

JANUARY 2010

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



ECHOES OF APOLLO 2010

I would just like to announce that plans for another Echoes of Apollo Event are finalizing with a selection of dates for the 3 day event. EOA 2010 Moonbounce, is set for Friday Noon April 16, through Sunday afternoon April 18 at 17:00. (Pacific Time) Those dates correspond with part of the foundation for EOA; The Anniversary of the Apollo Moon Missions. In this case, the Anniversary of Apollo13.

Many more big dishes are coming on board for the fun EME-Fest, Including this time, Arecibo! We also have MIT Haystack Facility with a 45 meter dish, the genetic twin to the SRI dish used last June. And hopefully this time the Morehead State big (21M) dish and Space Sciences Department can join in. And of course, Dwingeloo Dish in Holland, continues to amaze the world with their continued success and development, esp their on-lin SDR EME receivers. They were one half of the world record, 3 milliwatt at the feed, JT 65 QSO last June. All of these stations and more, will be joined by the EME community world wide, probably more than 100 EME stations participating.

Arecibo will be operating on 432, and Angel Vazquez WP3R, says they may look at 13cm, also. AMAZING! Their 305 meter dish (circular, not parabolic) shape should really create a tiny reflection spot on the moon, but the bounce, should be easily heard by ordinary Amateur Satellite Stations, with modest antennas. Arecibo, obviously cannot move their 303 meter dish, so they move the feed point to track space targets, in this case the moon. Because of that, they can only swing their beam +-20 degrees from Zenith, giving in

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SLVARC's New Weather Station



“There is a new APRS weather station in progress for San Lorenzo Valley Amateur Radio Club (SLVARC). The new weather station has been in the works for several years. It started as an idea in JV's (K6HJU) mind. “Wouldn't it be neat to have a weather station at the WR6AOK site?” Late last fall the various necessary ingredients of material, money, motivation and availability all started falling into place. Various donors such as Byron (KI6NUL), Donald (AE6RF) and Allen (WB6RWU) provided weather station hardware, an OpenTracker TNC, and funding. Jeff L (AE6KS) is performing the integration and test. Once Jeff has the weather station staged, he'll demonstrate it to the SLVARC board, and if it meets the agreed upon requirements, it will be deployed at the WR6AOK shack.

Its weather readings: indoor & outdoor temperature, wind speed & direction and rainfall will be available over APRS and from a website.

Several people have asked “why do we NEED a weather station?” The instigators reply “This isn't about NEED. We're a radio club. This is a hobby. We're SUPPOSED to do cool things with radios.”

People interested in further details can contact jv@k6hju.com”

January's Speaker

This month's speaker will be Ron Skelton, W6WO, talking with us about HF Balun Performance. This promises to be an interesting, fun and educational evening!

—73 de Greta, KI6NTL

CLUB MEETING FRIDAY JANUARY 15, 7:30PM

A Yankee Steam Up

Yankee Steam Up Oct. 3, 2009 at the New England Museum of Wireless and Steam

It was a most inhospitable day, vile even by New England standards. E. Greenwich, RI may have received as much as 4 inches of rain that day turning the parking lot into a giant mud hole. Since there were working tractors present; some were used to pull stuck cars and trucks from the mire. I have not seen so much mud and stuck vehicles for many years. I have much experience with slick roads and I barely escaped the mud. The rain really put a damper on the attendance of New England's premier event for wireless, steam engines, gasoline engines, model makers and alternative energy enthusiasts.



Short wave receivers

There are wonderful things are to be found at the Museum. The Massie Co. wireless station (call sign "PJ") building circa 1903 originally at Point Judith, RI with its spark gap transmitter circa 1906 has been preserved. The spark gap transmitter is claimed to be the oldest operating transmitter in the world. However, there is no antenna on the transmitter for obvious reasons! It is really spectacular to hear the transmitter in operation and see the incandescent lights dim with every stroke of the key. Seeing equipment like this reminds us how far we have come in a hundred years. The Massie Co. was among several



Shipboard Quenched-Gap System



The past, present and future of our Club is very much in my mind as the Old Year ends and the New Year begins.

To look back I visited the K6BJ site and started breezing through the 10 years of Short Skip that are posted there, what a journey that has been for the Club and what a joy it has been for me personally. Amongst all the changes, two constants are apparent, Art Lee's (WF6P) column "Chatter" and the editorial expertise of Ron (K6EXT). These two are at the heart and soul of our Club and we cannot thank them enough. I miss those who have passed away or left for their own reasons and in particular the Ham Family kids Lindsey and Freddie. I tried to locate the first CAKE report but only found #2 in the January 2002 issue, that means we will soon be 10 years old. That's just about the time the Elecraft K2 was introduced which was a great success and a source of local pride in the company. Eric (WA6HHQ) is the co-founder of CAKE and his support of the Club is undiminished.

The present is exemplified by our CAKE session on Dec, 26th with conversations that illustrate the incredible depth of expertise, experience and enthusiasm of those present and I can only chronicle a few highlights. The evolution of mankind is marked by the development and use of tools and so it continues. Tom

companies that provided ship to shore communications when wireless started to become a practical and important business at the turn of the last century. Downstairs, in the Massie Co. building is a working ham shack with equipment from the 30's and 40's. Nearby is another building containing a collection of antique radios and wireless equipment including pieces from the Marconi station on Cape Cod of 1901 (first signal sent from US to UK in 1903) and from Reginald Fessenden (the first man transmit and to broadcast in AM in 1906) and others.

There is a large permanent collection

(KW6S) showed a selection of specialized hardware tools that he has developed over many years. Jeff (W6NA) described his adaptation of modern software tools including LINUX, USB and PSK31 and how he presented this as his final college class project. Jeff is equally adept at hardware and described the rebuilding of a defunct Astron power supply. Moreover Jeff is having great success working DX. Don (K6GHA) continues his family tradition by completing a major antenna tower and beam project. Don received a lot of help as is evident in the many photos of the work. I was struck by how well the project was engineered in detail, the neatly coiled coax line choke caught my attention as it is of topical interest. Chris (KG6DOZ) discussed his effort to restore a scanner so the spirit of "make do and mend" is alive and well.

To the future we must welcome Bruce (AC6DN) as the new Club President and Greta (KI6NTL) and give thanks and encouragement to all the Officers and Board members for their efforts. From what I understand some tough decisions lie ahead in order to maintain a sound balance between maintaining services (including Short Skip) and a financial reserve for anticipated and unanticipated expenditures. Clearly the members of the Club are alive and well so we are well equipped to deal with any bumps encountered in the road ahead.

In closing I wish to express my sincere appreciation of Kathleen (KI6AIE) and the example that she sets for us all. A healthy, happy and prosperous NEW Year

BCNU CAKE Jan 9th and 23rd Club meeting on the 15th

—Ron W6WO

of steam engines including some large dynamos that were powered by the steam engines. There is a very large Corliss steam engine thought to be the oldest running Corliss in the world. There were a lot of models of steam engines most of which were working. Most interesting was a model of the steam engine that powered the famous Civil War warship the Monitor designed by John Ericksson.

Here is a website for NEWS The New England Museum of Wireless and Steam: www.newsm.org

—Jim Koger N1IPP



By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

Received a nice card from one of my friends, a squadron pilot in C-130s. He had retired in Florida after his Naval service. Once, when we were flying from Honolulu to Guam, we carried a cargo of personal effects: one Mercedes convertible, one Renault Dauphine (mine) an MGB, and a Morris Minor. Other stuff was an assortment of washing machines, dryers, and household goods. The squadron had changed homeports and Guam had few of these amenities. We also had on board my brand new Hammond Organ, still in it's shipping container. As a storm was approaching Guam, we had to arrive before it hit, hence a sense of urgency. At 0100 as we flew over the island of Midway, I looked down from the cockpit and asked him why we weren't landing for fuel, per our flight plan. The runway lights looked very welcome. "Nope, we've got to beat that storm." I watched as he worked out our distance/airspeed calculations as the flight engineer scanned the fuel gages. The radioman and navigator posed the same question I had broached. We all knew that there was a lot of the Pacific Ocean to cross over.

Several hours later the low fuel warning lights were all glowing red and the flight engineer was sweating profusely - as were we all. I had visions of our Loadmaster opening the rear cargo door to jettison our cargo - and my new Hammond. I loved that little Renault too. Our radioman was busily relaying our position.

Of course we made it. But the storm had just started and we unloaded without mishap. Anyway, I'll have to remind my buddy of that night - in case he forgot about it.

Years later, I was on a Navy P3 flight from Moffett to Honolulu. My son Randal, N6UZI, was navigator and communications officer. Although probably not blessed by the FCC, we tuned up the spare radio for my check-in with my Pacific Maritime Mobile Net. I gave our QTH as cruising at

30,000 ft. and 200 miles West of California. I guess the contact could be considered as communications training.

On Morse code: years ago while standing midnight flight line watches on Guam, I could hear our radiomen in Operations sending CW. The Operations Quonset hut was a quarter of a mile away, but I could clearly hear the characters being sent. There were a lot of "Ks." While not a ham at the time, I knew that CW was a fun sort of thing to do. We had one Chief radioman who had a ham rig in his car and while parked on a cliff overlooking the Philippine Sea, he made daily contacts with the good old US of A. After two years on that island, I was homesick and wished I could do that too. Some of my old high school radio shop classmates had their ham tickets. One classmate, Joe Kantz, was in our high school band, played the trumpet and had his call of W6WWN. I'll have to track him down through our reunion committee. While he got his ticket in 1944/5, he had to wait until the war was over before he could transmit.

With a new 80 mtr antenna problem, my pal Terry, N6NUN (MM), and I cannot meet on our alternate morning freq of 3815. His QTH of Sausalito is too close for 40 mtrs so we get messages relayed from distant stations in Nevada and Washington. Terry tried 2 meters and we made contact on Echo Link. My 2 mtr rig is out in my garage so I had him wait till I got out there (brrr...!). Echo Link worked well the first time we got on, but not since. Cap, KE6AFE, thought the problem was on Terry's boat, although we could hear him. We'll work it out.

Apollo Continued

this case short windows of opportunities to EME vie the Moon, but possible on all three days of EOA 2010.

As some of you may know, Arecibo is under serious threat of being dismantled, due to budget cutbacks. The Echoes of Apollo team is contemplating offering this EME event to be a catalyst for a visit to Arecibo by Hams, and possibly the Philanthropic community to see if funding solutions, or benefactors can be found to keep it open. Lets hope a way is found.

Details to come out in CQ, and CQ -VHF.

Best, 73, de Pat Barthelow AA6EG

apolloeme@live.com

Welcome New And Returning Members!

The following members joined or rejoined during 2009:

Louis Arbanas KJ6CAI
 Bob Boscarelli W6TQP
 Jane Brown KI6VBB
 Jim Brown K9YC
 Bob Bunter W6REB
 Diane Bunter K7YDM
 Doug Burklo KI6ZIB
 Bill Conklin AF60H
 Mark Ennamorato W4MUB
 Gretchen Eschle N6NMS
 Phill Eschle KG6XY
 Bud Fischer K6OZX
 Warren Kruth KG6DPA
 Doug Ross KJ6BRN
 Jeffrey Samuels KI6TJY
 Robin Samuels KI6TJZ
 Chris Shaharian KI6VLH
 Bob Spencer KI6TKH
 Becky Steinbruner KI6TKB
 Stu Steinbruner KI6TKA
 Dallas Sutton K6KEB
 Linda Sutton KI6ZRR
 Chris White KI6WPO
 George Williams W2CSN

Also, new and returning members starting in 2010:

Brandon Bealer KJ6DKK
 Rich Landsman N1DDY
 Dean McCollom KJ6CQC
 Rick Rice KJ6CTH
 Delese Taylor KJ6CAE
 Jack Wooldridge WA6FYD

SCCARC Membership Renewals

If you have already renewed your membership for 2010, thank you! If you haven't, please do it now. Annual dues are \$25 for full members, \$6 each for each additional member at the same mailing address, and \$10 for full-time students age 18 or under. Dues may be paid in cash or check (payable to SCCARC) at regular Club meetings or CAKE meetings, or checks may be mailed to SCCARC, P.O. Box 238, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-0238.

SCCARC Board - 2010

President	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	689-9923
Vice President	Greta Steinbruner	KI6NTL	325-9482
Secretary	David Copp	WS2I	708-2206
Treasurer	Kathleen McQuilling	KI6AIE	476-6303
Board	Christopher Angelos	KG6DOZ	688-3562
	Mike Doern	KM6IKE	477-1161
	Rich Olsen	W1WUH	464-7474
	Cap Pennell	KE6AFE	429-1290
	Jeff Watson	W6NA	
K6BJ Trustee	Allen Fugelseth	WB6RWU	475-8846

MONTEREY BAY REPEATER ACTIVITY

Santa Cruz County	K6BJ 146.790- PL 94.8 Santa Cruz KI6EH 147.945- PL 94.8 Watsonville K6BJ 440.925+ PL 123.0 Santa Cruz • SCCARC Net Monday 7:30 PM 146.79- /147.180+ /440.925+ linked • SCCARC 10 Meter Net Monday 7:00 PM 28.308 MHz USB
ARES Nets	SC County Wide ARES Tuesday 7:30 PM on 147.180+ PL 94.8 443.600+ PL 110.9 (Linked repeaters)
San Lorenzo Valley	WR6AOK 147.120+ PL 94.8 Ben Lomond • SLV Net Thursday 7:30 PM
Loma Prieta	AB6VS 440.550+ / AE6KE 146.835- PL 94.8 (Linked for net 94.8) • LP Net Tuesday 7:15 PM
Monterey	K6LY 146.97- PL 94.8 / 444.700+ PL123 (Linked) Monterey • NPSARC Net Wednesday at 8 PM on K6LY/R • Monterey ARES Net Wednesday 7:30 PM K6LY 146.970- (PL 94.9) • Newsline (Ham News) Broadcast Wednesday at end of NPSARC Net
LPRC	WR6ABD 146.640- PL 162.2 / 442.900+ PL 162.2 (winsystem) • LPRC Net Tuesday 8:00 PM 146.640- (PL 162.2) • Newsline (Ham News) Broadcast Wednesday at end of NPSARC Net

• Santa Clara Valley Section Traffic NET Tuesday 9:00PM 146.640- (PL 162.2)

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

SCCARC Calendar of Events

ARES Meeting	Friday	Jan 15
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Jan 15
Cake Meetings	Sat	Jan 9, 23
Board Meeting	Thursday	Jan 28
Short Skip articles due	Mon	Feb 8
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Feb 19

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

The SCCARC Meets at 7:30 PM, on the **THIRD FRIDAY** of the each month (except December). Meetings are at Dominican Hospital, Education Center, 1555 Soquel Drive, Santa Cruz.

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

(Subject to Change)

1/11	Tom K6TG
1/18	Greta KI6NTL
1/25	Phil KE6UWH
2/1	Chris KG6DOZ
2/8	Tom K6TG
2/15	Greta KI6NTL

SHORT SKIP

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Free to members.

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Don't Need Short Skip In Your Mailbox?

Printing and postage expenses have gone up! Many thanks to the more than two dozen (!) Club members who during December opted out of receiving Short Skip by postal mail. If you're getting Short Skip by postal mail but would rather just access it on the Club's web site (k6bj.org). Just let me know at ki6aie@k6bj.org and I'll take you off the hard copy mailing list. If you're on the K6BJ email reflector, you'll get notification when each month's Short Skip has been posted to the Club web site. Just click on the Short Skip image on the front page to read or download the current issue (PDF file).

—Kathleen, KI6AIE