

JANUARY 2003

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# SHORT SKIP



## Member Profile — Frank Carroll K6BDK



K6BDK circa 1980 (not much has changed)

**W**hen asking a ham of many years about their achievements it is not unusual to hear of something that happened in the early days—not so with Frank. His reply was a recent contact with a Russian station in Antarctica on PSK31. This says a lot about Frank's enthusiasm and adaptability to technology and personal limits. 6 meter SSB and HF cw DX are rare events for Frank these days but their loss has meant only a shift of activity. PSK 31 now provides an important operating mode being visual rather than audible with a special interest in 2 meters.

Frank was first licensed in 1952 and he and others including Dave K6GHA are credited with reviving the club some 40 years ago. Frank charts the evolution of his ham activity from bedroom to family room to dedicated shack over the past 50 years. One of Frank's popular phrases is "then reality sets in" what a great outlook in life.

Today one is not surprised to hear that Frank had just recently been working on our club station and assisting to refurbish a Red Cross emergency services trailer. Frank regularly attends club and CAKE meetings. When asked what he would like the club to do more of in the future Frank replies that he would

like to see other club projects akin to the establishment of our repeater system.

Both Frank and Charlotte are Santa Cruz natives they met in High School and recently celebrated 50th anniversary. Our congratulations to you both.

So once again we should pay tribute to one of the most stalwart, cheerful and resourceful members of our club.



One of a collection of old tubes.

## CLUB MEETING

### Happy New Year 2003 to all radio amateurs!

Here we go...one more year...2003. Our first meeting will be Jan. 17th and we will meet in rooms B2/C upstairs in the Ed. Bldg. behind Dominican Hospital.

We will be privileged to have a very special speaker. Ron W6WO, will be speaking on the topics "Digital signals, modes, and filters". This is a must attend meeting! Be advised, Feb. 21st meeting and March meeting will be held downstairs main bldg. Conference rooms 2 and 3. I will be reminding you each month.

Happy New Year to all, your V.P... YRD

**CLUB MEETING FRIDAY JANUARY 17, 7:30P.M.**

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Published 12 times per year.  
Free to members.

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## ARES NEWS



By Art Lee WF6P

**S**torms. Oh boy, aren't we glad we don't live on some of those south Pacific Islands. I read where one island in the Solomon's group, Tikopia, was hit by a 225 mph typhoon. The main village was wiped out by monstrous waves and wind. Houses were gone, as well as their crops and coconut trees. Guam was hit a month earlier. I've been through a couple of typhoons and they are no fun. On my first two year tour on Guam, we lived in Quonset huts built during the war by Seabees. They were lashed to cement blocks by large steel cables. These were no match for mother nature however, and we were lucky to sustain no higher winds than 150 mph. Some of the larger huts blew away or collapsed. Others had the wooden ends blown out and all the bunks and lockers were lost. Being hit by a flying piece of sheet metal can ruin your day. Years later, aboard the aircraft carrier USS Oriskany (CV-34), we skirted around another typhoon headed toward Japan. The flight deck tilted to a dangerous angle and we were worried that we might capsize. We were running from the storm but the seas looked like mountains off our stern.

(Later reports said that most of the Tikopia population appeared to have survived. I'm



## Prez Sez

The elected officers and new board have plenty of work to do this year. Please help by spearheading a committee or two! Remember that the more members contribute to our club the more fun it is. If everyone gives a little participation the combined benefit is huge! Jim is hard at work preparing another year of great speakers. Cap and Elaine will be doing there thing with member sign ups and general business. Ron I know is hard at work with Short Skip. Our board has it's hands full with the list of projects we want to accomplish. It's nice to think about the fun this year will bring our club. Thanks for joining us, glad to be part of the excitement.

Your friend Richard

sure they had caves or other places of refuge to hide in as the natives of Guam do.)

Well, nothing like this will happen in Santa Cruz, but we still have to be ready for communications and power outages. PG&E workers put in many hours in the rain stringing up new power lines here in the county. I talked to a few as they worked one night on Western Drive. Light trucks were set up and diesel generators hummed. One worker was up in the bucket, splicing in new support cable and power lines. Snapped off tree limbs had done the damage. It was very cold and they had been working for days with little rest. I was thankful to go back into my house where we were warm and out of the rain. As ARES members, we have to be prepared to dress warmly if we are outdoors during emergencies. A thermos of hot coffee, tea or cocoa is recommended to provide some internal warmth.



Ghost of the "Old" ARES Van.

From Rich Hanset, KI6EH: Congrats to George Smith for his upgrade to Extra Class. George is the EC - - Loma Prieta ARES. His new call sign is AE6KE.

**D**ear Radio club members, Happy New Year! May it be a healthy and happy one. Last year was a great year and the club seems very strong indeed. Speaking of Health, its good to hear Dan AA6GD back at it. I'm glad your doing well Dan.

This year looks like it's going to start off like gang busters. Lots of club projects to work on including the 450 repeater and the club HF station.

## THE 5 MEGS EXPERIMENT: ARRL SAYS ITS WAITING FOR A NEW BAND

**T**he ARRL is out of the 5 Mhz experiment and is now hoping for for the creation of a new ham band.

The ARRL has permitted its WA2XSY experimental license for 5 Mhz to expire on January 1st. The League says that it is now pinning its hopes on the FCC to establish a new ham band in that spectrum but admits that it is facing some stiff opposition.

An ARRL bulletin says that starting in January 1999, 15 Amateur Radio clubs and individual hams took part in the 5-Mhz experimental operation that basically concluded in 2002. Through these operations the ARRL says that it obtained sufficient information to justify its petition for creation of the new band.

Last May, the FCC proposed going along with the ARRL's request to create a new domestic secondary High Frequency allocation from 5.25 to 5.4 Mhz. But in August the National Telecommunica-



By Art Lee WF6P

## CHATTER

I attended the annual night-before-New Years Eve party held for musicians in Santa Clara. My old pal, Ron Deeter, K6FSB, was there with the bands, playing Dixieland Jazz. He plays a mean clarinet and is better than Pete Fountain (who's he?). Ron is often Net Control on the 80 meter Western Public Service Net. The party was great, with professional musicians from all over the state banging out some great ragtime and jazz. One of the reasons the party is given on the night prior to the big night is that most play gigs and are hard at work New Years Eve. When the party was over, my not-so-young piano teacher, sister-in-law and I drove back over Highway 17. The wind hit and rain came down in buckets. The windshield wipers could barely keep up. The few cars on the road actually felt their way along at walking speed between the huge puddles and rivers of water and mud flowing across the road. I was straining my eyes looking out for rocks or tree limbs in our path. When we arrived in Santa Cruz at my piano teacher's home, we congratulated ourselves on our safe trip. The rain had somewhat abated and I did something I never do, I sat in the driver's seat, buckled up, as my piano teacher got out of the Ford F-150. I normally help her out of the vehicle as there is no running board on the truck. (OK, what's a running board?) She never has any trouble but as she climbed down, holding onto her purse and umbrella, she lost her hold on the door and fell. She let out a little yelp as my sister-in-law

grabbed her by the back of her jacket and held her up. Whew! That was a close one and it could have been bad. Fortunately, my sister-in-law acted quickly and saved the day (it was 0230).

I missed the January meeting of the San Lorenzo Valley Amateur Radio club, despite the K6BJ announcement. Long time friend JV Rudnick, K6HJU, is the President and doing a great job with the club. The topic was amateur satellite communications. Not that I was going to get involved in that pursuit, still, it would have been interesting. Suellene Petersen, KG6MBT, is the Secretary and sometimes acting Treasurer. Suellene is a fantastic artist and writer of children's books. For her upcoming book, she has completed about 20 beautiful color illustrations. She, Leon Fletcher, AA6ZG, and I often have lunch together to discuss writing. In her spare time she is a CPA.

We were all happy to hear Dan Anderson, AA6GD, back on the air and doing well. Atta boy, Dan. We need you.

There was some discussion on the k6bj reflector concerning construction and future projects for the club station. I casually mentioned to Jeff Liebermann, WB6SSY, that setting up a EME station would be interesting. In typical Jeff fashion, he came back with this reply:

"Because I don't know anything about EME. I also don't know anything about contesting, HF propagation, DX, satellite operation, beacons, lowfers, QRP, slow scan, HF packet, CW, and probably another dozen or so modes and techniques. The danger is always that he who suggests something will instantly become in charge of making it happen. Therefore, I only suggesting (sic) items that I know need to be done, or that I know I can accomplish. Don't worry, the list will shortly grow to an unmanageable size. "

Boy! Is that statement ever true! I got a good chuckle out of it. It should be chiseled in stone for all of us. However, we don't want to start listing all the things we each DON'T know. That would be embarrassing.

tions and Information Administration requested that the Commission not go forward with the proposal. The NTIA says that several government agencies with allocations in the proposed spectrum had expressed reservations about sharing the spectrum with hams.

But the ARRL is still very hopeful the new band can be created. In fact, it has been working with the government to resolve the impasse. Meantime, the FCC has yet to act on the 5 Mhz request.

The ARRL says that the new allocation at 5 MHz is an urgent priority for Amateur Radfo. It says such an allocation

## TEST EXAMS

### QST QST QST

There will be an Amateur Radio exam the first Saturday of February, March, and April at UCSC.

### Next session:

When: Saturday, February 1, 10:30am

Where: UCSC, Baskin Engineering Building, BE152

Parking is free on weekends and evenings. Please park in the parking structure located at the intersection of Heller Dr and McLaughlin Dr, Santa Cruz, CA. Baskin Engineering is across the street from the parking structure. Stay away from spaces reserved for specific purposes. They might be enforced 24hrs a day and might require a special permit.

If you are not familiar with the campus, see <http://maps.ucsc.edu/>

If you get lost, we will be listening to 147.540 simplex before the exam starts. If you have never been up to UCSC or haven't been up there recently, please leave early in case you get lost. It is very easy to get disoriented.

If you haven't been to a Sunnyvale VEC exam before or don't know what to bring, please check this page: <http://www.amateur-radio.org/bring.htm>

All four elements will be available. No registration is required. Don't forget to bring \$10. Our VEC is Sunnyvale VEC ARC, Inc.

For more information on the VEC: <http://amateur-radio.org/>

For more information on Amateur Radio at UCSC:

<http://iee.cse.ucsc.edu/ham/>

—Eric, AE6HZ



would enhance emergency communication activities by filling a propagation gap that exists between the 80 and 40 meter bands. In the meantime, experimental operations on 5 MHz continue on a limited basis in the United Kingdom and in Canada. (ARRL)

—Amateur Radio Newline

## SCCARC Officers - 2003

<b>President</b>	Richard Trebbien	KG6AXD	426-0169
<b>Vice President</b>	Jim Welty	KF6YRD	685-9225
<b>Secretary</b>	Cap Pennell	KE6AFE	429-1290
<b>Treasurer</b>	Elaine Pennell	KE6FRA	429-1290
<b>Board</b>	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	
	Vic Linderholm	AE6ID	476-5567
	Allen Fugelseh	WB6RWU	475-8846
	Mike Doern	KF6UXB	477-1161
	Ron Skelton	W6WO	477-1021
<b>K6BJ Trustee</b>	Royce Krilanovich	AC6Z	475-4798

## MONTEREY BAY ACTIVITY

SCCARC Repeaters: K6BJ 146.790- PL 94.8 Santa Cruz ( linked w/Watsonville full time)  
KI6EH 147.945- PL 94.8 Watsonville (linked w/Santa Cruz full time)  
K6BJ 440.925+ PL 123.0 Santa Cruz  
• SCCARC Net Monday 7:30 PM 146.79- /147.945- /440.925+ linked  
• SCCARC 10 Meter Net 28.308 MHz USB Monday 7:00 PM  
• SCARES Net Monday 8:30 PM 146.835-(PL 94.8)

SLVARC Repeater WR6AOK 147.120+ PL 94.8 Ben Lomond  
• SLVARC Net Thursday 7:30 PM

SLVARES N6IYA 146.745- PL 94.8 Felton  
• SLVRC Net Thursday 7:30 PM  
• ARES Net Monday 7:30 PM

NPSARC K6LY 146.97- PL 94.8 / 444.700+ PL 123 (linked) Monterey  
• Monterey ARES Net Wednesday 7:30 PM  
• NPSARC Net Wednesday 8:00 PM  
• Newsline (Ham News) Broadcast Wednesday 8:30 PM

6 Meter Local Net 52.8 MHz (PL-114.8) Sunday 8:00 PM  
Mont. Bay Chapter 191 QCWA :Tuesday, 7:30PM, NS6G repeater, 146.700- PL 151.4

**FOR MORE INFO SEE: <http://www.k6bj.org/freq.html>**

## SCCARC Calendar of Events

SCCARC Board Meeting 6:30	Friday	Jan 17
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Jan 17
Short Skip Deadline	Monday	Feb 10
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Feb 21

## MONTHLY MEETINGS.

The SCCARC Meets at 7:30 PM, on the THIRD FRIDAY of the each month (except December). Meeting are at Dominican Hospital, 1515 Soquel Drive, Santa Cruz.

**Visit the SCCARC Website at -**

**[www.k6bj.org](http://www.k6bj.org)**

**CLUB E-MAIL: [yourcall@k6bj.org](mailto:yourcall@k6bj.org)**

**NET CONTROL SCHEDULE** (Subject to Change)

1/13	Joseph KG6NRI
1/20	Phil KE6UWH
1/27	Tom K6TG
2/3	Jeff KF6BKG
2/10	Ron W6WO
2/17	Allen WB6RWU



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P.O. BOX 238  
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0238

**Meeting: Jan. 17, 7:30PM**  
**W6WO on digial signals.**

**First Class**

## TIME TO RENEW

Your annual membership dues may have expired at the end of the calendar year. Check the date on your Shortskip mailing label to see if you're paid through 12/31/02 or later. Regular memberships are \$25, memberships for additional family members at the same address are \$6 each, and full time students under the age of 18 can become members for \$10. This has got to be one of the best deals going, dues prices haven't increased for over 10 years! We look forward to having you as a member again in the coming year. Make out your check to: SCCARC Send it to SCCARC, PO BOX 238, SANTA CRUZ CA 95061-0238