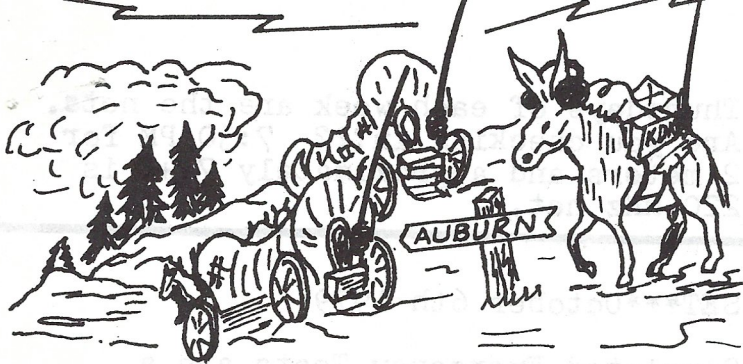




NEWS LETTER

SIERRA FOOTHILLS
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OCTOBER 1979

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

I'd like to title this "Great Expectations," but Charles Dickens thought of it first. However now that I've given credit where it is due, I'll proceed to plagiarize with impunity. (Besides they didn't have copyright laws back then!)

The "expectations" I'm talking about of course were those we all had for this year's Field Day results. And did they ever come through! For the benefit of anyone who hasn't seen or heard about it elsewhere, the SFARC placed third in the nation in the nine transmitter, medium power category. The important thing to realize as you look at the rankings is that we scored only slightly higher than the rest of the pack just beneath us. To be specific, while our raw score got us in the ballpark, it was our bonus points that clinched the victory (see August "Newsletter", page 3). While it's reasonable to ask just what message handling, emergency power, press releases, and the rest have to do with Field Day; remember that the bottom line is that June 23rd and 24th constitute the only exposure many hams and the general public will have all year to the disaster preparedness aspects of amateur radio. In the long run only PICON matters. . . there's no other reason for our continued existence.

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times" (Take that, Charlie boy!) I noticed that K5DGL/S claimed supremacy in the subcategory, "Most generators used in any one Field Day -4" I think we had them beat, if my recollection of how many pollution producers we had "functioning" (I use the word very loosely) during the night is correct. Mostly I recall all the irate comments towards OPEC when gas gulpers' owners realized how much money they had donated to the club in terms of petroleum consumed for watts and candlepower produced. Guess next year we'll have to tap the club treasury for gas Money for the generator gang. Or . . . we could set up those solar panels and windmills we talked about. Then we would have even more of a genuine emergency operating capability, save our club's money get additional bonus points, and tell the OPECers to "stuff it" besides. How about it? The choice is yours!

The next issue of the "Newsletter" you read will hopefully have the list of candidates for the November elections. That's how close we are--less than four weeks to identify and publish the statements of the slate of hams who will be guiding your club next year. Please . . .if you want to run for a club position, let one of this year's officers know. If you know of someone else who is qualified and willing, let us know. The SFARC needs your help for professional leadership next year.

See you at the picnic.

Craig K4TXK

Society News- - -

Ed Anselmo KB6GX, and his wife Rosalee entertained Knud Andersen OZ1BOD and his wife Gunhild OZ1BNZ who stayed with them for eight days while in this country. Along with the Anselmos, they went to Yosemite and spent three of the days in San Francisco sightseeing and on the Anselmo sailboat.

Ed and Rosalee had a buffet dinner in honor of the Andersens. Attending were friends, neighbors, and fellow hams.

Knud works as a civilian with the Royal Danish Air Force, and his wife Gunhild is a pharmacist. They have one married daughter.

The Andersens have their town home in Viborg and their country home is nearby. Both are equipped with radio gear. You may be able to contact them in the early morning hours.

OCTOBER POTLUCK -Sunday Oct. 14

12 noon til ???

Scheduled for the month of the great pumpkin, is the annual picnic. This means there will be no Thursday meeting on the second Thursday of the month.

If at all possible, we are asking that the people bring a dish to the potluck according to the breakdown:



- A-F Relishes, salads, vegetable dishes.
- G-N Hot Dishes, casseroles
- O-T Desert dishes
- U-Z Rolls butter, catsup, chips dips pickles

(By Call, your cook's)
Soft drinks will be furnished, and each person or family brings their own table service and utensils

We hope this arrangement meets with the approval of all, however if it isn't satisfactory to anyone, they may bring whatever they wish.

LOCATION: Auburn Regional (Chana) Park

Thursdays of each week are the nets. Are you checking in??? 7:30 PM for 2 meters and approximately 7:45 is 220 MHz net.

SET***October 6th 1979

Simulated Emergency Tests are a function of Amateur Radio and are sponsored by the ARRL and are coordinated with the American Red Cross. This year, for the first time two were held. The first in early spring and the second on Oct. 6th.

Red Cross representative, Barbara Burns, was on hand at the Carmichael Elks Club as their disaster services representative. She was very impressed with the communication program which was demonstrated and active on six VHF/UHF repeaters. All communications were through emergency power supplies.

The Carmichael Elks Club has a group who maintain an amateur radio station complete with emergency generator power. This location is very good for people in the Eastern area, and the club has been happy to participate in another community minded service. They also had a free lunch for all who participated at that command post.

Twenty-nine amateurs worked in the Saturday test. Those from the Sierra Foothills Club were Ed KB6GX and Ceil WB6PBS.

SET--LOOKING AHEAD

In the future, the Red Cross and Emergency Coordinators for SET will try to get a list compiled of those who have had training in CPR and would like for each club to maintain a record of this and the Blood Type of each club member and the type of each member of their families. No date has been set for this.

Editor's Comment: I'm sure some people do not know what type of blood their own family members have. It could be a life saver to have the information quickly available.)

With the acquisition of a ham license, an individual is supposed to be transformed overnight into an instant electronics technician. Most neighbors, friends and family think so anyway. When word gets out that Joe recently got his ticket, he is soon besieged with requests to analyze, repair, or overhaul assortments of calculators, toasters, electronic ignition systems. Since our mythical Joe earns his living as an accountant, he will not entertain thoughts of charging for any projects accepted, especially for those dear neighbors, friends and family members who are entrusting their valuable possessions to his skilled hands. Most notably, however is the fact that the entrusters usually do not harbor any thoughts of paying entrustees for services rendered or parts bought.

Many years ago, after I was first licensed as a ham and thinking now that I know the difference between an ohm and a farad, nothing can be too tough to fix. Armed with all my accumulated knowledge, I graciously accepted the challenge to repair an errant TV belonging to a fellow office worker. The complicated things a skilled technician looks for when trouble-shooting such as unplugged line cords, blown fuses, and tripped breakers had already been thought of by the owners and it looked more and more like I had taken on a real dog.

With no test equipment or tools, nothing but an uncanny knowledge of everything electronic, it was decided to remove the "patient" to better examining facilities (namely my workbench-- and I didn't even live in the same town). I failed to grasp the significance when the lady of the house brushed away a tear while we were disconnecting and loading the TV in my vehicle. It was as if an only child was going to the hospital with a critical undiagnosed ailment.

My evenings for the next two weeks were spent not without interruption to answer and provide detailed progress reports on when they could again view the Howdy Doody Show. The phone calls were supplemented with special daily briefings upon arrival at work. Not wishing to admit my ignorance, I expanded on the complicated tests I had run, using such technical terms as raster, audio, video, flyback and AGC. The owner, being even more ignorant, and apparently overwhelmed by the complex jargon, kept his trust.

Finally in desperation, I consulted with a fellow amateur, far more worldly than I. He introduced me to a friend for life-Sam. After a speedy trip to the local parts house and a dole out of two bucks (an astronomical sum in those days), I procured the appropriate Sam's Photo-fact folder. Two hours later I was looking Ed Sullivan right in the eye. The problem turned out to be an almost invisible break in a printed circuit board. I later found out that this problem baffled 3 other so-called TV repairmen, at least one of whom failed to reinstall the correct tubes to all sockets.

The owners were so gratified in getting their long lost TV back that they even offered me a cup of coffee. Renumeration was never mentioned by anyone, after all, what are friends for. I soon found out that my repair effort carried a lifetime guarantee. Any problem subsequently encountered with that set brought an immediate request for service. The only thing that eventually saved me was my acceptance of a job transfer to a faraway place.

Mr. Fixit--Cont.

Some hams will even admit they have no abilities to effect proper repairs on their own equipment and will sometimes openly solicit other hams to perform above and beyond the call of compensation. Caustic comments are sometimes overheard on the local repeater when timely deliveries of repaired components are not forthcoming.

If you have the urge to demonstrate your electronic prowess when Aunt Sadie's electric blanket craps out, just remember even though the Fire Chief missed it in his investigation of the rubble, Aunt Sadie will believe to her dying day that the repair job you did 5 years ago was the culprit that burned her house down.

--from "The Satellite Orbit" de W6SD Carrier

EDITORIAL

If there is anyone who would like to take over the newsletter for the coming year, please bring this out at the meeting in November.

I would gladly show them how I have handled it from this end of the typewriter, and would welcome them to a new and interesting episode in life.

The time involved in writing as much as I have done is rather lengthy. Perhaps not so much is needed in a newsletter. However, since our letter covers a rather large area and prohibits long distance driving to each meeting for some, we still enjoy reaching out to our far-a-way members.

WB6PBS Ceil

People who know the least seem to know it the loudest.

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V.P. Doug WB6HEV 966-3291
5466 Burr Oak Way Fair Oaks, 95628

NOVEMBER MEETING

This meeting is perhaps one of the most important of the year as the officers are elected for the coming year.

Please think carefully who you wish to represent you. Come prepared to express your wishes, and above all try to come and vote.

On the other hand, if you wish to run for an office, and really want the job, reach out and let the club members know that you would like it.

If you are bashful or hesitant about holding an office, rest assured that others will be there to help guide you in the role, and the past officers will also help.

The responsibilities are not as time consuming and demanding as some might think, and a feeling of closeness to your club members develops as you work with fellow officers.

Think about it, get involved a little more, and see if you don't get more out of your club.

Congratulations to John and Caroline as our new members to SFARC

WA6AKK Caroline Brand 3462 Stagecoach Trail Loomis, Ca. 95650 652-5015
K6WC John D. Brand 3462 Stagecoach Trail Loomis, Ca. 95650 652-5015
Business (916)482-3795

BRIEF NOTES 'n NEWS- - -

George W. Connelly, who had open heart surgery last month is doing well. In fact, he took his novice exam on Oct. 4, 79. Examiner was Ceil WB6PBS. The club wishes him best of luck on the test, and will be awaiting his call letters.

FOR SALE:

Yaesu FT 620 B
50-52 MHz SSB, AM, CW

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Leon WB6NMT
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Misc. Gear Call for prices.
Sid WA6PHL
Orangevale 726-1507

And Good Health to All.

Doug, WB6HEV is back enjoying better health after his heart condition.

Mike, WB6SQB, is back working after his hang glider accident, but is still in a cast.

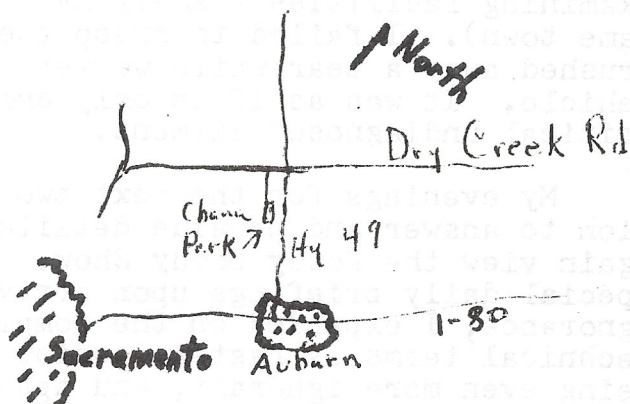
Bob WA6EBI, is also doing well and back to work

THANK YOU- - -

A special thank you to the businesses who came to the Trades Fair at our September meeting. Those who did come successfully sold some of their wares and did become acquainted with a nice group of club members. And our club members enjoyed meeting a few of the businessmen and women on a less materialistic atmosphere. So we did appreciate your coming and sincerely thank you.

COMING EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS

OCTOBER 14 Sunday--Picnic Potluck--
Beginning at 12PM. Location--
Auburn Regional (Chana) Park
Take Hy 49 to Dry Creek Road
where you turn left. Go one
block and make another left.
Park is on the left as you go
up the hill.
This map is not to scale.



November 8. Election of officers for 1980. This is the regular monthly meeting. Please come. 7:30 PM Bowman School. I-80 to Bowman turnoff. Take left to the stop sign and turn right. School is 2 blocks ahead.

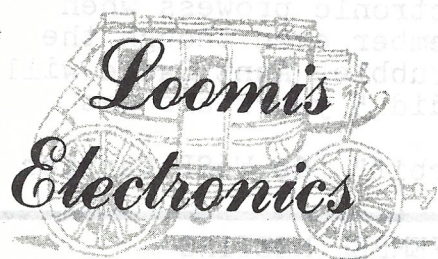
November 10. Breakfast at Carrows Hickory Chip. 9 AM on Saturday. Location: 8034 Greenback Lane Citrus Heights, Ca.

December 13. Big Christmas Party with the grand prize of the year. Incidentally, the new officers will take over. Hi!!

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club is a non-profit organization conforming to all FCC Rules and regulations.

John K6WC

Carolyn WA6AKK



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