

A Fresno Amateur Radio Club Newsletter May, 2022 Volume 85, Issue 5



Dues! The Fresno ARC encourages all old and new members to fill out the form on the last page of any Skip and send with checks to the club P.O. Box. Remember to make checks out to "Fresno Amateur Radio Club, INC."

# **Presidents message**

# FARC Next Meeting Friday, May 13 at 7 P.M.

Derrel's Mini Storage Inc. 3239 W Ashlan Ave, Fresno, CA, 93722

FARC BOARD MEET-ING 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

# Web page:

W6to.com

Swap Meet Sat. morning Nov. 12, 2022 I am celebrating the beginning of Spring, as should all hams!

Ten meters should open up even more, and CW fans can expand their horizon and all hams should enjoy the wonderful blue skies and wonderful days of this Spring.

Don't forget, this is the time now to restring your dipole antennas if the winter's ice knocked them down.

For all you music lovers, lay down your instrument and get to practicing listening to and sending CW -and listen for more DX.

There is one command that applies to all you hobbyists-ENJOY!

Stu WB6VRJ

# QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Association) will meet again on Sept. 27th. 12 noon Tuesday, at Jeb's Blueberry Hill Cafe 3851 N Blackstone Ave Fresno CA 93726

The April 26. 2022 12 noon Tuesday meeting was enjoyed by a small group, and they made plans to continue the on the air meetings on the Monday night before the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 P.M., with the next in person meeting in September.

On the air meetings are on the QWCA repeater, 146.85Mc.



15m beam repair at K6MI

Due to a cracked gamma match the home made 5 el. 15m beam was no longer working. With help from Mike, K6MYC, a direct feed with hairpin was devised, and with Rob, KM6SRR's help the driven element was put back on the beam. The beam now has good SWR through out the band, and is back in use.

Also repaired at the same time was the home made 4 el. 17m beam, made out of an old HyGain 20m beam. It had worked well, but then gave out, showing high

SWR. Once up the tower in a lift, a few quick tests showed the balun was bad, and a quick switch was made with a spare that was luckily on hand. All good on that repair. John K6MI





FARC- New Members! 2022 dues now due! Stay on the membership list! 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

# **FARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

FARC Officers and Board members:

Stuart Home, WB6VRJ President wb6vrj@w6to.com (559) 485-8659 Ken Holden, WA6OIB VP wa6oib@w6to.com (559) 323-6753 Mike Chico KM6MRT Treas. km6mrt@w6to.com (559 277-8918 12/2023 12/2022 12/2022 Jim Erbe, W6NIF Sec. w6nif@w6to.com (559) 222-7524 12/2022 larrylion2@outlook.com (559) 227-5159 Larry Lion, W60WL 12/2022 Dennis Holloway, KI6NVG dki6nvg@hotmail.com (559) 323-7386 12/2023 Rob Egan, KM6SRR egan@netptc.net 559) 281-4730 12/2023

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You can download this and past Skip issues under the Document Archive menu by visiting w6to.com.

On the even years four directors are elected, and on odd years three directors are elected.

For sale adds on the next to last page of Skip!

Take advantage of the opportunity, send your adds to K6MI at pacbell.net

FARC Meeting 7 P.M. Friday, May 13

FARC Meeting 7 P.M. Friday, June 11

June 12-13 VHF Contest

June 25-26 FD

FARC Meeting 7 P.M. Friday, July 8

FARC Picnic Sat. In August?

FARC Meeting 7 P.M. Friday Sept. 9

QCWA lunch at noon, Sept. 27

FARC Meeting 7 P.M. Friday, Oct. 14

FARC Swap Sat. morning, Nov. 12

FARC Dinner Friday, Dec. 9

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 3918 khz, 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 3.857.5 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, 7:30 P.M. 144.24 Mc. USB Monday 220 Mc. 7:30 P.M. USB 222.1 Mc

Tuesday 7:30 P.M. USB 1296.1 Mc. Thursday 7:30 P.M. 432.1 SSB net Wednesday 7 P.M. 10M cw net, 28.140 Wednesday 8 P.M. 10M ssb net 28.445

Every Wednesday night is an enjoyable time for all ham operators. At 7PM local time, there is a CW net on 28.140 MHz-the NCS is Guss, KF6ZXO-and he welcomes all hams regardless of CW speed-yeah-I have heard both really slow and one or two really fast. Then around 8 PM local, there is the USB net on 28.445 MHz.

# 40M helical ant from Jim W6NIF

Hi..It is working! What I did was take the long stinger off while I had the antenna laid over. I have the antenna wire still jumpered on one of the exposed wire. I raised it back to vertical, ran the RF test and lo and behold the power out was 200W with hardly any reflected.

I read some on capacitance hats and I should get the circular hat built. The added extension of the stinger just made the system collapse.

I worked LA, VE2 land and TN. All gave me good signals and mine to them was good.

So will get some brass rods and make a hat like my 160M one and see what happens. Right now, no hat. The wire is open ended right now making a 1/2 wave antenna I think.

I got up at 05:30 to see what was going on with 40M. Well, my antenna surprised me. I called and called hams from all over and finally an Australian worked me! After that, I called others and worked DU7JAY in the Philippines, then another Aussy, then Indonesia, Japan and another Aussy. Got signals from -02 to-16. I quit around 06:45 and got some coffee. I never worked Australia on 40 before (probably I never thought I could with any antenna).

Been working 160 as well. Perry, K6XJ gave me a call too. So don't know if I need a capacitance hat on the 40 or not. Would that change my angle and more receiver gain by doing that? Think I'll read up on capacitance hats.



Last night I worked Europe on 30M with my FT1000 and inverted V. Croatia, Austria, Finland and then Chile, all around 8 to 10PM. There were a lot on at that time.

Of course, 10 was open then too. My 10M beacon is being heard well. Hawaii heard it today. Not bad for the DX-70 and AV620. Yesterday or day before was Canada. I used an Alinco DX-70T, a Cushcraft AV-620 antenna and a Freakin' Beacon. Running about 60W.

Still have lots of rabbits in my yards. Oh well.

Was nice to get this beacon report:

#### Hi Jim

Your beacon was 579 in SW Ontario this afternoon on 10 meters. Receiving antenna here is a 2 element tri band yagi at 33 feet. 73, Rick VE3PP

Here are my 3 helical antennas I built and work nicely for me. I used Bill Orr's book and K6MM's idea for 160M, a helically wound vertical, 1/2 wavelength of wire (on each of my antennae).

One photo has the 3 antennas I built installed in a small area of land. Those are the 160, 80 and 40M helicals. The 3 inch tubing I bought at Fresno Ag.

The other photo is showing the 80m close by and my newest being the 40M one. This one I don't have a capacitance hat on it yet. It does work okay without one. Getting good signal reports via FT8 and FT4.



So the 40M antenna works okay. The windings start up the pole about 8ft in the air, not at near ground level like the other 2.

Just wanted to say that helicals work to a degree and don't take up much space. Don't really need radials but I have a few.

Local Amateur Radio Repeaters

	Local / lillaccal	itaaio itepeat	CIO	
<u>Organization</u>	Call Sign	Frequency	Offset	<u>PL</u>
CARP	K6ARP	146.865	-	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	927.6625/902.012	25 -	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	KJ6OUG	147.150	+	141.3
KE6JZ	KE6JZ	146.820	-	141.3
TURLOCK ARC	W6BXN	147.030	+	100.0
Fresno Low	K6WGJ	145.43	+	141.3
Meadow	N6VRC	147.165	+	141.3
Meadow	N6VRC	440.025	+	141.3
Santa Rita	N6VRC	147.285	+	141.3
Santa Rita	N6VRC	442.275	+	141.3
Visalia	N6VRC	442.525	+	141.3
Porterville	N6VRC	443.825	+	141.3
Fresno Low	K6WGJ	444.975	+	141.3
Bear Mt.	N6VRC	443.950	+	141.3
Mt. Bullion	N6VRC	442.350	+	141.3
Bear	N6VRC	927.05	+	141.3
Meadow Lakes	WA6OIB	146.61	-	141.3
WA6IPZ	WA6IPZ	52.84	-	82.5

# Birthdays

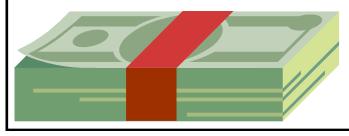
5/16 John KJ6HBF

# **Anniversaries**

5/05 Mary and Dave KA6VTA 5/12 Craig W6CMR 5/15 Earnest KN6RQI 5/27 Bonnie and Gary KM6CVB Ten meter net, CW and Phone, every Wednesday 7 P.M. for CW at 28.140 8 P.M. for SSB at 28.445

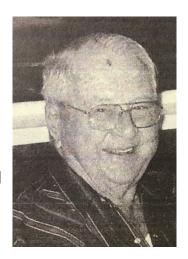
This is a local net, the cw part run by KF6ZXO, and the SSB with various net control ops.. Have fun checking in on one or both modes.

# The monthly attendance prize! The winner, Greg KM6GSO, was not present at the April drawing of \$10. Next drawing will be \$20, at the May meeting.



Douglas Johnson WA6YYY March 31, 1924 - April 25, 2022

Fresno, California - Douglas passed away peacefully the evening of April 25, 2022, at the age of 98 surrounded by his wife and family after experiencing several small strokes over the last few months.



He was born in Los Angeles, California to John D. and Maud (Tinkler) Johnson. He attended Fairfax High School in West Los Angeles. He moved to Fresno after high school to begin his life working on a farm with his favorite horse and dog and leading packing trips in the high country. He joined the Navy in 1944 and was stationed in the Philippines where he ran heavy equipment. After his discharge, he began a new career of working in the building business with his brother-in-law Jack Reed and his father. Eventually he became a general building contractor and built many custom homes designed by him or his father. He married a farmer's daughter (Mary Ann Lieder), he began farming vineyards in the Biola area on weekends and between construction jobs. He left the building business to become a full-time farmer in about 1964.

Over his life, he owned Central Cabinet Shop, had a Dutch Boy Paint dealership, began MD Ranches and the Chaser Tool Company where he invented several tools. He could fix and do just about anything and quit driving tractors at the age of 92. Besides being a World II Veteran, he was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, great-grandfather, great-grandfather, ham radio operator, model railroader and friend to anyone that would listen to his many stories.

He and his wife Mary Ann loved to travel in their motorhome where they met friends all over the United States. He is survived by his wife of almost 74 years, Mary Ann, his sister Patricia Dickey, son John Johnson (Joy), son Larry Johnson (Libby), daughter Linda Day (Bob), 9 grand-children, 12 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. Graveside service will be held at Fresno Memorial Gardens, May 5 at 1:00 P.M.

WA6YYY Out!

# **Tube of the Month**

# 806

I was getting serious about getting my ham license in 1959. In our small town, my father, W6LLA, and his best friend, W6LID, were possibly the first hams in town having received their calls in 1934.

I had been looking at the ARRL handbook, but I had never visited a real ham shack. My father drove me across town to visit a ham friend who had a big homebrew amplifier. The amplifier was classic 1950s construction. It was built in a rack with a big butterfly capacitor and plug in coils. The tubes were RCA 806s in push pull. Once when this amplifier was driving an end fed wire using ladder line, the shingles of the house caught fire where the feeders got too close to the roof.

RCA came out with the 806 in 1937 and it was obviously an attempt to offer a clone of EIMAC's 250T. The 806 was very similar to the 250T except for the large plate and grid caps but was rated at a bit less dissipation (225 watts). The filament voltage and current were the same as the 250T as well as the amplification factor which was close to the 250T "LO" type. The 806 was made for years by several manufacturers. In spite of the long production life, I have actually only seen a few examples which may indicate that it was not as popular as the competition.

Visit the museum at N6JV.com

Norm N6JV





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Anything to sell? Send info to k6mi@pacbell.net for next month's Skip

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

For Sale:

Ameritron AL-811H amplifier, clean, 10-160m, wired for 120v \$750 Larry ad6w@arrl.net



This coat was left at the November Swap Meet and needs to find it's owner. Anyone recognize it? Talk to Larry, W6OWL





# Wanted

I am looking for NOS audio tubes I.e. New old stock.

I am looking for: 6L6, el34/6ca7, 12ax7, 12at7, el-84/6bq5, react tubes: 5ar4, 5z4
Any help would be very much appreciated.
Aram KD6STR 433-9611

# Fresno Amateur Radio Club — Membership Application

Name	Call	_\$20 DuesDa	ıte
Street Address City State	Zip		
Home Phone ()	Cell Phone (_	)	
Email ADR		(for delivery	of Skip Newsletter
License Class	Year 1st Licensed		
	Wedding Annive		Day)
Additional Family Memb	 er(s) in same household (\$5	each)	
Spouse Name	Call_		_
Son/Daughter Name			
Make checks out to: Free	sno Amateur Radio Club. Ind	. (Do not abb	reviate)

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