

# SKIP

FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

A Fresno Amateur Radio Club Newsletter May, 2015 Volume 77, Issue 5



**FARC General Meetings** are held the 2nd Friday of each month, 7 p.m. at AMF Sierra Lanes unless otherwise noted. Stay tuned in for new announcements.

#### 2015 FARC BOARD MEETING DATES

1st Tuesday of each month this 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

Join us at the club meeting, May 8, Friday at 7 P.M.

P. 2 for details

#### THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This April Meeting of the Club featured a talk by Joe Cardoza WA6FFJ (Flat Foot Joe) on the Western Public Service System (WPSS). Located on 80 meters LSB, that is a very active net.



I will leave it to Joe to give you the details; you might also check their website.

Of major importance is the handling of messages, or, as we know it, traffic. The talk and the comments focused in part on traffic handling, and how to do it. Rob Mavis, AE6GE, had some very interesting history to add. As one ham suggested, have a list prepared so you can work off the list as you make an emergency contact to report an emergency. I am not here telling you what should be in that list, but I would certainly suggest: your name, the specific location-streets, city, county, nature of the emergency and the local tie. The person to whom you are reporting may have other questions, but this helps you calm down and getting focused.

As was also suggested, there are also CW nets. One such net is the Northern California Net, which meets every night at two times-1700 and 2100 local at 3533 KHz. The slow speed net at 2100 is very good for the CW learning ham -they will match your speed, no matter how slow.

Learning to handle traffic is important for every ham. The ARRL handbook is a handy guide.

The club membership is increasing. There are still some long-term members who have not renewed. Get those renewals in now, or your edition of SKIP will cease. Club membership is important, since it provides the camaraderie of hamdom that is so important to all of us.

As members, come to the club meetings-the information imparted, the eyeball QSOs and the events are all important. And do not forget the good coffee, donuts and delicious cookies-and put some \$ in the coffee tin.

Speaking of Ham Radio and clubs, do not forget Field Day is coming up. Participate!

***W. Stuart Home WB6VRJ***

**Fresno Amateur Radio Club, Inc. P.O. Box 5912, Fresno. CA  
93755-5912**

**Fresno Amateur Radio Club 7 P.M. May 8, Friday (second Friday of the month) at the AMF Sierra Lanes, on Blackstone, North of Sierra. North of the DMV office.**

**The May program is very interesting, by a speaker that has a lot of knowledge on the subject “How to Mend Fences”. Included will be ideas on how to talk to insurance agents, county ordinances, and how to call 911 at 1 A.M. in the morning. Also covered: does a fence make good ladder line, and using a fence for radials. This will be a crash course.**

**FD Chairman Ron Hunt, N6MTS, is looking forward to putting this years event together. Remember to save the 4th full weekend in June!**

**The June meeting will be an info meeting about the VHF contest on the second full weekend in June, and the big FD event, on the fourth full weekend in June. Two big events in one month!**



Hi All,

I need some volunteers for an exercise that will be held Friday the 8th of May. The time will be from 08:00 - 11:00 hr. This is our first RACES Exercise that the County has sanctioned. I need about 6-8 people to get this done. This will be a Simplex Exercise testing the out capability to communicate from our served agencies in a disaster situation. Please let me know if you are available. I would like to have some of you that live in the outlining areas to operate from your locations. This will give us a real sense of our capabilities.

Thanks,

Glen T. Caine N6HEW Fresno County ARES EC Fresno County RACES Radio Officer

559-999-7590 [n6hew2@gmail.com](mailto:n6hew2@gmail.com)

**W6TO**

Look at the FARC FD pictures on the Facebook page.

W6TO Facebook page... You have to see the FD symbol on the website in all the writings and above that symbol Click on the Fresno Am Radio Club line..(should highlight) and go to Facebook.....

. de Jim, W6NIF

**Fresno Amateur Radio Club**

**MEETINGS & TESTING.**

CLUB/GRP	MEETING	EXAM
<u>MCARC</u>	1 <sup>ST</sup> Thu	Canceled
<u>CARP</u>	1 <sup>ST</sup> Fri	05.09.2015
<u>TARC</u>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue	N/A
<u>FARC</u>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Fri	05.09.2015
<u>ARACC</u>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat	???.???
<u>TCARC</u>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu	05.21.2015
<u>EMMCOM</u>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	???.???
<u>SJVARS</u>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	N/A
<u>CVRC</u>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat	
<u>FRESNO</u> <u>ARES/</u> <u>RACES</u>	4 <sup>th</sup> Thu	???.???
<u>F.A.M.E.</u>	N/A	05.09.2015
<u>FRESNO VE</u> <u>TEAM</u>	N/A	05.09.2015

2050 H ST.  
FRESNO  
93721



500 E. 19TH ST.  
BAKERSFIELD  
93305

*Jack C. Arbuckle Company*

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA DISTRIBUTORS OF  
ELECTRONICS FOR RETAILERS AND INDUSTRY  
WWW.JCAELECTRONICS.COM

JEFF MOORHEAD  
BRANCH MANAGER - FRESNO  
SALES@JCAELECTRONICS.COM

FRESNO  
(559) 264-6554  
FAX (559) 264-6557

Thomas L. Whitlock



105 W. DAKOTA, #106 • CLOVIS, CA 93612 • 559/294-0977

**Sparky Electronics**

4364 E. Ashlan Avenue

Fresno, CA 93625

(559) 227-2986

Monday – Friday 9:30-5:30

Saturday 10:00-3:00pm



M<sup>2</sup> ANTENNA SYSTEMS, INC.

Michael Staal  
V.P. & Designer  
KGMYC

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

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

**Birthdays:**

05/05 Kathy Smith  
05/17 Dan AE6SX  
05/21 Ron N6MTS  
05/26 Bill K6WGJ  
05/27 Julie Cardoza

**Anniversaries:**

***None listed for this month***

## **SB SPACE ARL ARLS007 ARLS007 Fox-1C and 1D Satellites to Include L-Band Uplink; Fox-1E to Have Linear Transponder**

AMSAT Vice President-Engineering Jerry Buxton, N0JY, has announced plans to incorporate an L-band receiver in the Fox-1C and Fox-1D satellites. This will allow ground controllers to select the normal U/V configuration or the new L/V 1.2 GHz (23 cm) mode. Both bands will operate as FM single channel.

"Rather than adding a complete new receiver, the L band 'Project Downshifter' will convert the received L-band signal down to the Fox-1 uplink frequency and feed it to the UHF receiver on the Fox-1 satellite," Buxton explained. "The design will not require an additional antenna on the satellite, because the existing UHF antenna will work for L band receive as well."

A new group of volunteers is working on a companion uplink station to convert UHF to the L-band uplink frequencies. Team members include Bruce Herrick, WW1M; Dan Hubert, VE9DAN; Elizabeth Schenk, KC1AXX; **Dave Smith, W6TE**, and Alfred Watts, AF5VH.

The team plans to have an affordable L-band uplink ground station available to amateurs by the time Fox-1C is on orbit.

Buxton also has announced plans to construct a Fox-1E "Evolution" variation of the Fox-1 series, which will carry a Mode J linear transponder. The transponder is planned to be 30 kHz wide and will also include a 1200 bps BPSK telemetry beacon. The purpose of the project is to test a design for a linear transponder that could be made available to CubeSat builders as a secondary, or even primary, Amateur Radio payload.

AMSAT reports that it has been approached regarding a Fox 1E launch opportunity in 2016 but said it cannot share details at this time.

Buxton said the Fox-1 Team continues to seek new volunteers with solid RF building and testing experience to work on both the downshifter and the transponder prototyping and construction. Contact Buxton using the AMSAT Engineering online volunteer form at, [http://ww2.amsat.org/?page\\_id=1121](http://ww2.amsat.org/?page_id=1121) .  
NNNN

JIDX Activity report from Steve K6AAB:

Objective:work all JA prefectures (loosely equivalent to US Counties).

Multipliers: JA prefix once per band + JD! Ogasawara and JD1 Minamitorishima Band QSOS Mult

80 2 1

40 21 18

20 4 4

15 38 24

10 5 4 Total 70 51 score 3,927

TS-850s Tribander, 2 band vert. Low power. Op time 7 hrs. Conditions poor, with geo

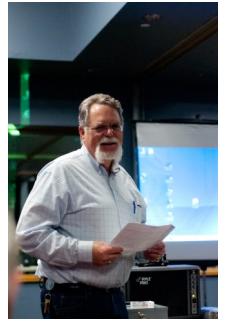
disturbance Fri. SF 115 A 36 K 4.

## 2015 FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FARC Officers and Board members:

Stuart Home, Pres. – WB6VRJ  
 Ken Holden, WA6OIB- VP  
 Joe Cardoza, WA6FFJ-Secretary  
 Ron Hunt, N6MTS-Treasurer

<u>wb6vrj@w6to.com</u>	(559) 485-8659	12/2015
<u>wa6oib@w6to.com</u>	(559) 323-6753	12/2016
<u>wa6ffj@w6to.com</u>	(599) 455-1071	12/2016
<u>N6MYS@w6to.com</u>	(559) 289-8514	12/2016



Board Members:

Joseph Capell, W0PJD  
 Jack Baker, AC6LT  
 Larry Kramer, K6VLF

<u>W0PJD@me.com</u>	(559) 225-3582	12/2015
<u>ac6lt@CVIP.net</u>	(559) 297-4311	12/2016
<u>k6vlf@w6to.com</u>	(559) 264-0772	12/2015

Web master

Aaron Lusk, K6USY

k6usy@w6to.com (559) 301-1022

Skip Editor

John Morrice, K6MI

k6mi@pacbell.net (559) 275-7373

Ron, N6MTS  
Treasurer

Breakfast on Saturdays at Jeb's Blueberry Café located at Blackstone and Dakota, starting at 7 A.M.. Join the DX'ers and all the area hams for breakfast

Also Breakfast every Tuesday at 8 A.M. at Denny's near Shaw and West,

The Quarter Century Wireless Association Lunch is held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at also at Jeb's Blueberry Cafe on Blackstone at 11:30 to 1 P.M..

**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: nailbender@unwiredbb.com.

Event-Date

FARC meeting May 8

VHF Contest June 13-14

FD June 27-28

**Upcoming Transmitter Hunt Dates**

These are the dates for the regular Saturday bi-monthly hunts as well as special hunts:

May 23, 2015 (4th Sat) - 10:00am TBA

July 18, 2015 (3rd Sat) 10:00am location: TBA

September 19 (3rd Sat) 10:00am location TBA

San Joaquin Valley Nets:

The Noontime net meets on 7.268.5 MHz. This net handles a lot of messages.

Daytime Region 6 Traffic Net meets daily at 3:30 pacific time on or near 7.275 MHZ. This one is probable not in operation at this time.

The California Traffic Net meets daily on 3.906 MHZ and 6:00 PM local time.

The Golden Bear Amateur Radio Net meets nightly at 7:00 PM local time on 3.975 MHZ.

Northern California Net (NCN), the Section Traffic Net, meets nightly on 3.533 MHZ at 7 PM Pacific Time.

San Joaquin Net meets Monday-Saturday on 3918khz, at 6 PM Pacific Time.

Western Public Service System (WPSS) meets nightly on 3952khz, roll - at 7:30 PM local Pacific Time.

The Mission Trail Net meets nightly on 3.856 MHZ at 8:00 PM local time.

Northern California Net 2 (NCN2) The slow speed training session of NCN, meets nightly on 3.533 MHZ at 9 PM Pacific Time. Handling traffic on CW is a good way to improve your CW skills.

CWops Tests are held weekly – Every Wednesday at 1300Z, 1900Z, and 0300Z (Thursday). Info and rules at <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>.

## Fresno Amateur Radio Club

Corrections to last months Skip! Our sharp eyed readers are on the lookout for everything. The corrected Skip is in the [w6to.com](http://w6to.com) archive.

More new prizes at the next meeting! The raffle helps pay for the meeting expenses.

Remember to send in your 2015 dues. Dues for 2015 are \$20, and \$5 for additional family members!

Free membership for first year hams!

**Fresno ARC** Is looking for check-ins for the Morning Drive Time Net.

Join Ben, WB6GBS, and other net control operators, for an interesting way to start the day. Visit <http://w6to.com> for further information.

ARRL Section Manager for the SJV Section, Dan, AE6SX. Dan's SJV news is found at [arrl.org](http://arrl.org)



## The Central Valley T-hunters May 23, Sat.



Hunt Frequency will be 146.565 MHz.  
For more information email [info@k6arp.org](mailto:info@k6arp.org) or call 559-492-7675.  
Rob, AE6GE Hunt master

With the closing of the Silver Dollar Hofbrau, a long established eatery and Fresno icon, the Thursday ham radio lunch get-together has been moved.

The new meeting location is:

Jeb's Blueberry Hill  
3851 North Blackstone Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93726

YL (and XYL) net? All are invited on Friday morning on the W6TO repeaters at 10:30 A.M., or there about.

Got Ham Radio?

Check out Glenn's info later in this issue!



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

Drawing next month will be for \$50.00. No winner last month.  
KB6PJM was not in attendance.

Must be present to win.



**Fresno Amateur Radio Club**  
**Local Amateur Radio Repeaters**

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Offset</i>	<i>PL</i>
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
BRA	W6FSC	145.230	-	141.3
BRA	W6FSC	443.450	+	141.3
KINGS ARC	N6CVC	145.110/444.95	-	100.0
NC9RS	NC9RS	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
WINSystem	K6JSI	146.790	-	100.0
WINSystem	K6JSI	444.250	+	100.0
CVRC	N6IB	443.950	+	141.3
CVRC	N6IB	442.350	+	141.3
CVRC	N6VQL	147.315	+	141.3

## DX Breakfast

The Fresno DX'ers meet every Saturday at Jeb's Blueberry Hill Cafe, 3851 N. Blackstone, in Fresno.

The group gathers between 06:30 and 07:00 AM.

"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. De N2MG

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 WA6FFJ, Joe, on the W6TO repeaters.



Joe, WA6FFJ, our net control operator for the W6TO nets.

## **THE DX CORNER**

**By Charles McConnell W6DPD  
May 2015**

"DX is the one you want but you don't have. That is the way it has always been, that is the way it will always be." Of the most recent DXpeditions, "If you worked it, it was the best DXpedition ever. If you missed it, it was probably not so good." "And so it goes."

All things are relative, some more than others. Thanks Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD SK.

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, or Perry K6XJ 299-2802, can give you advice. The big thing about finding DX is to tune the bands.

The DX Breakfast is every Saturday at Jeb's Blueberry Hill Café, 3851 N. Blackstone Ave in Fresno. This group gathers about 06:30 AM. All are welcome.

Check out [www.spaceweather.com](http://www.spaceweather.com) and [www.solarham.net](http://www.solarham.net) 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 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. You may be able to check your status at the bureau at <http://www.qslbureau.org/>

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 no longer 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. U.S. Postage will be increased soon. Overseas postage will be \$1.20; domestic postage will remain \$0.49 for 1 ounce. Additional ounce for domestic mail will be \$0.22. Postcards will be \$0.35.

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.

## **Fresno Amateur Radio Club**

Continued from the last page

The following operations are scheduled:

Djibouti J28JV soon for at least a year, maybe 2  
Ascension Island ZD8D maybe an October 2011 start  
Angola D2CQ February 2010 for a few years  
Ogasawara JD1BLY April 29 to May 5, 2015  
Wallis and Fortuna Islands FW1JG April to November 2015  
Armenia EK April 23 to May 5, 2015  
Maldives 8Q7 May 10 to May 17, 2015  
Niue E6NK May 15 to May 25, 2015  
St. Pierre and Miquelon FP/N7QT CANCELED  
Seychelles S79DPX August 9 to August 23, 2015  
Wake Island KH9 K6W September 2015 for 2 weeks  
Tristan da Cunha ZD9TT September 15 to October 6, 2015  
Chesterfield Island TX3X October 2 to October 12, 2015  
Fernando de Noronha PY0F/homecalls October 18 to 27, 2015  
Vietnam 3W3MD October 31 to November 10, 2015  
Heard Island VK0EK November 17 to December 23, 2015  
Bouvet 3Y December 17, 2015 to January 10, 2016  
Palmyra Island KH5 December 2015 to January 2016  
Tonga A35COW? January 15 to February 15. 2016  
South Sandwich and South Georgia VP8 January 2016  
Palmyra KH5 January 2016  
North Korea P5 January or February 2016 for 5 days. We can hope!!  
Palestine E44Y planning for March 2016  
Juan de Nova March 2016



Charles, W6DPD

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 and the WPX Award.

Good luck, tune the dial, and listen.



Craig N6ED, Bob KK6LT at the Visalia DX Convention.

Seb F5UFX & Michel FM5CD are part of the team from Tromelin Is. FT4TA.

Bob Kk6LT. 73 good DX

## **AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS IN FRESNO**

**UNLICENSED THRU EXTRA CLASS  
Sponsored By the FRESNO VE TEAM  
And the FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
2015**

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 9    August 8    November 14**

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

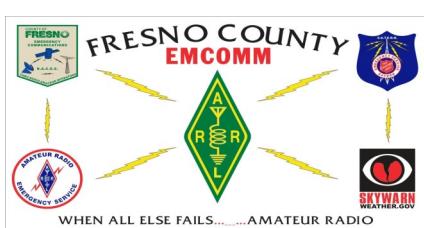
**DIRECTIONS:** From North or South of Fresno, Take Highway 99 to Highway 180 east. Go east on 180 to Fulton Street off ramp. Turn right on Fulton Street. Go south on Fulton across Divisidero to Sacramento Ave. Turn left on Sacramento Ave and park. You have arrived.

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, W6DPD (559) 431-2038



## Fresno Amateur Radio Club

# EC Report for April 2015

Hi All,

This month's schedule kept us busy—4 Monday Night EmComm Nets, 1 EmComm and Coffee, 1 ARES/RACES meeting, 1 Digital Workshop and 3 public service events.

### **April 11 was a hectic day**

April 11 proved to be quite hectic having three events in one day. This year the March of Dimes Walk for Babies and the Big Hat Day Century Ride took place on the same day. We had teams working both events simultaneously. The March of Dimes event started about 06:30 and ran until about 11:00 AM. The course changed at the last minute which made things interesting. Cpt. Dwain (KG6STA) was leading that crew and did a great job.

The Big Hat Day Ride went smoothly even with the amount of staff we had. The event had two rides with a century (100 mile) being the longest. We had six rest stops as well as the central command at the start/finish line. All went well. We started about 06:00 and finished at 17:00 hr. All in all it was a good day at both events. Thank you to all that took part and especially Rob Mavis (AE6GE) for all his work putting the Comm. Plans together. Great job Rob!

Last but not least was the Mini Makers Faire at Radio Park here in Fresno also held on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The Mini Makers Faires are worldwide and becoming extremely popular. A Makers Faire is a gathering of inventors and project makers showing their wares and ideas. Lew Roberts (KI6YWX), Steve Wichert (AG6JI) and Jerry Ham Hammons (W6GCL) are a group of HAMs that get together and do project building here locally. They took their work and demonstrated it to the masses. Also Jan (WA6WTF) and Carole Witteberry (W6TTF) setup a demonstration station to promote the hobby. I heard the bands were bad but all had a good time.

### **Shinzen Run**

Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> we helped with the Shinzen Run at Woodward Park. It turned out to be a beautiful soggy day. It rained throughout the whole event. A few of us got a little wet but not half as bad as bad as the runners. We started the event at 06:00hr and it was over about 10:30hr. We used a simplex VHF frequency for the event and communications were solid. Thank you to all that helped.

### **ARES ID Cards**

If you are a member of Fresno County ARES or have sent in an application and have not received an ID card with your picture on it, I would like to hear from you. We are attempting to catch up with our paper work and making sure that all of our members have been issued their card. Please email me if you have submitted an application and have no card. Also if you have changed any of your information, such as phone numbers, email address, home address etc. please email me with the updates. My email and phone numbers are at the end of the newsletter.

### **RACES Repeater**

Friday April 24<sup>th</sup> I went to the County Radio Shop and talked with Jim Wickham who is the manager for the County Communications Department. I asked him to change the transmitter to the one on Joaquin Ridge. I was of the opinion that someone would have to go up to the hill and change things there but that was not the case. All he had to do was flip two switches in the control room and we are on the western transmitter. I have been checking the coverage and we seem to have a stronger signal now especially in the eastern foothills. I think this will help during the upcoming fire season. Please take notes when you are traveling in the eastern hills and let me know how the signal is doing.

### **ARES/RACES Website**

We are in the process of building a new website for ARES/RACES. Chris Johnson, KJ6IYG will be putting together a committee to consider what we should have on the site. We will have a couple of editors that will read the material uploaded by our members and correct the spelling and punctuation and well as considering the content of the material. We should

Continued on the next page

Page 11

## **Fresno Amateur Radio Club**

Continued from the previous page  
new website up and running by the end of the summer.

### **Digital Work Shop**

Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a Digital Workshop at the Citadel. Richard Pack (KE6SHL) will be the master of ceremonies. He will be gearing us up for Field Day. He will be teaching more about the N1MM contesting logging program as well as using FLDIGI on our station at the Citadel. We need to attend this workshop so we will be ready for Field Day.



### **Public Service Calendar 2015**

Most of you know we help CARP doing Public Service events. We use them for training; they help keep us sharp handling traffic and working under a net condition. I am including the calendar of events as it is now.

2015 Public Service Events:

May 2 – Kirch Flat Bicycle Century

May 16 – California Classic Bicycle Century

September 12 – Tour de Fresno Charity Bicycle Century

October 10 – Bass Lake Powerhouse Double Century

November 8 – Two Cities Marathon

If interested in volunteering at any of the above events, contact either Rob Mavis or me.

### **Net Control Staff Needed**

We are looking for volunteers to take a turn as net control on Monday nights. This is not a difficult task. We will provide the preamble and net roster. This is a great way to enhance your skills running a net for emergency situations. If you are interested, please contact Gary (KI6OYW) at 559-269-1340 or email [g\\_greenberg@att.net](mailto:g_greenberg@att.net)

### **Our Calendar**

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 **third Friday** of the month there is the **EmComm Coffee** at YFC on Cedar south of Ashlan in Granite Park at **07:00hr**. And last but not least the **EmComm Meetings** are held on the **Fourth Thursday** of month. **The May meeting will be held May 28th 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 [N6hew2@gmail.com](mailto:N6hew2@gmail.com)

## **GREETINGS FROM BIRDIE McCHIRP**



Hello Lads and Lassies!

Shure and it has been a long tyme since I write to ya, but here is another missive from yer ol' Scottish ham:

Seems the other night I was doin' what all good hams do-LISTEN before transmitting! So I was listenin' around 40 Meter CW, and I hear two chaps conversing at around 13-14 words per minute. Now al you young hams take notice-sure and the FCC does no longer require Morse Code proficiency, but learning CW is nae that hard, and it provides a lot more fun-the conversations are great and all the contacts really count for a great deal o' pleasure in ham radio.

So these two chaps are conversing and at a very comfortable speed, and one of them tells the other that he is 75 years old. His fist was good and steady; the other chap replied that he was just a young'un, at 60 years of age. They went on about the weather and what each was doing and stuff like that. It was fun to not only eavesdrop, but to also practice my own code ability and read in my head. That is a lot of fun.

One more thing-as you increase your ability and you hae a latop, set up a page or two and practice copying by typing-in the old days, that was called "copy by mill" using a manual typewriter. Try it-as you succeed, you will have fun! As you fail, you will NOT repeat that mistrake, and you will have fun!

(signed) Birdie- 73 all you hams!

## **VHF North-South Activity Hour During Field Day**

During Field Day, let's take advantage of our local ham population throughout the state of California by participating in a "North-South Activity Hour" beginning at 8 PM PDST (0300 UTC) Saturday night. FD VHF stations in Southern California will beam north, and stations in Northern/Central California will beam south, with activity centering between 144.220 and 144.260 MHz on SSB (or CW). At 8:30 PM (0330 UTC), activity switches to 432 MHz, with activity centering between 432.110 and 432.150 MHz SSB/CW. Come back to 2 meters once done on 432.

FD stations with other bands like 222 MHz can "move" each other from the above activity centers. The idea of this coordinated activity is to get North/South stations beaming toward each other, in a concentrated effort, at a time when tropospheric propagation generally is best. Long term, Field Day is a great way to expose a large number of amateurs to new bands and modes, and this kind of an activity boost is a great way to demonstrate the long-distance capabilities of our VHF and UHF bands.

We hope that everyone will spread the word to be sure their "free" VHF/UHF station on Field Day gets on 144/432 MHz SSB/CW between 8 PM and 9 PM Saturday night. There are lots of hams here in California--let's work each other!

Thanks and 73,  
Chip Margelli, K7JA

**Fresno Amateur Radio Club**

F.A.R.C. DUES ARE \$20 PER YEAR FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP. Additional family members in the same household are \$5.00 each per year. New hams are free for the first year. Make checks payable to F.A.R.C. and send to:

P.O. Box 5912, Fresno, CA 93755-5912.

**2015 Fresno Amateur Radio Club - Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_  
License Class \_\_\_\_\_ Year 1<sup>st</sup> Licensed \_\_\_\_\_  
ARRL Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary Date \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Family Member in same household:**

Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_  
Son/Daughter Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

**2015**

**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**



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

Send To: