

Our next meeting will be the second Friday or the month, March 9. Join us for another great meeting. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE STU-WB6VRJ



**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

Greetings from the Hofbrau Hero!

Yep, your club president really showed off the other day! As you all know, there is a gathering for lunch every Thursday at the Hofbrau, where a table of some 15-25 hams all meet for fellowship, lunch, good times and good stories. Well, thanks to yours truly wearing a very heavy Kilt, the club all got a good demonstration of what NOT to do in your chair! DO NOT tilt the chair back-I did and the chair fell backwards, and so did I. Several hams regretted not having their phone cameras along-two chaps helped me up and asked if I were hurt-I of course replied, "Yeah, my pride is severely wounded." A good laugh was had by all.

Just another way of having fun in Ham Radio-our favorite hobby!

Don't forget the QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Association-they had their monthly meeting just the other day, and a lot of hams showed up there for lunch.

These Breakfast and Lunch meetings are all important to each of usremember one of the guidelines: a Ham is friendly! Your attendance is heartily encouraged! \\

Antenna expert and ham extraordinaire Mike Staal, K6MYC, will be the March club meeting speaker.

Don't miss this chance to hear stories that are now legends, as well as the latest info on antenna research.



#### **FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

| FARC Officers:            |                 |                |         |
|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|
| Stu Home, Pres WB6VRJ     | wb6vrj@w6to.com | (559) 485-8659 | 12/2013 |
| Gabriel Moreno, V.P N6OSB | n6osb@w6to.com  | (559) 225-0701 | 12/2013 |
| Jim Erbe, Sec W6NIF       | w6nif@w6to.com  | (559) 222-7524 | 12/2012 |
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| Joseph Capell, WOPJD      | W0PJD@me.com    | (559) 225-3582 | 12/2013 |
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| Mark Ward, N6IB           | n6ib@w6to.com   | (559) 299-7808 | 12/2013 |
| John McGraw, AE6QR        |                 | (559) 255-2349 | 12/2012 |
|                           |                 |                |         |

Mark every Thursday on your calendar for lunch at the Silver Dollar Hofbrau, corner of Hwy 41 and Shaw Ave. Gathering is at 11:30 A.M. in the back room.

Breakfast on Mondays and Saturdays at Jeb's Blueberry Café located 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.



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**.

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

| <u>Date</u>  | <u>Event</u>   | 2012 M2 Open House Dat   | re Set |
|--|--|--|--------|
| DX Breakfast March 3 FARC meeting March 9 ARRL DX Ph March 3-4 T Hunt March 10, info p. 9 M2 Swap March 17 T Hunt April 12 FARC meeting April 13 | The 2012 M2 Annual Open House and BBQ has been scheduled for March 17, 2012.       |  |        |
|  | Grady's auction Visalia DX Convention Gold Country Swap ARRL VHF Contest Field Day | April 7<br>April 20-22<br>May 23 info p. 14<br>June 9-10<br>June 23-24 |        |

Corrections to last months Skip!

AE6GE, Rob, had his call sign changed at one point. Our sharp eyed readers are on the lookout for everything! The Fresno Amateur Radio Club would like to thank Joe W0PJD on his donation of a Power Werx SS-30DV 30 amp switching power supply. This put the 444.20Mhz repeater back on the air. Ken WA6OIB installed it on Thursday, Jan 19th. Thanks again, Joe.

New prizes coming! Our prize master, Mike, W6YDE has a new line of prizes. Mike is always looking for new and different ideas, and has done a great job for many years.

ARRL Section Manager for the SJV Section, Dan, AE6SX. Dan's SJV news is found at <a href="mailto:arrl.org">arrl.org</a>



# 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.



G3WZZ, OZ1XJ and OZ5E Sing:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5V9Qkd3dElw

Web page with M2 Swap meet info:

http://m2inc.com/pdf\_manuals/14th% 20ANNUAL%20OPEN%20HOUSE.pdf

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

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Membership Attendance drawing for Feb. was won by Ken, was not will be month. sent to win. WA60IB, who there. \$20 drawn next Must be pre-

# Local Amateur Radio Repeaters

| <u>Organization</u> | Call Sign | Frequency         | Offset | <u>PL</u> |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|--------|-----------|
| 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               | KJ6J0     | 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: 03/04 Bob WA6ITN 03/07 Jack AC6LT 03/26 Paul W6VPS 03/28 Nora WA6BDE

# Anniversaries: 03/10 Joe WB6JQC and Betty

#### **DX Breakfast**

The next Fresno DX Breakfast is Saturday March 3, 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. April 7 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 net, the cw part run by KF6ZXO, and the SSB part by Doyle, W6OEZ. 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.

# Fresno/Clovis Area Mentors and Elmer's offering License Training Classes

A group of Fresno/Clovis hams are offering amateur radio license study classes. The education classes are scheduled to conclude the night before the License Exams offered by the Fresno/Clovis VE Team throughout the year.

The first installment offered was a Element 2 Technician Class that was four sessions in length. The instructors for the class were Rob Mavis AE6GE, Dan Pruitt AE6SX, Patrick May K6BRW, Glen Blomgren, and Gwen Blomgren. The Class netted 5 new Technician Class Licensees.

The next class offered will be the element 3 General Class. The schedule will be announced soon and start in late April. For more information on the group or the classes offered please contact Rob AE6GE fresnoelmers@gmail.com or 559-492-7675



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### THE DX CORNER by Charles McConnell W6DPD

March 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 <a href="http://www.ccdxc.org">http://www.ccdxc.org</a> 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 <a href="https://www.spaceweather.com">www.spaceweather.com</a> and <a href="https://www.spaceweather.com">www.solarham.com</a> 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 \$0.80 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 <a href="http://www.qsl.net/w9ol/IRC\_Chart.htm">http://www.qsl.net/w9ol/IRC\_Chart.htm</a> 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 <a href="http://www.k4hb.com/postage.html">http://www.k4hb.com/postage.html</a>. To learn about addressing envelopes to everywhere in the world, go to <a href="https://www.columbia.edu/~fdc/postal/">https://www.columbia.edu/~fdc/postal/</a> 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. IRC's now cost \$2.20 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 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 Diibouti 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 Jarvis Island KH5 Postponed to November-December 2012 St. Vincent J88DR February 15 to March 14, 2012 Thailand AS 053 HS0ZIQ February to March 2012 Guantanamo Bay KG4 Various operators February 4 to March 10, 2012 St. Kitts V47JA and V47HAM February 28 to March 28, 2012 Grenada J38RF February 8 to March 8, 2012 Annobon 3C0E February 27 to March 11, 2012 Belize V31YK February 27 to March 11, 2012 Belize V31SU February 27 to March 15, 2012 The Gambia C5AVT February 28 to March 20, 2012 Ghana 9G1AA March 1 to March 20, 2012 ST. Maarten PJ7/AA9A March 3 to March 17, 2012 Tonga A35YZ March 7 to March 24, 2012 Clipperton Island TX5Q? CANCELLED. Fiji 3D2YA March 15 to March 21, 2012 Vietnam XV2RZ March 15, to April ?, 2012 Burkina Faso XT2 March 21 to March 28, 2012 Guinea-Bissau J52DX March 24 to April 16, 2012 North Cook E51M March 28 to April 10, 2012 Swaziland 3DA0FC April 4 to April 11, 2012 Spratly Islands 9M0L April 1 to April 24, 2012 Macau XX9? May 17 to May 23, 2012 St. Paul Island CY9M July 26 to August 1, 2012 Lesotho 7P8D July 26 to August 1, 2012 Conway Reef 3D2C September 25 to October 4, 2012 Heard Island VKO/H February 2013 CANCELLED



Watch the DX Bulletins for up to date information. As the time for the operation is at hand, watch the DX Summit (<a href="www.dxsummit.fi">www.dxsummit.fi</a>) 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.

# **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 planning 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 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.



Rob, AE6GE Hidden Transmit Hunt organizer

See story on page 8 about the mountain TX hunt

# Got some input from Mitch, DJ0QN...

# **Updated QRZ alternative list:**

wm7d.net
vanityhq.com
www.ae7q.com
hamcall.net
www.qth.com/callsign.php

Jim, W6ALE, former Skip editor, is now back at home recovering from several heart attacks. I talked with him today. He has major damage to his heart (only half is working). Doctors say that he has had at least 2 heart attacks since December and now has congestive heart failure. He was in good spirits but groggy due to medication. That is all I know. He is accepting visitors.

Regards, Jerry, W6KEG

Ron, N6MTS, filling out paper work at the mountain hidden TX hunt. Full story on page 8.





#### The Big Mountain T-Hunt

The Mountain Amateur Radio Club had a T-Hunt on February 11, 2012. The hunters met at the Sierra Star parking lot around 10 A.M. to pick up their forms and start the hunt. Alan, W6LSU was in charge of the hunt. The transmitter was inside of an old ammo can and put out a nice signal for low power. The big thing was that we got reflections off the hillsides once we were near it and was baf-

fling us somewhat.

Ron, N6MTS, the driver and operator of the df-ing equipment and Jim, W6NIF searched all over the place out of Oakhurst. Finally turned off at the Bass Lake exit and climbed up for a while. We stopped and parked and walked around with a sniffer Ron has. Other hunters were nearby as well so we knew we were on the right track. After a bit, a hint was put out on the repeater about it's the height of all things and will kick yourself in the pants if you can't find it. Well, we drove up a rode named Height Rd. and the signal got louder and louder. Finally, the laptop software pointed right where it should be. I got out and walked a few feet off the road and there it was! We had instructions to put our paperwork inside the envelope by the box with our start and stop mileage. We went 7 miles or so, can't remember exactly, but we were the first to find it. Other Mountain members were nearby but they hadn't found it yet. They finally did and all of us went back to the starting point where Alan checked for the least amount of driving to find the transmitter.

The prize went to Joe, W6JLF, and Cathy, KJ6TYK (a new ham), to Sam, KG6KEA and Simon, KB6CLV. They were together and split the \$25.00 prize money. We had a good lunch there of sub sandwiches, chips, cookies, and soft drinks.

Their next T-Hunt will simulate a lost person in the woods. There will be a lot of walking and a GPS unit is a must. MARC will post when this event will be.

Thanks for a great T-Hunt. Ron and I had a lot of fun learning to use Doppler and Sniffer equipment installed on his new F150 Ford truck.

Jim Erbe



Clockwise from top photo– Ron, N6MTS, Doppler computer in the truck, Doppler antenna in bed of truck, hams at the concluding meeting, and Jim, W6NIF, Ron's hunting partner on this hunt.





Page 8

#### N6ED 2012 ARRL CW DX SOAB Assisted HP

Band QSO DX 160 0 0 80 55 30 90 40 286 20 360 87 15 241 100 10 186 68 --- 1128 375 1.269.000

Overall a fun contest. I did my usual part-time effort, slept some both nights, took a few hours off each afternoon to keep in check with the family :-)

#### Propagation:

SUPER EU opening on 40m Friday night, I bailed on the high bands early to catch the loud EUs while they were there, Asians loud on 40m both nights. By Saturday morning I had 83 countries on 40m and thought it would be easy to get to 100 the next night.....apparently I vacuumed up everyone the first night!

20m had life in the middle of the night, worked a couple EUs at 2am local. Caribbean super loud on 20m well before sunrise on Saturday morning.

Saturday night the high bands were on fire. HUGE AU effect....lotsa flutter and raspy CW. 10m had a super opening over the pole into N. EU around 0000z with about 20 stations logged and was producing well into Asia until about 45 mins after sunset. 15m was going till about 0330 but had the big JA's even later still CQing. 20m was awesome....I had a great run from ZL to western EU on Saturday night that just didn't want to quit, lots of low power EUs and UA's in the log. (Reminds me of the days of working "chainsaw Russians" as a teenager at WA6IET) 40m LP was there but very few stations. Sunday morning on the high bands was a slugfest. There weren't many new DX stations on the bands by this time so if a rare one was on, they got hammered. I actually had to bow out of a few of the pileups because it was just utter chaos and literally the station was working about 1 every 2 minutes....V51YJ, ZS1EL and TK1MH come to mind. There were many

others I made it through but the QSOs were plagued with callers throughout the contact.....what a mess! Never did hear 6O3A, ever, what a shame :-(

#### Interesting notes:

The winner for "pleasant surprise" was 9N1II calling in on 3 bands (10, 15, 40). He had a very good 100W signal so it's obvious he has some sort of hardware up in the air. Hopefully he will become a regular!

Till the next edition;-) Craig N6ED (Note: Unfortunately 9N1II has been identified as a pirate ed.)

#### **N2NS CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest**

Class: SOAB HP Operating Time (hrs): 18

Summary: Band QSOs

80: 0 40: 253 20: 142 15: 222

10: 126 Total: 743 Prefixes = 332 Total Score = 577,016

Comments: Lost 80m sloper at contest start to loading problem I couldn't fix on the spot. But 40m took up the 6-pointer slack in the early mornings, in spite of the Chinese OTH radar QRM-ing the band. JA's seemed out in force on 40 and 15m.

#### To all:

I am Dr. C.W. Morse, currently the Director of BM Addictions and Behavioral Modification at the Ditmore Clinic. I am making this "DISPATCH" on behalf of one of your members, Dave W1CTN. Further reference to W1CTN will be made using his name.

Dave is currently a patient of ours here at Ditmore and he is a Band Map Junkie.

Ditmore treats a wide range of addictions, but we are the only one that treats people with chronic and acute "Band Map Addiction", also known as BMA.

His XYL had him committed...or shall I say admitted, Sunday night after the recent ARRL CW contest. May I ask how hard is it to call a wife a wife and not XYL? These abbreviations torment many of our patients here at Ditmore.

While the attendants were removing Dave's restraints, administrating a sedative and transferring him to one of our private rooms with plush upholstered walls, I had my initial patient discussion with Dave's wife/XYL.

She reported about him babbling incoherently about needing another "cluster spot" to work and that it better not be "busted". She was very concerned as Dave was becoming quite aggravated and was raving about "how hard is to post a correct call sign!", "there is a 9A1A and a 9A1AA", "who cares if the E21 is deaf", "what nitwit sends 3NN for power in an exchange", "stop calling on top of the exchange", etc., etc.

She also told me that if she just appears to be mildly interested in his "radio ramblings" that Dave will calm down and go back to his radio station in the basement.

What prompted her to contact us was her observation of the following:

After the contest Dave became very upset of someone who accused his friend W1JQ of having "key clicks" and how he would "fix that bast@\$d" if he ever again said W1JQ had a bad signal. He called the unknown accuser of being a "frequency thief" and a thief deserved what he got!

At this time Dave's wife decided she had enough of his addiction and placed a call to the Ditmore. Our fine gentlemen, wearing their exquisite white coats, promptly picked him up for transportation and treatment at the Ditmore. Dave is presently in the BMA isolation wing of our facility.

Just between us, some the patients in the BMA wing, especially the ones from a contest club to your south are raving lunatics and in my professional opinion, beyond any possible help.

I will close my report to you and your members with the knowledge that Dave is currently undergoing RF shock treatments for BMA. Will it help...who knows, but it is fun to watch the patients jump around on the table.

Dave has recognized his dependence on the Band Map and after his treatment at Ditmore hopes to only use it as a tool and not a crutch. It is also Dave's hope that someday he will become a "runner" and not an "S & P er". There is always hope, no matter how small.

Due to the severity of his addiction there are no visiting hours. Hopefully he will be released by the ARRL SSB contest.

You may contact me, Dr. C.W. Morse, Director BM Addictions and Behavioral Modification with any concerns or others who need treatment. My telephone number is 1-800-DITMORE. My door and wallet are always open.

Below is his score:

ARRLDXCW Score Summary Sheet Operator(s): W1CTN Operator Category: SINGLE-OP, UNLIMITED Band: ALL Power: HIGH Mode: CW Name: DAVE ARRUZZA

Band QSOs Pts Cty

1.8: 54 162 31 3.5: 153 459 61 7: 262 786 83 14: 269 807 88

21: 282 846 95 28: 82 246 43

Total: 1102 3306 401 Score: 1,325,706

# 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:** 

<u>www.fresnoares.com</u> or <u>www.fresno-races.net</u>. Email at info@fresnoares.com

# Fresno ARES/RACES EC Report for March 2012

Hi All,

I hope you had a great month. We kept some what busy with the regular scheduled Monday night nets and our fourth Thursday evening meeting. We helped Kaiser Hospital by taking an inventory and making an easement their amateur radio needs. This was for emergency communication and ability to contact their sister hospitals on their West Coast Kaiser Network. We are continuing to work with them and assist in any way we are able. Some of our people took part in a Tech Class this month and also held a VE Exam. The results were great, I was told they had about a 90% passing rate. Thanks to all who took part in this event.

We were privileged to have a life long friend and unofficial adopted brother of mine, Glenn Arrant, N6JAI and CQE Boeing come up form San Diego County to give a seminar concerning amplifiers, RF parameters, RF terminology, test methods and test equipment. Glenn kept the terminology to the amateur radio operator's level and we all learned a great deal. He made it interesting and kept us all mesmerized with his passion of this subject. I know how amazed I was with the ease of his ability to get the point across and keep us all interested with a subject that could have been extremely boring. I think those of you who weren't able to attend really missed a great learning experience. Thanks Glenn for making it possible.



Glenn Arrant (N6JAI) CQE Boeing

We are looking for some people to take a turn as net control for the net on Monday Nights. This is not a difficult task and is a lot of fun. We will provide the preamble and net roster. This is a great way to enhance your skills running a net for tough times when there will be no time to train. During an emergency situation is not the time or place. If you are interested please contact Gary (KI6OYW) at 559-269-1340 or email g greenberg@att.net

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 on the fourth Thursday, 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



# **North American QSO Party, RTTY - February**

Operator): N2NS Class: Single Op LP Operating Time (hrs): 9:45

Summary: Band QSOs Mults

-----

80: 18 8 40: 95 34 20: 124 39 15: 167 46 10: 54 28

-----Total: 458 155 Total Score = 70,990

Comments: I had not planned on a full time effort, but ended up coming close. Got off to a bad start Friday evening as I fired up for the practice session. Computer/interface would not key my K3 in FSK. System had worked flawlessly in WPX RTTY, which is the last time I'd been on RTTY. In the interim, something had apparently 'pirated' one or more of my virtual comm ports, although my device manager showed ports open. Spent four hours slogging through the different configuration setups to no avail. Finally gave up and configured my tiny netbook computer for N1MM/MMTTY/K3 as an alternative that would at least get me on the air. Netbook screen has maybe 1/4 the area of a normal monitor and a sub-sized keyboard. I feel like some kind of subterranean rodent with little beady atrophied eyes after squinting at the tiny netbook screen for 9+ hours yesterday. Other than that, it was fun. Had some enjoyable runs on 15, 20, and 40m. I spent too much time on 10m trying to pick off mults. Unable to sustain any rate on 10 the times I attempted running there. Same with 80m. I did not attempt 80m until about 1.5 hours before the end of the contest. Was only on the band for maybe 40 minutes total. I took four breaks of 30-36 minutes. Because of a nice run on 40m, I didn't take my last break until 0510Z. If I had it to do over again, I'd save as much break time as possible and simply exit the contest early. Activity seemed to drop off significantly the last couple hours. Did anyone else sense a Cuban invasion? I worked 6 unique Cuban calls, and heard yet another that I did not work. (He came up running underneath me while I was running on 15 or 20, and I surrendered the freq.) I can't remember ever working that many CO's in one weekend.

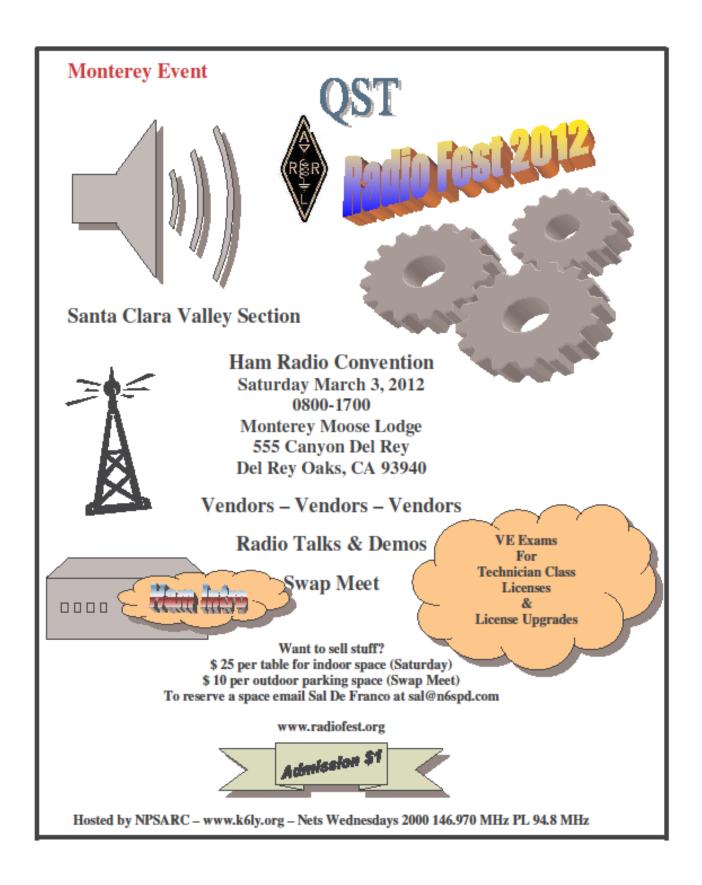
K3/N1MM/MMTTY/Navigator interface M2 KT-36XA 6 el tribander @ 56' on 10/15/20m 2 el Force 12 beam @70' on 40m Sloper on 80m Bob N2NS

\_\_\_\_\_\_

RCA Ham tips magazine: http://n4trb.com/AmateurRadio/RCA\_Ham\_

**Gold Country Swap Meet in May:** 

http://www.volcano.net/~k6glh/html/gold country swap.html



### **ARRL Publishes New Guidelines for 60 Meters**

Thanks to the FCC Report and Order issued November 18, 2011, amateurs will enjoy a number of new privileges on the 60 meter band beginning March 5, including a boost in effective radiated power from 50 to 100 W, as well as the ability to use CW and certain digital modes.

Late last year, the ARRL HF Band Planning committee surveyed 60 meter operators to gather opinions about how to best use the new privileges. On the subject of creating a specific band plan, the survey results indicated little consensus beyond the fact that 5403.5 kHz should retain its status as a de facto "DX channel." On the other hand, survey respondents made a number of suggestions for general operating practices.

Based on the survey results and subsequent research, the committee declined to propose a specific band plan for 60 meters at this time. The committee instead created a "Recommended Practices" document that is now available for downloading from the ARRL Web.

The link can be found at, http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-publishes-new-guidelines-for-60-meters.

The 60 Meter pages on the ARRL Web will also be updated to reflect the changes brought about by the Report and Order.

The April issue of QST magazine will also include an article by ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, which offers a detailed discussion of the new 60 meter privileges and recommended operating practices.

# World Radio Founder Armond Noble, N6WR (SK)

Armond Noble, N6WR -- the founder of WorldRadio magazine and its publisher for 37 years -- passed away February 1 in Sacramento, California after a short illness. He was 77. WorldRadio was published monthly from July 1971 until the end of 2008, when Noble sold the magazine to Hicksville, New Yorkbased CQ Communications Inc. With its February 2009 edition, the publication was renamed WorldRadio Online and became the first online-only major Amateur Radio publication.

Noble -- an ARRL Life Member -- had a long and distinguished career in communications. From 1953-1955, he served in the US Army with a VHF radio relay unit. He went on to positions at commercial radio and TV stations around the United States, including: KTWO-TV and KATI in Casper, Wyoming; KOOK-TV in Billings, Montana; KTVB in Boise, Idaho; KERO-TV in Bakersfield, California; WOOD-TV in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and KCRA Radio in Sacramento. During the Vietnam War, Noble was a reporter-photographer for TIME Magazine and the Milwaukee Journal. He also served in the TIME-LIFE bureau in Sacramento. -- Thanks to CQ for the information



### **2012 AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS**

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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 <u>Saturday</u> and begin at <u>9:30 AM</u>.

**May 12** 

Aug. 11

Nov. 10

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

DIRECTIONS: <u>From North or South of Fresno.</u> 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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| Home Phone   | Business Phone      |  |
| Occupation   | Birth Date          |  |
| Spouses Name _   | Anniversary Date    |  |
| License Class  | First Year Licensed |  |
| Email Address  | ARRL YNQWCA         |  |
| 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 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



Send To: