

SKIP

FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

A Fresno Amateur Radio Club Newsletter October, 2020 Volume 83, Issue 10



No physical meetings at the moment
– stay tuned in on the club repeater!
Meeting at 7 P.M. October 9 on the
club repeaters!

Your Logbook DXCC Account (KI6QEL - UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

DXCC Award	New LoTW QSLs	LoTW QSLs in Process	DXCC Credits Awarded	Total (All)	Total (Current)
Mixed	101	0	0	101	101

FARC General Meeting On the Air Second Friday at 7 P.M. on the W6TO repeaters

2020 FARC BOARD MEETING DATES
The 1st Tuesday of the month

FARC Nets
Morning Drive Time Net:
Weekday mornings-
7:30—8:00 a.m.
W6TO/R 146.940

FARC Net:
Sundays @ 7:00 pm
W6TO/R 146.940

Duane KI6QEL, has achieved one of ham radios rite of passage, DXCC with over one hundred entities worked and confirmed. While WAS (worked all states) might be one of the first goals for a ham radio operator, DXCC is way up there on the list of achievements. LOTW (logbook of the world) is a great help, but QSL's can also be used.

In this sun spot minimum, it is even harder, and Duane has done this with a small station and wire antennas.

Next month we will have pictures of Duane's rebuilt ham station after the completion of his home restoration project.

When you hear Duane on the air give him a congratulations message.

UC Merced center is closed for the rest of 2020. On the air meetings until the COVID 19 is under control.

Four board member have terms that are up:

Ken WA6OIB

Ted W6TLM

Jim W6NIF

Larry W6OWL

The four nominations are:

Jim Erbe W6NIF

Larry Lion W6OWL

Ken Holden WA6OIB

Mike Chico KM6MRT

The terms are for two years. The directors will meet and elect the officers for next year. On the even years four directors are elected, and on odd years three directors are elected.

If there are more than four running for four vacancies, there will be written ballots. Since there are only four, the board will either ask for a voice vote at the Oct. meeting, or go with the ballots anyways.

Heathkit job interview:



On the first full weekend in Oct. the California QSO Party will be on the air. All 58 California counties will be activated, although some will be pretty rare this year with some counties having forest fires, and travel being limited.

King county and Madera county will be very rare this year, and Fresno county will have two high profile stations and several part time stations. The special event station K6F, operated by AK7G, will be on from Fresno.

Every one is invited to get on the air and give out a few contacts. There is an award for working all 58 California counties, and a special award for working all the special event calls that spell out SEQUOIA.

FARC

Send your dues check to FARC, PO Box 5912, Fresno 93755-5912
Board meeting on the first Tuesday of the month. Details from Stu, WB6VRJ

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

PRES SEZ

PREZ SEZ

Well, two things are important to the club.

One is that the fire took out the power for a short time for our club repeater, W6TO; Ron Hunt had created another repeater, on 145.23, and we used that as our temporary repeater. Remember, it has a PL of 141.3. I chatted briefly Sunday night with John, K6MI on 146.94 simplex and he confirmed that the W6TO repeater was out at that time. We can continue to use this as a back up. Power was restored in a few days and is back to normal.

The other and probably more important news is that Joe, WA6FFJ, will not be running the repeater net after the end of this year. I suspect that out there is a ham who loves to be in charge of something, such as a net-so if you are the one, let me and Joe know, so arrangements can be made. This is an important detail-and it should be important to you, since we will all hear your golden tones on the radio! This fire has caused a lot of havoc. I am glad to hear that one of our hams who had been in the fire area got out safely. I sure hope that none of you suffered any loss or harm due to the fire.

It seems we are not the only area affected by fire-Oregon has had its share of wild forest fires, and the air up there has been just as hazy and smoky as down here. Let's say a prayer for everyone affected by these fires.

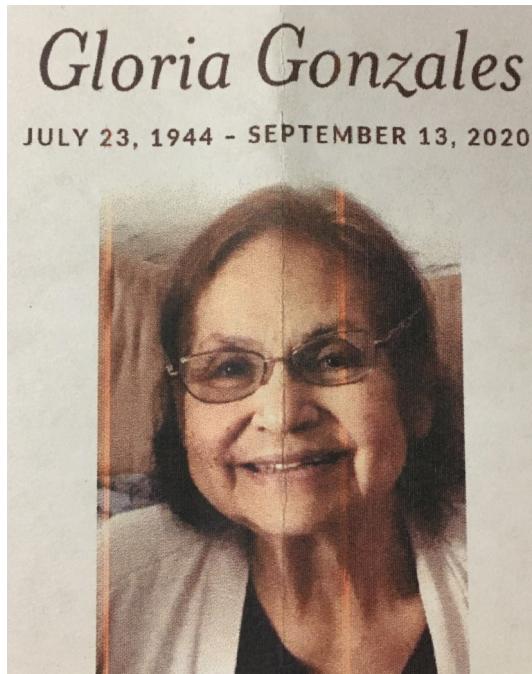
One final note-Paul, W6VPS, reported a ham was lost due to a tragic accident while that ham was putting up his antenna-let's all practice safety-whatever you are doing, if you are around electrical equipment of any kind big or small, have somebody else with you-this is a safety precaution.

Everybody-stay healthy and well.



'Til then, best of 73 to all Stu, WB6VRJ





Club member KC6ZOI (SK) Gloria, xyl of Bob, KK6LT, passed away in September.

Gloria was always at the club Christmas dinner along with Bob. Daughter Mona (KD6GHK) is married to former club member Craig, N6ED, and they live in Southern California and have two children.

A second daughter Elizabeth is KD6HTU who lives in Fresno, and has two children.

A Fiery Smokey Backpacking Trip by Mark K6MTS

Every year I take a multiday backpacking trip into the Sierra Nevada wilderness to decompress and re-charge my batteries, for me there is simply no substitute for being in God's country and reveling in the solitude one experiences only if they are willing to venture off the beaten path.

This year I visited the Bear Lakes Basin region in the John Muir Wilderness for an 8 day trip.

For the last 6 years I have been taking along QRP equipment and this trip included a KX2 with factory internal battery as well as a 4ah lipo battery, an end-fed wire antenna, and some telescoping fishing pole sections to make up a 28' mast. I usually set up the mast using 3 small para-cord guys with the wire in a sloper position.

CA was burning up again this summer, and when I left Bear Diversion trailhead on Sept 2, I was hoping to escape some of the smoke. Unbeknownst to me at the time, the Creek fire would spark up in the middle of my trip. Along with being miles east of the Creek fire, I was never in danger as most of my trip was off trail at 10-12k+ feet elevation (little to no vegetation), and the times I was in the lower elevations it was always very near the multitudes of large deep pools found along Bear Creek.

I had let some local Hams (Ken OIB, Jerry KEG and some others) know of my trip and asked they keep an ear out for me to make some QSOs, but there were not set skeds, times or frequencies. It turns out that I only set up the ham gear on two days, but did make a few contacts in CO and TENN.



Fresno Amateur Radio Club

When the Creek fire took a turn for the worse my xyl had to evacuate our 2 horses, 2 goats, and 2 dogs from our home in Prather, she went through quite an ordeal and was desperate to get in touch with me. She had reached out to Ken and others and I later learned that a lot of hams were trying to reach me on various bands, but I was either not set up and/or did not hear anyone. It turns out that if I had tried to exit my trip any earlier I would not have been able to get out.

When I drove out from Bear Diversion on the afternoon of Sept 9th I did not see a vehicle or a sole until Huntington Lake. Then for miles and miles I saw the aftermath of the fire that had swept through within the previous 24 hours. So much scorched earth and destruction, seeing dozens of spot fires and various fire crews at work, it was quite surreal. Although my sister (along with their entire neighborhood) lost their home on Pi-neridge, everyone was at least safe. Yes 2020 has just been one of those years...That's all for now, Maybe when we have face to face club meetings again I'll put together a presentation on this and some other qrp backpacking trips. 73

Mark/K6MTS



AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS IN FRESNO

Exams given for TECHNICIAN, GENERAL, and AMATEUR EXTRA

Sponsored By the FRESNO VE TEAM

And The FRESNO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

2020

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.

All dates cancelled at this time, due to the location not being available.

LOCATION:St. James Episcopal Cathedral, 4147 E. Dakota, Fresno CA 93726

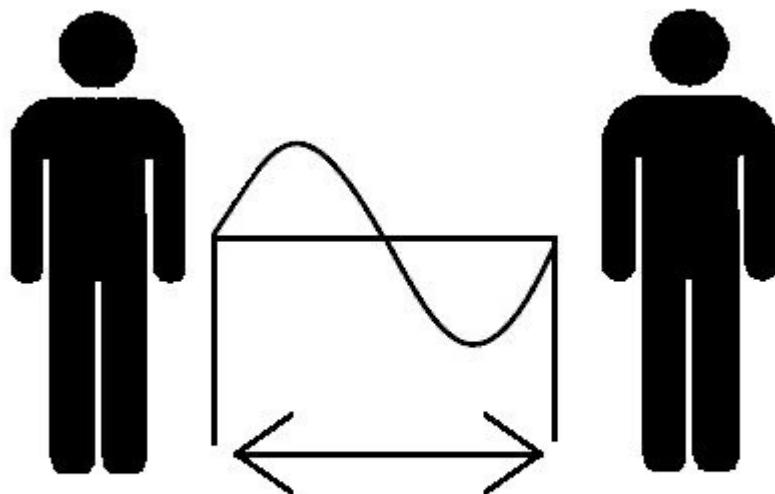
DIRECTIONS: This is at the northwest corner of Cedar and Dakota in Fresno. Enter the campus from Dakota. There is a large parking lot. Exams are given in Room 2.

Theory exams are multiple choice. First Class 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 second 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



Rumor is the virus is killed by 14.200 Mhz in large doses ????
Stay under your antennae my friends.

**Keep one wavelength
apart at 146.52 MHz**

FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FARC Officers and Board members:

Stuart Home, WB6VRJ President	wb6vrj@w6to.com	(559) 485-8659	12/2021
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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.



The 2019 November Swap Meet. Will it happen this year? If not, it will come back at a future time, as we all always enjoy meeting and greeting and finding treasures.

In the mean time, there are for sale adds on the next to last page of Skip! Take advantage of the opportunity, send your adds to K6MI at pacbell.net

Event-Date

club meeting on Oct. 9 Friday 7 P.M.

Possible Nov. 14, Sat. FARC Swap

San Joaquin Valley Nets:

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

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.

**Sunday and Wed. Night 2m Bozo Net, 8 P.M.
144.24 Mc. USB**

Monday 220 Mc. 8 P.M. USB 222.1 Mc

Tuesday 8 P.M. USB 1296.1 Mc.

Thursday 8 P.M. 432.1 SSB net

Pacificon in Oct. is cancelled, but a virtual convention might happen!



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
CVRC	K6WGJ Fresno Low	145.43	+	141.3
CVRC	N6VRC Meadow	147.165	+	141.3
CVRC	N6VRC Meadow	440.025	+	141.3
CVRC	N6VRC Santa Rita	147.285	+	141.3
CVRC	N6VRC Santa Rita	442.275	+	141.3
CVRC	N6VRC Visalia	442.525	+	141.3
CRVC	N6VRC Porterville	443.825	+	141.3
CVRC	K6WGJ Fresno Low	444.975	+	141.3
CVRC	N6VRC Bear Mt.	443.950	+	141.3
CVRC	N6VRC Mt. Bullion	442.350	+	141.3
CVRC	Bear	927.05	+	141.3
Meadow Lakes	WA6OIB	146.61	-	141.3
WA6IPZ	WA6IPZ	52.84	-	82.5

Remember to keep you dues current for both the attendance prize and the birthday and anniversary listings.

Ten meter net, CW and Phone, every Wednesday
7 P.M. for CW at 28.140

8 P.M. for SSB at 28.445

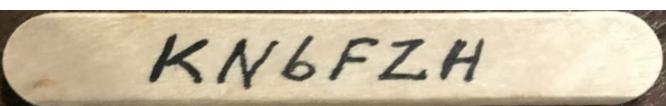
This is a local net, the cw part run by KF6ZXO, and the SSB with various net control ops.. Have fun checking in on one or both modes.

Birthdays

10/1 Bob KK6LT
10/20 Joe W0PJD
10/23 Ted W6TLM
10/26 Jerry W6KEG
10/26 Larry W6OWL

The monthly attendance prize! Suspended until we meet again.

The attendance prize in March. was won by Elijah, who was not present. Must be present to win. Next drawing will be \$20, when meetings resume.



Anniversaries

10/1 Doug KB6UOG
10/2 Jill & Jerry W6KEG



THE DX CORNER

By Charles McConnell W6DPD

October 2020

Many DXpeditions are being postponed or rescheduled due to Covid-19 travel restrictions.

"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 and 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. As the solar cycle heads toward the minimum by the end of the decade, working DX becomes more of a challenge. The high bands become less useful until the solar cycle heads toward the maximum, some years from now. There were over 100 sunspot free days in 2017

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. You can contribute \$10 or \$20 online using Paypal. 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 **rolled back the rates** to those of 2011. The rate is \$2 for up to 10 cards, \$3 for 11 to 20 cards in one envelope, and \$0.75 per ounce for 21 or more cards. There is no longer a transaction fee. These changes began May 15, 2019.

Overseas postage is still \$1.15 per ounce. Domestic postage is \$0.55 for 1 ounce. Additional ounce for domestic mail will go from \$0.21 to \$0.15. Postcards stay \$0.35. Postage for flat rate boxes and envelopes will increase.

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 OPDX Bulletin or 425 DX Bulletin to get the URL. You can subscribe to the Daily DX, or Weekly DX. These bulletins will keep you informed of DX operations and QSL information.

Scientists writing in NATURE magazine are predicting a Grand Solar Minimum beginning in 2020 and lasting for 3 solar cycles. Hopefully, they are wrong. NOAA Scientists predict the Cycle 25 peak will occur in July 2025 plus or minus 8 months.

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

Continued from the last page

The following operations are scheduled:

Sudan **ST2NH** is learning FT8 and is active

Bouvet **3Y0I** Will try in December, 2020

Djibouti **J28PJ** for 3 to 5 years

Ascension Island **ZD8AC** now for 2 years

Senegal **6W1SU** now for 2 to 3 years

Rwanda **9X0TA** August 5, 2017 for 3 years

Antarctica **VK0HZ** Davis Station for 1 year

Antarctica **ZL5A** Scott Base for 1 year

South Sudan **Z81C** now for at least a year

Ecuador **HC2PY** September 15, 2019 for one year

Chad **TT8SN** December 1, 2019 for 3 to 4 years

West Kirabati **T30ET** Postponed

Seychelles **S79VU** September 30 to June 30, 2021

Andaman and Nicobar **VU4R** Postponed

Guantanamo Bay **KG4MA** June 2020 to March 2021

St. Pierre and Miquelon **FP/KV1J** postponed to June-July 2021

Easter Island **XR0YHM** CANCELLED

Easter Island **XR0YSP** Postponed

St. Pierre and Miquelon **T05T** Postponed to August 8 to August 16, 2021

Swains Island **W8S** postponed to spring 2021 due to travel restrictions

Lichtenstein **HB0** September 8 to October 2, 2020

Malawi **7Q7AO** Mid September into October 2020

Niue **E6AM** September 28 to October 17, 2020

Chad **TT8RR** and **TT8XX** POSTPONED due to Covid 19

Midway Island **KH6VV/KH4** First 2 weeks of October 2020

Austria **OE1990SGU** October 1 to October 31, 2020

Belgium **OR39CLM** October 14 to November 13, 2020

East Timor **4W** October 11 to November 8, 2020

Sable Island **CY0C** October 14 to October 28, 2021

Kosovo **Z66DX** October 15 to October 28, 2020

Tonga **A335GC** October 19 to November 2, 2020

St. Vincent **J88PI** November 23 to December 20, 2020

Botswana **A25VR** April 28 to May 24, 2021

Jan Mayen **JX0X** September 15 to October 5, 2021

Chesterfield Islands **TK/C** Postponed until 2021

Galapagos Islands **HC8** planned for 2021

New Zealand Sub Antarctic Islands **ZL9** 2021-2022



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.newdxsummit.fi) for listings.

There are a number of state QSO parties each year. Check the contest corral in QST or the ARRL web page.



The sight of the many years of hamfests in Dayton will soon be torn down, after a tornado went through and started the demolishing project that was already in progress.

PANDEMIC COMMUNICATIONS!

New Q Codes for Current Times

QLD	I am locked down.
QUA	I am quarantined.
QPD	I am in the middle of a pandemic.
QTP	I have toilet paper. Want to trade for a new car?
QHG	I need a hug.
QSH	I am sheltering at home.
QHS	I have hand sanitizer. Want to trade for two new cars?
QSD	I am observing social distancing.
QCV!	I hate Coronavirus.
QWH	Wash your Hands
QWH?	Did you Wash your Hands?
QSS	Stay Safe



Remember
W6TO FD in
2012 from Pine
Ridge School up
by Crestman's?

The latest fire
made a mess of
the area, and
many lost homes
and cabins, in-
cluding Michael,
W6YDE, and
Ken, WA6OIB.



The QCWA meets on the fourth Monday on 146.85 repeater at 7:15 P.M.

Ham Radio Mantra

We're all mostly stuck at home.

Let's do some radio therapy and have fun on the air!

Everyone works everyone and with stay-at-home there should be beaucoup activity.

Forty-eight plus days of fun.

Rules:

1. Stay away from people.
2. Wash hands frequently
3. Don't touch face.
4. Turn off TV news.
5. Take care of each other.

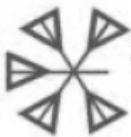
Operate Exuberantly!

"This is Ham Radio" Film (vintage 1970 with excerpts from 1969).

Re-mastered by ARRL and officially posted onto YouTube in on 10/24/11:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nuIExTh4CF8>

We are amateur radio operators! We have been the masters of "virtual" technology for over a hundred years and have been leaders all that time in bringing the kind of instant, distance connectivity to the world that makes it possible in this moment for so much in our civilization to carry on, even when we are personally separated.



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k6mi@pacbell.net for next month's
Skip

Your add or card here!
Talk to the treasurer about the yearly fee!

10-15 meter
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559.432.8873 Fax 559.432.3059 website: www.m2inc.com

FOR SALE:
An almost brand new, fully assembled, multi-band, portable "wire" antenna complete with handy soft plastic carrying case. End insulators included.
Just supply a center insulator and a mast (or pull it up a tree) and you'll be ready for some 20m action.
Use as an inverted V for a perfect 50 ohm match.
Perfect for FT8, FM, or SSB.
Can be simply adjusted for 2m, 6m, 10m, 15m, 17m, or 20m.
Will take best serious offer.



ki6qel@sbcglobal.net

Jesus Larralde
jesuslm@csufresno.edu
I am looking to buy a used SWR meter in working condition. Please replay to this email address.
Thank you, J.L.

For Sale:

From the N2NS estate, 20-6m Stepper beam, US-54 tower and rotator. \$3,000.

From the N6IG estate, 40 meter (with wire sides for 30, 20, 15, & 10M) DX Engineering 30' tilt over vertical with radials. \$50. New-500\$

Contact John, K6MI for details 559-275-7373, or email at k6mi@pacbell.net

For Sale

1. Yaesu G5500 az/el rotator w/50 ft. control cables - \$650
2. K3NG Arduino rotator controller/interface for above - \$75

TNX/73, Richard N6FUB (559) 285-9772

I'm looking for a 2 mtr rig so i can get on roll calls name is Marcus kG6GNY
thks again to club KG6QNY
marcus93711@gmail.com

Fresno Amateur Radio Club

Renew now for the new year!

Fresno Amateur Radio Club (FARC) Membership Application

Name _____ Call _____ \$20 Dues _____ Date _____

Street Address City State Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____

Email ADR _____ (for delivery of Skip Newsletter)

License Class _____ Year 1st Licensed _____

Birthday (Month/Day) _____ Wedding Anniversary (Month/Day) _____

ARRL Member? _____

Additional Family Member(s) in same household (\$5 each)

Spouse Name _____ Call _____

Son/Daughter Name _____

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

