



A Fresno Amateur Radio Club Newsletter April 1, 2012 Volume 74, Issue 4

Our next meeting will be the second Friday of the month, April 13. Once again Friday the 13th comes to visit us. Join us for another great meeting.



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

Notes from our president:

I just made the reservations for Christmas Dinner at Yosemite Falls:

YOSEMITE FALLS CAFÉ ON BLACKSTONE

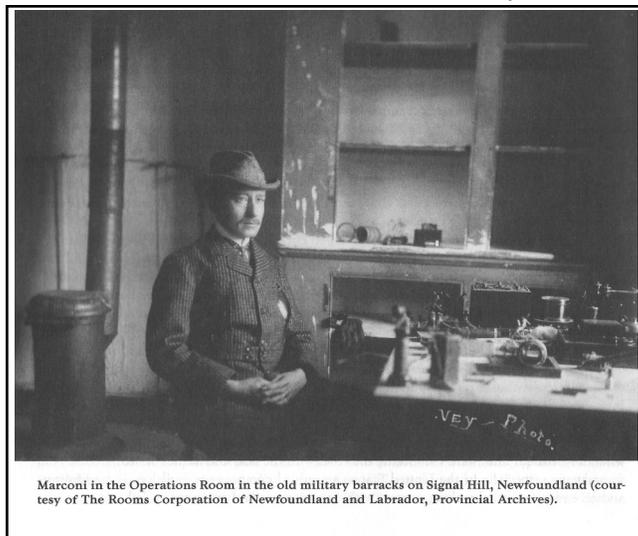
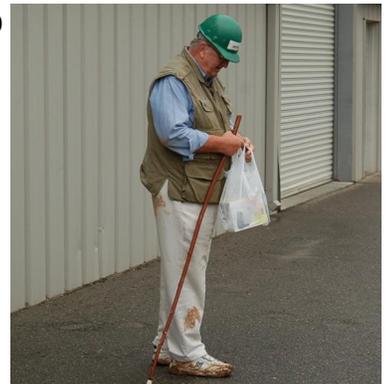
SPOKE to the manager and made a reservation for a separate room for the Fresno Amateur Radio Club, similar to last year. There will be linens and red and white décor and a similar menu as last year-Salmon, Steak and Chicken with Vegetables and things like that.

WE ARE SET FOR FRIDAY, 14 DECEMBER AT 1800

Yosemite Falls Cafe 5123 N Blackstone Ave

W. Stuart
Home WB6VRJ

Stu looking for his next step after slipping in the mud at the Swap Meet.



Marconi in the Operations Room in the old military barracks on Signal Hill, Newfoundland (courtesy of The Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador, Provincial Archives).

Have you ever wondered who this Marconi guy was that seems to be mentioned a lot in articles and magazines on ham radio?

Come to the April FARC meeting, and listen to the spellbinding tale that Joe, WOPJD has for us. Page 3

FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FARC Officers:

Stu Home, Pres. – WB6VRJ	w6vrj@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
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
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>		
DX Breakfast	April 7	2012 – Auctions to be held at the First United Methodist Church in Turlock. Please see additional information at http://w6bxn.org/	
T Hunt	April 12		
FARC meeting	April 13		
Visalia DX Convention	April 20-22		
DX Breakfast	May 5	Gold Country Swap	May 23 info p. 14
May FARC	May 11	ARRL VHF Contest	June 9-10
		Field Day	June 23-24
		Club picnic	TBA

Turlock Amateur Radio Club (W6BXN) May 26,

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

Corrections to last months Skip!
Our sharp eyed readers are on the lookout for everything!
Golden issue, as the editor can't seem to remember anything.

More new prizes at the April meeting! Thanks, Mike! The raffle helps pay for the room.



The editor caught with a donut in his hand at the M2 Swap meet. This is the QCWA table. Perry, K6XJ and Ted, W6TLM are on the right.

FARC Program April 13, 2012

Cedar Lanes, after the business meeting

Have you ever wondered who this Marconi guy was that seems to be mentioned a lot in articles and magazines on ham radio?

He was the first amateur radio kid experimenting in the attic of his family farmhouse and the first to send a radio wave across the Atlantic ocean. He also founded a company that revolutionized wireless communication.

He depended on the electronic knowledge of the time, 1901, and there wasn't much of it. He also depended on spark gap to create signals and huge antennas to receive them and this was before even crystal sets.

Joe Capell, WØPJD, has been a fan for a long time of the wireless pioneer Marconi and has prepared a talk complete with pictures (but, alas, not a real spark gap transmitter) on what Marconi knew; the situation, and the actual equipment he used to work the first transatlantic DX.

The talk will also note the actual people whose names have become common in our field, Faraday, Maxwell, Volta, Galvani and Hertz, and how they contributed to the origin of radio.

Thanks to Richard, KE6SHL, Duane, KI6QEL, Rob, AE6GE, and Jim, W6NIF for providing the photographs included in SKIP.

ARRL Section Manager for the SJV Section, Dan, AE6SX. Dan's SJV news is found at arri.org



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Membership Attendance drawing for March was won by KJ6FJB, there. \$30 next be present



Dennis, who was not will be drawn month. Must 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:

04/10 K6XJ Perry
04/22 N2NS Bob
04/25 KD6HTV Chris

Anniversaries:

None reported in the club data base.
Please report additional info to the club secretary.

DX Breakfast

The next Fresno DX Breakfast is Saturday April 7, 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.

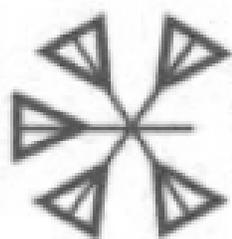
News flash-- new gmail app:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=1KhZKNZO8mQ

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 fresno-elmerns@gmail.com or 559-492-7675



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Fresno Amateur Radio Club

THE DX CORNER by Charles McConnell W6DPD

APRIL 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 and 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 \$0.80 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 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. 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.

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
Jarvis Island KH5 Postponed to November-December 2012
Clipperton Island TX5Q? CANCELLED
Vietnam XV2RZ March 15, to April 16, 2012
Guinea-Bissau J52DX March 24 to April 16, 2012
North Cook E51M March 28 to April 10, 2012
Jan Mayen JX9JKA March 29, 2012 to March 20, 2013
Swaziland 3DA0FC April 4 to April 11, 2012
Spratly Islands 9M0L April 1 to April 24, 2012
St. Barthelemy TO3X April 16 to April 30, 2012
Mali TZ5T April 12 to April 27, 2012 CANCELLED
Vanuatu YJ0VK April 21 to May 5, 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
Swains Island NH8S September 4 to 18, 2012
Conway Reef 3D2C September 25 to October 4, 2012
Western Kirabati T30PY October 16 to October 25, 2012
Temotu H40FN December 22, 2012 to January 7, 2013
Heard Island VK0/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 (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.

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:

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.)

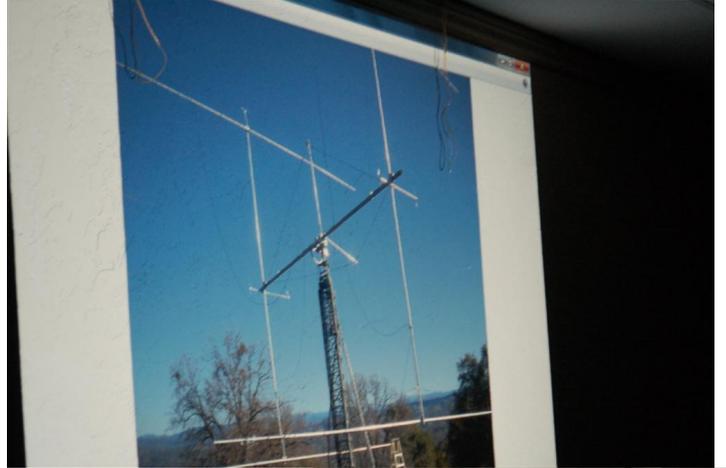
Basic System (HT only, body fade, etc.)

Come on out and compete for your equipment classification.

See story of latest hunt On page 9.



Rob, AE6GE Hidden Transmitter Hunt organizer



These pictures are from the March FARC meeting. Mike, K6MYC, was the speaker talking about everyone favorite subject, antennas. A great meeting!



The pictures below show Dave, W6TE, Larry, K6VLF, and Wyatt from M2.



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

Our Club members are building:

W6YDE is building two 66' verticals to phase on 160 meter at his location site... some 600' down the road. All construction from scratch. Work can only be done when there is no snow. Mike reports that he is learning a lot while doing this. Base for vert. is on right.



Various vendors at M2. The line for the "ham"burgers is in the middle. There was a large crowd that braved the sporadic rain.



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

March 10, 2012 Transmitter Hunt Recap by Rob, AE6GE

On Saturday March 10, 2012, I was the fox for the CARP Transmitter Hunt. The hunt began at the Park and Ride at the intersection of Highway 41 and 145 in Madera. Four teams participated in the Hunt that started promptly at 10:25 am.

The radius for this hunt was 10 miles from the start point. The transmitter was hidden on the Miramonte High School campus located at the corner of Highway 41 and Road 200 (North Fork/O'Neals turnoff), a driving distance of 9.1 miles from the start point. My vehicle and the transmitter was tucked away behind one of the buildings so it could not be seen from the road or school parking lot.

At first I thought of making this an easy hunt and pointed the 4-element beam directly at the start point, but I figured that would be too easy. So I turned the beam 45 degrees to the left so that the signal would reflect off the hills over by Millerton Lake. My deception paid off as all hunters with the exception of one initially headed east to Millerton rather than north up 41 direct to the hiding spot.

With the transmitter humming away I took time to walk around campus admiring and taking photos of the beautiful new school. I then positioned myself on a bench with a view of the parking lot entrance with the hopes of catching some good pictures of the hunters as they arrived.

At about one hour into the hunt I caught a glimpse of the first hunter arriving at the hide point. Or so I thought. I sat there snapping pictures of the vehicle as they drove in and pretended to be someone just taking pictures. This ruse worked too because as I walked back to the vehicle expecting to see the hunter pull up to the transmitter momentarily. After about 20 minutes passed I was perplexed and took a walk around the campus only to find Duane KI6QEL and Christian no where to be found. Later I found out that they determined that the guy taking pictures was not me and decided to leave the school to follow a signal bounce all the way to Millerton Lake. They were literally 100 yards from the transmitter.

After all the hunters made the detour to Millerton Lake and realized that they were following signal bounces everyone ended up finding the transmitter within 25 minutes of one another. Everyone had a great time and some of the participants met at Me-N-Eds in Fresno after the hunt for lunch and to swap stories. Photos have been posted in the [CARP Photo Gallery](http://K6ARP.org) (K6ARP.org). Thank you to everyone who participated.

While the hunt was measured by time, mileage was recorded at the start and end of the hunt for further scoring. Here are the results from the hunt:

Class A (hunt on the move) First Place Steve N6JXL with Tom N6MQG (1 hr., 40", 58 miles)

Class B (point an shoot) First Place & Shortest mileage John K6MI (1 hr. 42", 28 miles)

Duane KI6QEL and Christian (1 hr. 55", 37 miles), Ron N6MTS and Robert KG6QHL (2 hr. 5", 31 miles)



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

CQWW WPX Contest, SSB

Call: N2NS Class: SO(A)SB15m HP Operating Time (hrs): 6.5 Total: 200 Prefixes = 179 Total Score = 91,827 Comments: Casual operation, chasing DXCC entities for fun. (64 wkd, none new. 24 EU entities) K3/P3, Alpha 9500, N1MM logger M2 KT-36XA tribander (5 el on 15m) @ 56'

Call used: WM6DX Operator:

W6DPD Single Op, High Power, SSB, Rig: YAESU FT 200D, Quadra Amp Ant: Force 12 5BA, Dipole Assisted, All Band

Band	QSOs	Pts	WPX	
7	1	1	1	
14	74	172	58	
21	113	306	110	
28	62	169	51	
Total	250	648	220	Score 142,560

BARTG HF RTTY Contest

Call: N2NS/6 Operator(s): K6OSX K6XJ N2NS WS6X Station: N2NS Class: M/S HP Operating Time (hrs): 31 (~11 'in chair') Band QSOs Countries Call Areas Total: 456 38 78 Continents = 6 Total Score = 317,376 Comments: Multi-Single effort was Saturday afternoon, when all ops got together to share notes, practice for future 'serious' M/S operations. (80m sloper became unusable in wind/rain/snow)

ARRL DX Contest, SSB

Call: N2NS Class: SOSB/15m HP Operating Time (hrs): 5 Band QSOs Mults Total: 160 48 Total Score = 23,040 Comments: With very limited time and sporadic hours, I opted to try SOSB/15. Band did not seem in nearly as good shape compared to last couple DX contests, but I was not on the air during lots of potential openings. Half of my Q's made during two 15-20 minute runs while beaming JA. First was at dark Friday night. Second was last 15-20 minutes of contest. S&P was difficult this weekend, with lots of super loud/wide USA stations covering adjacent DX signals that were often markedly lighter, compared to past few 15m outings. Attempted to run a couple of times around 1900Z Sunday AM, but couldn't get anything going. As expected, it was difficult to find a clear space to run.

W6DPD single Op Assisted, High Power.

Band	QSOs	Pts	Cty	
14	50	150	41	
21	63	189	46	
28	37	111	28	
Total	150	450	115	Score 51.750

K6AAB, Steve SOLP assisted 194q's 118 countries in 18 hours. Score: 68,676. Using dipole and vertical. Generally I thought that conditions were poor; especially compared to the CW weekend.

ARRL CW DX

K6AAB, Steven SOLP Assisted, 25 hrs. Total 350q 189mults score: 198,450

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 or www.fresno-races.net.

Email at info@fresnoares.com

EC Report for April 2012

Hi All,

I hope you had a great month. We had several activities this month that made it interesting. We stated the month off helping the CARP group with the Blossom Trail 10k run in Sanger. About eight of our Emergency Communication Group showed up bright and early to assist with the communication needs for the race. These races are great training for the new ham. It shows them the importance of volunteer work and how it helps out community. This outing only took about 4 hours and got some of our new hams get their feet wet.



This is one of our new hams, Joe Cabdral, (KJ6TYS) at his first volunteer activity.

Dan Pruit (AE6SX) and I met with Katrina Poitras the Emergency Service Program Manager for the Local Red Cross this month. We are trying to get reestablished with them and get ready for a

busy fire season. We can provide a valuable resource for them as a backup communications provider. This was the start of a long process getting an operating procedure established that works for both parties. Work will continue.

We had some great training by the Salvation Army for both SATERN and ARES people Saturday the 10th of March. We were offered courses on Introduction to Salvation Army Emergency Services, Mass Feeding, ICS 100, and ICS 700 classes. Some of us took both the ICS classes and that took all of Saturday. We all learned a lot and hopefully passed the tests.

The monthly meeting will have a training program showing the art of traffic handling. This will be presented by Joe Cardoza (WA6FFJ). He will teach us the correct way to fill out an ARRL message form and how to send it through the traffic system. It should prove to be a benefit to us all. I hope you all attend.

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

Ham Biography of the month, April 2012 Ed Bondshu, WA6U

Ed was born in Bakersfield and raised between there and Oxnard, on the Ventura County coast, before joining the Air Force and became a jet aircraft mechanic, spending time in Alaska, Texas, Illinois, Washington State, and Madrid, Spain.

He returned to Oxnard after discharge and attended Ventura College pursuing his education. The next step lead him to Fresno and Fresno State College as it was known in those days, and he has stayed here ever since.

He trained in psychology, mental health and rehabilitation, eventually getting a masters degree, and has worked in sheltered workshops for developmentally disabled clients, elementary school mental health, and Juvenile Hall.

He was one of five ham radio operators when he worked for the Fresno County Jail and even thought of creating a radio club down there, setting up a presumably well shielded and secure station.

His interested in radio and electronics he traces to early years. His father was always working with electronics, though not a ham, but his uncle was an electrical engineer and ham (N6KNK). Ed had a crystal set kit at the age of ten and was fascinated with being able to hear all those radio stations on the simple device. In high school he was interested in becoming a mechanical engineer and tells me that his interest in electronics was to balance out the physical science part of his education.

He didn't become a licensed ham at that time because of his career and service time, until he finally took the exam from the traveling FCC engineer, passing his Technician class with the

call letters N6HWF. He progressed through Advanced Class to Extra Class all in a matter of just 18 months.

He has been married to Lucille for 26 years. The couple attend the Quarter Century Wireless Association meetings together. They have four children, 9 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Very Impressive!

His favorite aspect of ham radio is electronic theory, rag chewing and DX.

He has many other interests which he has had more time to pursue since his retirement from the Mental Health service at the country jail. He reads extensively, has taught himself German, paints in water color and has even had the dedication to write a book on theoretical physics.



Ed at his station at home.

Bio written by Joe, W0PJD

Fresno Amateur Radio Club



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

Dear Scratchy,

After the last rain storm, I had a water puddle on my radio desk under the CAT-5 cable. What is going on?

Ed, N0CAL

Dear Ed,

Scratchy has had this problem before, especially with 9913 coax. I think we need to apply some simple equations to this situation, for example see

http://www.polymicro.com/catalog/3_10.htm

Modifying these idealized equations for flow inside a CAT-5 cable should keep you off the streets and out of the bars for some time.

[semi-seriously. Force varying by the fourth power of the radius may explain the slowness of the drip.]

"So long as the Reynolds Number is less than 2000 and the fluid is considered to be Newtonian, some **relatively simple equations** can be used to describe the system.

....

By rearrangement of Equation 3-1 above, Poiseuille's Equation is derived. It follows that the flow rate through a capillary can be expressed in terms of pressure drop. More importantly, the flow rate is expressed in terms of the capillary ID, and is given by:

$$F = \frac{\pi \cdot r^4}{8 \cdot \eta \cdot L} \cdot \Delta P \quad (\text{eq. 3-2})$$

The flow rate, **F** (sometimes expressed as v), varies as the 4th power of the radius, i.e., a 2-fold change in radius creates a 16-fold change in flow rate. Equation 3-3 offers an easy to use version that gives the flow rate, F , in mL/min:

$$F = (r^4 \times P) / (\eta \times L) \times 1.625 \times 10^{-8} \quad (\text{Eq. 3-3})$$

where, the radius (r) is in μm , the pressure drop (P) is in psi, coefficient of the viscosity (η) is in cp, and the length (L) is in cm."

This is all from my lifetime of experience with fluid flow problems.

An approximation that works well and doesn't involve a lot of math: "Water flows downhill. Farther generally equals faster."

Now rework the equations... I believe the proper unit for pressure here is Pascals, not psi :-)

I have a sense that a coil at the base of a tower works because we're not dealing with ordinary pressures and flows because these are cables not pipes.

Years ago this used to happen via the shield on old coax. Now one can either seal the lines at the antenna/rotator, using that putty stuff, and as an added precaution run the lines up for a foot or so before the drop to the shack.

But that's exactly why you must first calculate the Renolyds number and determine if the flow is turbulent or not!

There, of course, is another possibility. If there is an industrial plant in the vicinity that is releasing a tamsulosin formulation containing tamsulosin (hydrophobic polymer) a microsphere forming agent and a diluent into the air during a manufacturing process, that could be the root cause of the problem. The hydrophobic polymers include pH-dependent and pH-independent polymers are used as the release-modulating agent to control the dissolution profile of tamsulosin formulation so that the formulation releases tamsulosin slowly and continuously. This will effect the capillary action of the CAT-5 cable. The answer will be to put a tiny version of the consumer product "Depends" at the shack end of the cable.

Well, actually, a coil at the bottom would not have worked. If you assume it's a tube (forget the wires), as it fills at the top, it travels down the tube at gravitational acceleration minus friction along the sides. At 72 feet, when it gets to the bottom, it has one heck of a lot of kinetic energy. From the tower base to the shack, the force of the vertical column of water is pushing the column of water that is horizontal and about 100 feet long. Again, it is friction along the sides that reduces that force. By the time it gets to the shack window, there's still a bunch of kinetic energy to force the column up to the same height as before - 72 feet. The flow rate depends on frictional opposition. Since it only climbed up 4 feet before going horizontal again and getting connected to the back of the Array Solutions Eight Pak controller, there can be enough remaining pressure to push the water out. Had there been no wires inside, it would have been coming out like a constant flow so long as the rain kept filling it at the top. The wires, however, added to the obstructions and friction, so it came out, one drop at a time.

You can cut a very small incision in the sleeve where it starts climbing toward the window. Low and behold, there can be water in there. By tomorrow, barring un-forecast rain, it should be more or less depleted (one can only hope). In any case, if it rains before you have a chance to seal it at the top, at least it won't get inside the house and under the K3 any more.

The only source of contaminants in the near area here are the owls in the nearby woods that sometimes sit on the elements of the yagis and the crows that inhabitant the nearby pine trees. There are coyotes, deer and other terrestrial beings in the woods adjoining the property, but they tend not to climb the tower and urinate into the end of the CAT-5.

73, Scratchy



More M2 pictures



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

EMCOMMWEST 10TH ANNIVERSARY IS COMING!!!

Reno, NV -- Registration is now in full swing for EMCOMMWEST 2012! This year marks the 10th Anniversary for the ARRL Specialty convention, and we trust it will be our biggest and best year ever! The convention will once again be held at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, May 4 - 6.

We are excited that this year our special guest speaker will be Chip Margelli, K7JA who is presently an executive with CQ Magazine, and has a resume like no other. Chip was one of the hams featured on the Jay Leno show, who beat the "texters" with Morse Code. He spent many years with Bob Heil of Heil sound, and is truly a ham radio legend. Chip will be our Saturday night banquet speaker, and will also present a special forum during the day on Saturday May 5.

Remember banquet seating is limited, and this one will sell out for sure, so make your reservation early!

Our Keynote speaker from the ARRL will be the League's COO, Harold Kramer, WJ1B who will bring us a wide range of discussion topics and information from a national level.

This year NARRI will enjoin with EMCOMMWEST bringing it's annual "VOIP CONFERENCE" to Reno for the first time, hosted by Kent Johnson, W7AOR. This topical conference will run all day on Friday May 4, and seating must be reserved in advance. For information on NARRI and it's programs, please check www.narri.org

For registration and hotel room information, please go to www.emcommwest.org Check back often as we will be updating the site constantly with new information on speakers and forums and other great activities. We still have room for more vendors in our vendor hall, and you may register for space on the web-site.

Of course we will have a couple of great door prizes, and some very nice radios as grand prizes again this year!

If you have a forum or topic YOU would like to present, please send an email to speakers@emcommwest.org.

For all other questions, and to volunteer as part of our team, please direct them to: info@emcommwest.org We look forward to seeing you soon in Reno May 4 - 6 for the 10th Anniversary edition of EM-COMMWEST!!! 73!

Its Official, just received authority for Special Event call sign, N0D.

Very Special Event Station N0D, celebrating Doomsday – The End of the World will be on the air from Dec 20-22 2012. As you may know, according to the ancient Mayan calendar the world will end on December 21, 2012.

N0D will commemorate (if that is the right word) and celebrate the event. Our operation may be cut short if Doomsday really happens!

In the event it does, N0D may be your very last QSO!

This is a three phase event:

12/20 – Say goodbye celebration.

12/21 – The big day! We'll be on the air as long as we can hold it together!

12/22 – The day after; that's a little iffy right now!

Unfortunately, we may not be able to send you a QSL, unless Doomsday is canceled.

More details to follow as we approach Doomsday. BTW, if you are not busy that day, drop me an e-mail if you would like to help with the N0D project. Remember, this may be your last chance!

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.

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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**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**

2012 Fresno Amateur Radio Club - Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____
Call Sign _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Occupation _____ Birthdate _____
License Class _____ Year 1st Licensed _____
ARRL Member? _____ QWCA Member? _____
E-mail address _____

Additional Family Member in same household:

Spouse Name _____ Call Sign _____
Son/Daughter Name _____ Call Sign _____



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

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