in TL, TN, TR or TT in 2012. The Diamond DXCC country tables show the current entity names and prefixes that qualify for the 1937 countries.

The Diamond DXCC Challenge is an "Honor Award" and will not require acquisition or inspection of QSLs or proof of confirmation, although it still will be fun and useful to seek out cards or LoTW confirmations. We will provide forms online to use at your operating position to track what you have worked and forms for applying for awards and endorsements. As the year goes on, we will also provide hints and tips about what is happening with the Diamond DXCC Award and for instance, who might be on the air from Goa or Gdansk!

The Diamond DXCC certificate will be available for working 100 of the 226 entities, and will be endorsable at 5 levels: 125, 150, 175, 200 and 225. If anyone works all 226, there will be a special award for that remarkable achievement! We hope to publish award recipients' call signs online during the year, and identify high numbers.

There will be a Diamond DXCC Challenge Honor Roll. The Honor Roll level will be determined by the leader in worked entities submitted to HQ, and the bottom of the Honor Roll will be 9 entities less than that of the leader. Example: If W1AW has worked 165 entities, the bottom of the Honor Roll will be 156 entities. In February, 2013, HQ will issue a final Honor Roll tally with overall leaders.

See the **Diamond DXCC web page** for more information and to read updates during 2012.

#### **ARRL Diamond DXCC Challenge Rules**

1. The Diamond DXCC Challenge Awards are available to all amateurs worldwide who contact a minimum of 100 countries from the Diamond DXCC List. US amateurs must be members of the ARRL. Generally, the rules for the Diamond DXCC Challenge are the same as the rules for the DXCC Program, except as listed here.
2. Contacts must be made from within the same DXCC entity by the same operator.
3. Contacts must be made during 2012 -- from 0000Z on 1 January, 2012, through 2359Z on 31 December, 2012. All amateur bands may be used except for 60 meters.
4. There are no mode endorsements or band endorsements. The Diamond DXCC Challenge is considered to be a Mixed-Mode/Mixed-Band award. There are no power categories or restrictions for the award.
5. Confirmations are not required to obtain this award, but HQ will review submitted entries for accuracy and validity.
6. The Diamond DXCC Challenge certificate will be available for working 100 entities and will be endorsable with stickers at the following levels: 125, 150, 175, 200 and 225.
7. Applications should use ARRL-supplied forms available online or obtained by writing DXCC, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111.
8. The Diamond DXCC Award certificate fee is \$12 including shipping within the USA, and \$13 including shipping outside the USA.
9. Endorsement stickers are \$1, including shipping in the US, and \$2 outside the US.

# CARP Transmitter Hunt Schedule for 1Q 2012

Mark your calendars! The hunt schedule for the first quarter of 2012 is published. This year we are planing a heavier schedule that varies to attempt to accommodate hunters schedules. There will be a hunt every month, alternating between the second Saturday morning and the second Thursday evening after the CARP net.

Here is the hunt schedule for the first quarter of 2012:

Saturday January 14th, 2012 @ 10:00am Starting at intersection of Hwy 41 and 145

Thursday February 9th, 2012 @ 7:30pm (after the CARP Net)

Saturday March 10th, 2012 @10:0am

Thursday April 12th, 2012 @ 7:30pm (after the CARP Net)

To help level the playing field we have implemented participant classifications:

Hunt on the Move (Vehicle mounted beams doppler systems)

Stop and Take Bearing (hand held beams, etc.)

Basic System (HT only, body fade, etc)

Come on out and compete for your equipment classification.

If you are interesting in being a Fox or participating please let us know at [info@k6arp.org](mailto:info@k6arp.org).

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## Weather Forecast

Your taxes have already paid for a great forecasting site that adapts its computer-generated prediction to your location and altitude. For SF Bay Area, see <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/> For other areas, start at <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov>, then pick your local NOAA office.

Click on the map at your QTH, and you will get a reliable local prediction. Down at the bottom of this you can click on "Hourly Weather Graph," which can also be moved ahead 2 or more days.

We use this here, and although we have to increase the windspeed numbers to include the wind speedup due to our terrain, it is very useful to predict coming weather, including all the alerts and warnings.

73 de Dave, W6NL

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## Bounty expedition

As some of you may know, I spent the summer (April to December) as a deckhand on BOUNTY, the ship that was built for the 1962 movie, "Mutiny On The BOUNTY" with Marlon Brando. This is a webpage that shows where we went (although I did spend about 3 weeks off the boat, in England and Holland).

<http://www.trailrambler.com/trips/view/240#.Tu5WIH-KCM8.facebook>

We found this article that includes much information about the first radio operator on the ship, including pictures of the installation, with a KWM1 and also the ham QSL cards received.

<http://coastalradio.org.uk/spud/spud/spud11.pdf>

73, Doug N6TQS

Activity reports:

**Fresno Amateur Radio Club**

Operator: N2NS , Bob

OK DX RTTY Contest Class: SOAB LP Operating Time (hrs): 1.4

Summary: Band QSOs Pts Countries OK Stns

15: 23 26 5 0 10: 17 1 9 4 0

Total: 40 45 9 0 Total Score = 405 Comments: On briefly Sat AM.

Stew Perry Topband Challenge Class: Single Op LP Operating Time (hrs): 6

Summary: Total: QSOs = 84 Total Score = 507

Comments: Operated first 40 minutes of contest Saturday AM, but then didn't get back on until almost 0400 UTC Saturday evening. Seemed like slimmer pickin's compared to last year. I ran low power this year, but was able to work most of what I heard. Just not as many stations heard, both domestic and DX.

DX worked: CE, FM, JA, KH6, KL7, PJ2, VE, XE

DX heard but not worked: KP2, P4, UA9 (KV4FZ and P40TA were loud, but couldn't bust pile-ups.)

Quarter wave sloper on 160m.

ARRL 10-Meter Contest Class: M/S HP Operating Time (hrs): 3

Summary: Band QSOs Mults CW: 135 74 Total: 135 74 Total Score = 39,960

Comments: Very limited time this weekend. Ran last 25 minutes of contest, beaming to JA.

6 el M2 KT-36XA tribander @ 56

10-Meter RTTY Contest Class: Single Op LP Operating Time (hrs): 4

Summary: Total: QSOs = 137 State/Prov = 33 Countries = 15 Total Score = 6,576

Comments: Only able to operate for about an hour just around my sunset Sat. evening, and an hour or so late Sunday morning, then again for an hour or so in the mid-afternoon. But whenever I was on, the band seemed surprisingly full of RTTY signals. Short run of JA's Sat evening, then was able to run again toward east coast/Caribbean when I was on late Sun AM. Fun time, especially for the first run of the contest.

KR7O, Rodert

ARRL 10 METER CONTEST – 2011

Marking my 20th anniversary of contesting. My first contest was the 1991 ARRL 10M contest as YB2ARO. Despite my showing, this is still one of my favorite contests.

Powerline noise and a pinched nerve in my neck made operating unpleasant, so I mostly just picked up some new band countries. Lots of DX and good signals even though I don't have any real HF antennas except for the 160M vertical.

Category: Single Operator High Power 10M Mixed Mode

MODE	QSO	QSO PTS	STATES	COUNTRIES
CW	1	4	0	1
SSB	26	52	2	16
Totals	27	56	2	17 = 1,064

73, Rodert KR7O/YB2ARO, DM07ba/OI52ee (ex. N7STU) [kr7o@vhfdx.com](mailto:kr7o@vhfdx.com)

W6DPD ARRL 10 Meter Contest

QSOs Points Cty

185 370 68

Score 25,160 ARRL Section: SJV Radio: YAESU FT 2000D, QUADRA Antenna: Force 12 5BA

All Search and Pounce

## FRESNO ENCOMM ARES/RACES by Glen Caine N6HEW

**NET:** Monday 1930 hrs. on 147.150+, PL 141.3

**Monthly:** The 4th Thursday of each Month,  
Salvation Army Citadel, 1854 N. Fulton 1900 hrs.

**EmComm and Coffee:** 0830 hrs., 3rd Friday  
Yosemite Falls Cafe on Blackstone and Shaw

**Web:**

[www.fresnoares.com](http://www.fresnoares.com) or [www.fresno-races.net](http://www.fresno-races.net).

Email at [info@fresnoares.com](mailto:info@fresnoares.com)

## Fresno ARES/RACES EC Report for January 2012

- Happy New Year to you all, I hope that this New Year will be a prosperous and healthy one. I hope all of your Ham projects are completed and work out fine this year. This last year we kept busy with training and public service projects. We learned a lot and got some good training from people like Lew (KI6YWX), Dan (AE6SX) and others.

• At our last meeting we went over the **After Action Report for Two Cities Marathon**. We discussed the good things we did and the not so good.



Hopefully we can learn from our not so goods and keep up the good things. We also discussed the **2012 Calendar**, Dan will be sending out a copy to you all very soon. After you receive it and you think of something that was left out or needs to be added please contact Dan or I. We also discussed the **Salvation Army Toy and Food Distribution**; this

was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of December.

## The early birds that worked the SA toy distribution

Left to right, N6HEW (Glen), KB6LQV (Ray), AE6QR (John), W6GCL (Jerry), KI6OYW, (Gary), AE6SX (Dan), KJ6SSB (Casey), W6TUI (Karl), and KJ6OUG (Chris)

KE6SHL (Richard) behind the camera.

The **Salvation Amy Toy Distribution** went very well we got a great turnout to help, they are as follows:

KE6SHL (Richard), N6HEW (Glen), KI6OYW (Gary), W6TUI (Karl), WB6GBS (Ben), KJ6FNF (Steve), WA6FFJ (Joe), KJ6SSB (Casey), KB6LQV (Ray), KE7VLT (Stan), W6GCL (Jerry), AE6QR (John), KJ6OUG (Chris), AE6SX (Dan), and last but not least, W6TUI (Karl).

We helped by being crowd control and traffic directors. We also helped with a lost child, making sure that she got back with her family. All went well, no big snafus or major malfunctions. We used a simplex frequency there for elimination any repeater pRodlems. We are looking forward to helping with this project again this coming December.

Don't forget the **Monday Night Emcomm Net** at 1930 hr. on the 147.15 MHz pl 141.3 we have some good information and camaraderie on the net. On the third Friday of the month there is an **Emcomm Breakfast** at YFC just north of Shaw on Blackstone at 0830hr and last but not least **the Emcomm Meeting** will be held **January 26**, at 1900 hr at the Salvation Army Citadel at 1854 Fulton St Fresno.

Best of 73's  
GLEN CAINE (N6HEW)  
Fresno County RACES officer  
Fresno County ARES EC  
559-999-7590  
[N6hew@att.net](mailto:N6hew@att.net)

# Industry icon Donald Rohn passes away at 72

November 23, 2011 - Donald D. Rohn, an industry leader in communications tower manufacturing, passed away on Nov. 21 at age 72 at Riverview Manor Care in East Peoria, Ill. where he was being treated for an injury he suffered from a fall a number of months ago.

In the late 1950s Don began working at his father Dwight's tower manufacturing plant prior to graduating with a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Illinois.

Founded in 1948, Rohn's primary product line was small residential television towers.

But as TVs evolved in the 1950s from utilitarian wonders to pieces of fine furniture art, coupled with speakers that were as large as the screen, the tower structures didn't change.

In fact, they began to show considerable weathering as rust streaked sides of homes they were attached to.

Rohn was the country's first manufacturer to see the need for galvanizing their towers and built their own galvanizing plant.

The extra hot dipped galvanizing production cost paid handsome dividends for the company in a competitive market as their sales increased dramatically, requiring the company to expand to 40 employees.

Although the company had grown by building small guyed towers, Rohn's largest tower order ever, a major contract for towers for Nashua, New Hampshire-based Sanders Associates was sold in 1965.

Don told Wireless Estimator last year that the deal provided the opportunity for the company to consider other manufacturing options in the telecommunications industry and they moved quickly to capture the opening.

Don was part of the team that introduced the Rohn catalog, a catalyst for the company's rapid growth as it became the largest tower manufacturer in the world for a number of decades.

The Rohn catalog was iconic in the industry and was known as the "tower bible". Its wealth of products and industry information served as the basis for buyer and design decisions for many years.

Retiring as Rohn's president in 1997, Don was an early advocate of climber safety and created a company culture that saw Rohn provide safety climb systems before it became an industry requirement.

"He knew that non-professionals were because it was the right thing to do," Don truly put his heart, soul and life into cellular boom. He will be long-bill Carlson, President of Tower Systems projects since the 1960s.

"It would be typical for me to be in the up the phone and usually Don was "We communicated more on the week- was the type of person that knew what

Competitors always spoke highly of

"Don was a really fine individual. I years ago in Kankakee, ILL. We were heads. I got to know Don later in the Myron Noble who was then president of

"It is a shame that Don did not have the what great shape Don was in. He was a

Born on Sept. 3, 1939, in Beardstown, M. (Dodds) Rohn.

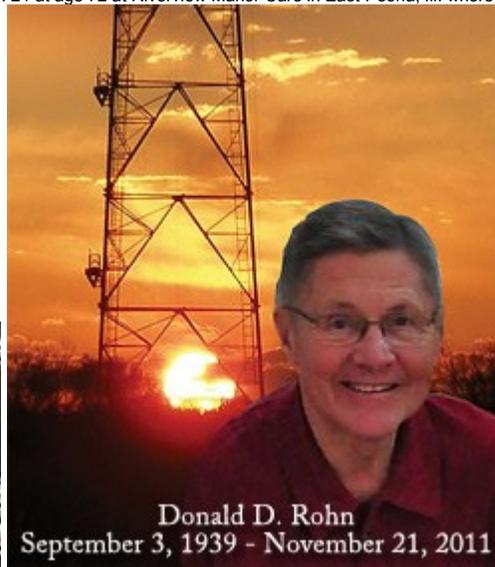
Surviving are his wife, Joyce of Dunlap D. (Malisa) Rohn of Peoria and Alan D. children, Emma, Kyle, Hunter, Kamy and several nieces and nephews.

He was a member and Past Chapter also served as treasurer of the Lime-member of the Greater Peoria Family He was an avid volunteer and supporter Illini basketball fan.

A memorial service will be at 1 p.m. Funeral Home in Peoria. The Rev. Jack Peoria Family YMCA, 7000 N. Fleming son Ave., Peoria, IL 61603.



Donald Rohn, pictured below, right in the late 1950s, was known for his ability to keep abreast of all facets of Rohn's business.



climbing towers and he went to great lengths to warn people said David Brinker, Rohn's Vice President of Engineering. into the company and made it grow the way it did throughout the remembered as a leader in the tower industry," Brinker said. tems, Inc. of Watertown, SD, recalls working with Don on numer-

office on a Sunday and whenever I had a question, I would pick there to provide assistance," Carlson said. ends than during the week. I respected his work ethic and he was going on at all ends of the business."

Don's business acumen.

remember meeting him and his brother Richard for lunch many competitors, but it was good to see that they nor we had three 90's and Pi-Rod and Rohn came very close to merging," said PiRod.

opportunity to continue to be part of Rohn. I always marveled at good person and he will be missed by many," Noble said.

Ill., Don was preceded in death by his parents, Dwight and Lela

and three sons, Thomas D. (Belinda) Rohn of Dunlap, Timothy (Wanda) Rohn of Bradenton, Fla. Also surviving are five grand- and Daniel; one brother, Richard L. (Dixie) of Birmingham, Ala.;

Chair of S.C.O.R.E. and a member of Central Illinois Angels. He stone Alumni and Friends Association and served as a board YMCA.

of the Peoria community as well as being an avid Bradley and Saturday, Nov. 26, 2011, at Davison-Fulton-Woolsey-Wilton Thompson will officiate. Memorials may be made to the Greater Lane, Peoria, IL 61614, or to the Salvation Army, 414 NE Jeffer-

# **ARRL - PALM SPRINGS HAMFEST 2012 - January 28**

We have over 30 Vendors and groups attending. One main focus of our event is live Demos that will go on throughout the Day.

Presenters like Gordon West, Clint Bradford / AMSAT , San Bernardino Microwave Society, The Fast Scan TV Group from Los Angeles, D-STAR, and others!

See our web site or Forum for all the details <http://desertrats.x.am>

WE have just received word Yaesu is coming ....that adds to ALINCO ( with some new products to view and hands on trying out ) and Elecraft who are manufacturers of Ham products. Kenwood will be in attendance to discuss their line but will not have a display of their products.

Raffles all day long! Great food ...cooked home style by our volunteers and YL's. YUM

SWAP MEET space free for sellers so bring along your stuff ...make money... and buy some new stuff to play with and *this Winter is the perfect time to build something ...as it says on the cover of QST !*

It's all about having fun and camaraderie like the good old fashioned Hamfests of bygone days! Remember the old burger joint hangout! Like Palm Springs of old it's all about nostalgia. Time to grease up the old ducktail or rats nest hairdo, dress 50's - 60's! Our Hamfest is the Desert RATS Club's gift to all Hams and all about Ham Radio + . Meant to be a fun place to spend the day. Come in your RAT ROD! Bring a friend that has one...or vintage / classic stock gem, or custom chopped and channeled beauty! I wonder if we will have more Fords than Chevies? An Event where it didn't cost you an arm and a leg to attend. \$2 is all it is (and that's our cost to get you clean state of the art biffies. hi hi ) The air waves are already aBUZZ about Palm Springs on January 28.

Handicapped friendly with a shuttle service from car to event and back.

If you only have a few items you want to sell off we have our very successful 2nd Hand Store where our expert Club members will sell it for you for a slight commission of 10% no hassle for you and you can enjoy the day .

For complete details go online but here is a list of some of the attendees to wet your appetite:

ARRL

Carl Gardenias, WU6D

Dick Norton, N6AA

Bill Prats K6ACJ

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Subject: Update - Bob Smith W6GR - New Address (again)

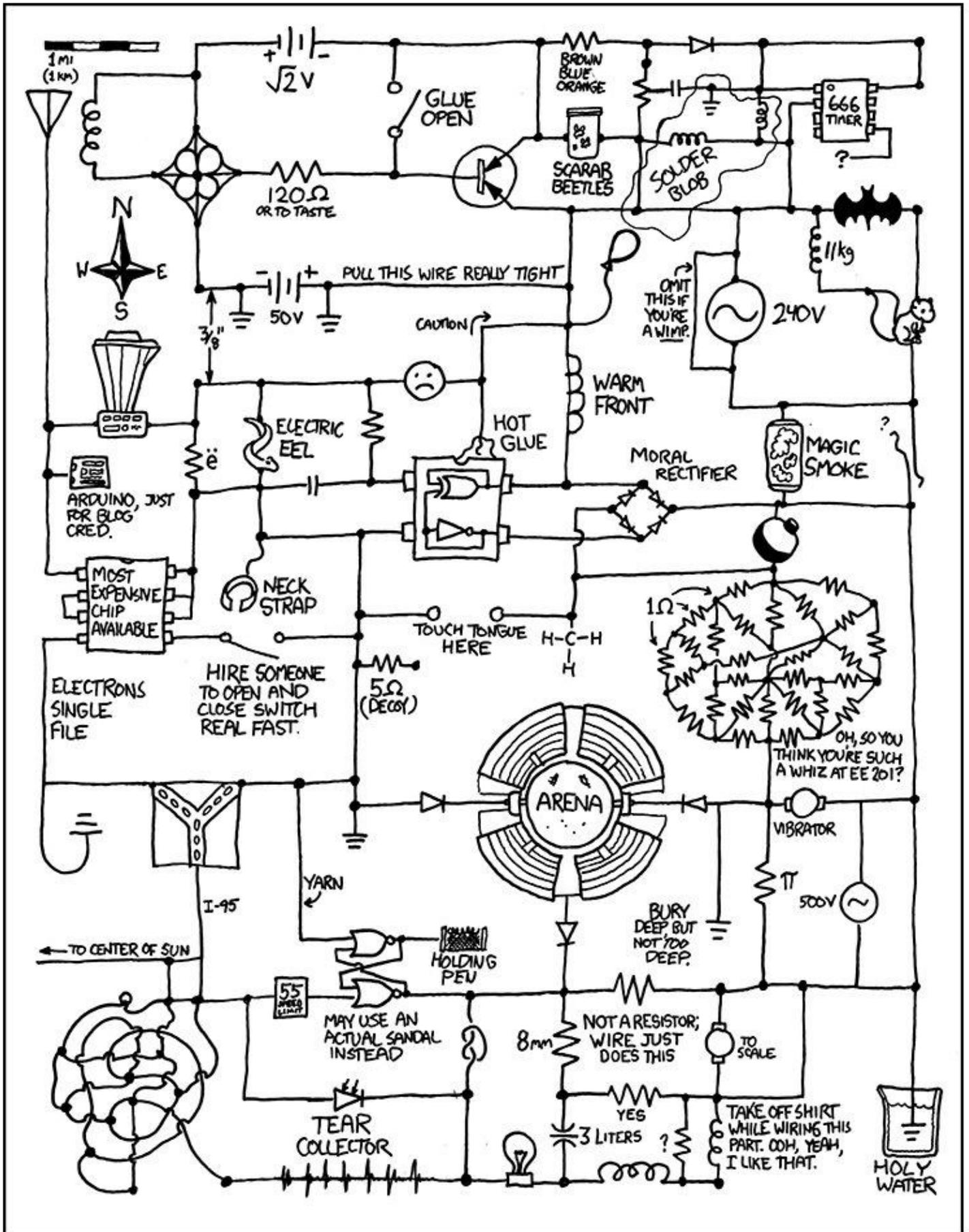
My father, Bob Smith W6GR, continues to recover from two strokes. He is presently in a full care facility in Madera. He is very slowly gaining physical strength. We think he will be able to move back with Mom at Cedar Creek in December.

Mom has moved again, to a different room at Cedar Creek which offers more care. This is in anticipation of Dad's return.

Their new mailing address is: 501 N Westberry Blvd Apt 252, Madera CA 93637-6013

This replaces the Apt 310 and Avenue 14 addresses. Both of these addresses are forwarded, so OK if you have sent mail to the old addresses.

- Tom Smith KB6A Anaheim, CA



## 2012 AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS IN FRESNO  
UNLICENSED THRU EXTRA CLASS  
Sponsored by the FRESNO VE TEAM  
And the FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

-----ARRL VEC---

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.

**February 11**

**May 12**

**Aug. 11**

**Nov. 10**

LOCATION: ....Salvation Army Fresno Citadel, 1854 Fulton Street, Fresno CA 93721

DIRECTIONS: From North or South of Fresno, Take Highway 99 to Highway 180 east. Go east on 180 to Fulton Street off ramp. Turn right on Fulton Street. Go south on Fulton across Divisidero to San Joaquin Ave. Turn left on San Joaquin and park. You have arrived.

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 are posted to the FCC database by the end of the week following the exam.

**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.** 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**

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 2012  
Fresno Amateur Radio  
Club  
Activities and Events**

**Meetings on the 2nd Friday of the month**  
**FD on the 4th full weekend in June**  
**Banquet Dinner in December**  
**Club Picnic in summer**  
**Annual swap meet at the November meeting**

2012 Fresno Amateur Radio Club Application	
Name _____	Date _____
Address _____	Call sign _____
State _____	Zip _____
Home Phone _____	Business Phone _____
Occupation _____	Birth Date _____
Spouses Name _____	Anniversary Date _____
License Class _____	First Year Licensed _____
Email Address _____	ARRL Y__N__QWCA _____
I am interested in serving on one of the committees. Please contact me with more details. _____	
FARC – PO BOX 5912, FRESNO, CA 93755-5912	



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