



VOLUME XX ISSUE I

JAN - FEB - MAR 2010

A Note From Your President

WEB SITE:

www.w6bw.org

EMAIL:

w6bw.org@w6bw.org

MONITOR:

147.180 + No PL

441.175 + PL 146.2

147.450 Simplex

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Greetings from Joe, K16IQY

If you hadn't heard I am the new president of MARC effective January 1, 2010.

I am excited and more than a little overwhelmed at this opportunity to try to keep MARC fun and interesting for our membership for the next year. Alan Gill did such a great job over the past three years that I am not sure where to start unless its to try to emulate his leadership. My wife Jeanne and I have lived in Oakhurst for the past four years following my retirement in the Bay Area. I have only been a HAM for 3 years so have a lot to learn about amateur radio and the interesting folks active in this great hobby.



Deadwood Repeater

I am fortunate to have an experienced and motivated Board of Directors to keep me from losing my way as we move through the coming year. Our new program director, Ken, KK6XO, is already working on an interesting and informative schedule of programs for the year, while John, jay@wj6y.com, has a new schedule of VE Exams and a new location reserved-see the newsletter calendar at www.w6bw.org. Our new secretary, Del, KE6RVD, has already stepped into the ring providing Board and meeting minutes faster than I can get to them. Suzanne, W6STB, is also a new board member and is looking at our incorporation process which she is imminently qualified to do. Chuck, W6HYY, is still our Treasurer and I am glad he is. How many years now Chuck?

What activities would we like to see in 2010? I would really like to hear from the membership on that question and there is a questionnaire on the website that members can use to help the board in providing a schedule that answers your needs in our HAM radio community. I would like to have the questionnaires returned to me as soon as possible and so will attach them to the March meeting announcement.

While I am on the subject of our 2010 event schedule I am interested in how many of our members are interested in doing a Field Day activity on June 26-27, 2010. As you are aware Field Day is an opportunity for clubs across the U. S. to practice their emergency preparedness skills. It is traditional for the mountain club to do a field day each year but in recent years it occurs to me that there has not been strong support for this activity in our group. We are under no obligation to conduct a field day activity in the traditional manner and it may be time to consider alternative or no activities at all. Again the board needs to hear from you so make your feelings and wishes known to the board through the questionnaire.

73'

Joe, K16IQY

Crystal Radio

2010 MARC OFFICERS

President:

Joe Frank KI6IQY
Email: joseph.frank@sti.net

Vice President:

Ken Nobles KK6XO
Email:

Secretary:

Del Bodwell KE6RVD
Email:

Treasurer:

Chuck Banks W6HYY
Email: chuckb@sti.net

Board of Directors:

Suzanne Banks W6STB
Email:

Alan Gil W6LSU
Email:

John Youngquist W6JY
Email:

Committee Chairpersons:

Emergency Preparedness:

ARES: Dick Rekart W6RFR
Email:

RACES: Jerry Thompson
WA6ONA
Email:

VIP: Simon Ellman KB6CLV
Email:

VE Liaison:

John Youngquist
Email: jay@WJ6Y.com

Sunshine Chairperson:

Sharon Craig
Email: mtquiltde@sti.net

Call Sign Trustee

John Youngquist
Email: jay@WJ6Y.com

I would like to suggest that we have a Xtal set program where all those interested would build a xtal set and bring it to the MARC meeting and show them off. Perhaps we could have an audio amplifier there to connect them to so's we all could hear whatever emanates from them. All for the fun of reminiscing about the "old" times like when some of us first got into radio.

Some of us might even want to use a razor blade for a diode. Others might want to make their own galena crystal. Whatever, just so's the radio worked.

Also, I'd be real interested in whether anyone knows how to build an FM Xtal set.

Anyone interested?

Dave duBois, KD6POX

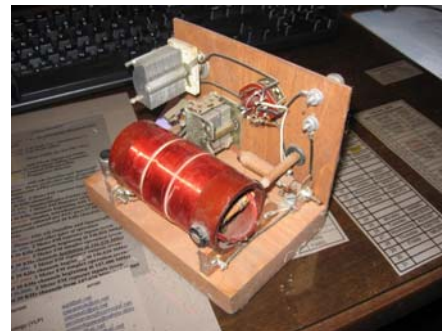
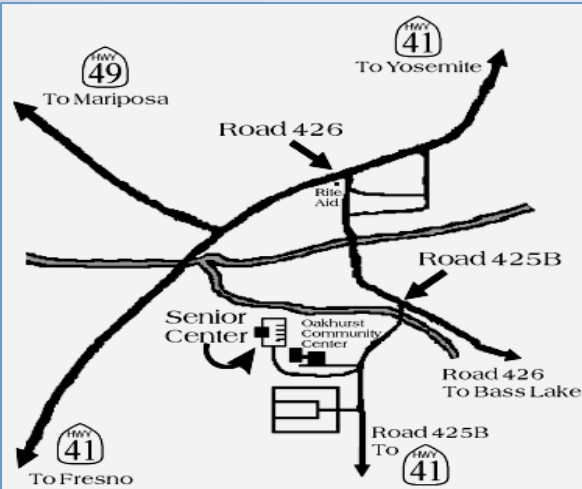


Photo of a Crystal Set courtesy of Bill Jones KD7S

Club Meeting Schedule

The MARC holds monthly meetings the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Sierra Senior Citizens Center in Oakhurst on Road 425B (See map). Talk-in is on the 147.180 Repeater. Owing to the holidays, November and December do not have any meetings.

Anyone is welcome to attend!



MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues are payable by January 1st of each year. Dues are \$15 for individuals and \$20 for families. Students under age 21 are free. Make checks payable to Mountain Amateur Radio Club and send to P.O. Box 457, Oakland CA 93644

Disaster Prep Tips



As we start a new decade, let's review some of the basics of Amateur Radio disaster preparedness. The following are tips from John Covington, W4CC, of Dallas, North Carolina.

You must make sure you're personally prepared for a disaster before you can even consider helping with Amateur Radio. If you are preoccupied with personal matters, you won't be able to help ARES®. To be ready for disaster communications, do the following:

- ◆ Train regularly with your local ARES® group.
- ◆ Think about how you might best be able to help during a disaster. Some of us are good at installing antennas and equipment, others of us are better at operating on the air. Not everyone is suited to doing every job. Sometimes just having helping hands, spare equipment or supplies can be helpful even if you cannot operate the radios yourself. Generators need fuel, operators need coffee, and stations need to be set up. Figure out where you best fit in. Decide how you can help out if you stay home: Can you deploy at a shelter or EOC for a few hours? Operate from home?
 - ◆ If you must evacuate, can you deploy from where you have evacuated to, such as a shelter?
 - ◆ Have all resource materials you need in printed form. Don't depend on computers, PDAs and so forth as they may not work in a disaster, require electricity and are relatively fragile.
 - ◆ If you use a computer regularly in your on-the-air operations, make sure you practice doing things such as calling nets and handling traffic the pencil-and-paper way once in a while. Remember, you may not be able to spare the amp-hours or the table space to run a computer.
 - ◆ Have an Amateur Radio ready-kit to supplement your personal ready kit. Some items to include:
 - ✓ Portable radio, antenna and power supply or batteries (2 sets)
 - ✓ Headset or earphones (you may be operating in a noisy area)
 - ✓ Any cables you could possibly need
 - ✓ Pencils and Paper
 - ✓ Clipboard (firm writing surface, you may not have one otherwise)
 - ✓ Radiogram forms (helpful but not absolutely required)
 - ✓ Operating aids (pink card, Field Resources Manual, list of ARRL numbered radiograms, and anything appropriate for your local area)
 - ✓ Small tools (multi-tip screwdriver, multitools, etc.)
 - ✓ ARES® Identification Card, if appropriate
 - ✓ Important phone numbers and frequencies
 - ✓ Map of the area
 - ✓ Flashlight
 - ✓ Poncho - very small to store, only around \$2 and can be useful when you least expect

If carried in lieu of a personal ready kit, a few other items may be helpful:

- ✓ For a short deployment, a bottle of water plus some crackers or something to eat requiring no preparation could make things much more bearable for you
- ✓ Medicine
- ✓ Toilet paper - small packets from MRE kits are very handy and don't take up much room
- ✓ Moist towelettes

Here are a few other suggestions from your editor based on his perspective as a Registered Nurse:

- ✓ Know CPR.
- ✓ Know the location of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and how to use it.
- ✓ Know the signs/symptoms of a heart attack and stroke.

Also, be prepared physically, mentally and emotionally for the sometimes overwhelming demands of a disaster or emergency environment. Hope for the best, but expect the worst. You are at risk for witnessing horrific scenes. Protect your self and especially young hams; participate in psychological and grief counseling, if necessary. Your mental health is just as important as your physical health.

Article courtesy ARES E-Letter

“be prepared physically, mentally and emotionally for the sometimes overwhelming demands of a disaster or emergency environment. Hope for the best, but expect the worst.”

EVENTS CALENDAR 2010

MARCH

Saturday March 20
12th Annual M2 Open
House & BBQ, Fresno
www.m2inc.com

Thursday March 25,
MARC Club Meeting

APRIL

April 16, 17 & 18
61st Annual International
DX Convention, Visalia
www.dxconvention.org

OAKHURST VE EXAM SCHEDULE

March 13th, 2010

June 12th, 2010

Sept 11th, 2010

Dec 11th, 2010

COFFEE KLATCH

Mountain area hams meet every Thursday morning at 10:00 am. Location varies but currently at Pete's, at the junction of #41 and #49 in Oakhurst. Come by, enjoy some coffee and discuss the latest DX or show off your newest gadget!

ERGS

ERGS? What's that - a casserole? No, it's the Early Risers Group that meets every morning at 7:00 am, 7 days a week on 2 meters at 147.180.

Moderated by Alan, W6LSU, it's a group of folks that talk about whatever is on their minds—news, financial markets, family, home brew - being careful not to offend, insult or proselytize over much and still have fun.

The ERGs group also have a monthly HOGs (Hungry Old Gentlemen) breakfast the fourth Tuesday of each month at a local eatery, currently Sweetwater Steakhouse in Oakhurst.

OAKHURST VE EXAMS

Time: 1– 3 pm

Location:

Community Medical Center, 48677 Victoria Lane , Oakhurst CA (559-683-2992)

Directions:

Highway 41, ¼ mile South of Oakhurst on the West side of the road. Come down Victoria Lane and Community Medical Center will be on the right hand side. Signs will be posted on Highway 41 and on Victoria Lane . Talk-in will be on the 147.180+ repeater

Information:

Bring two forms of personal identification and Taxpayer ID (Social Security Number) or FRN registration number. Original and a copy of your license (if any) and the Original and a copy of any CSCE's that you possess. The test fee will be \$15. Walk-in's are welcome, no preregistration is necessary.

Contact:

John Youngquist

Email: jay@WJ6Y.com

Field Day 2009

The 2009 MARC Field day event was conducted at the Yosemite High School. There was a very nice BBQ on Saturday with a good turnout of club members and their families and local Madera County Sheriffs and political office holders in attendance.

We had 12 operators and 1,048 QSO's operating on battery and generator power.



Friday setup — it's all about antennas



Photos courtesy of Dick Rekart W6RFR

Field Day 2010 - June 26 & 27

Where? Alan's W6LSU QTH

There will not be a BBQ at this years' event as we hope to focus on emergency preparedness and making contacts. Food will, however, be provided to volunteers and operators. Our annual summer BBQ will be held at a later date.

Planning activities are underway for this fun and vital annual event. Committees will be discussed start-

ing at the March meeting so if you have a particular skill or interest please let me (Joe KI6IQY) or one of the Directors know as soon as possible.

June will be here before we know it!

Volunteers for Filed Day 2010 are needed for a variety of tasks including:

- ✓ Erecting antennas
- ✓ Providing generators and/or alternative energy sources such as solar panels
- ✓ Providing extension cords and water hoses
- ✓ Being operators as timing schedules (24 hour schedule)



Mountain Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 457
Oakhurst, CA 93644

MARC Membership Application Membership is \$15 for individuals and \$20 for families. Make checks payable to Mountain Amateur Radio Club and send to P.O. Box 457, Oakhurst CA 93644

Name

Call Sign

Address

Birth date

City/State/Zip

Interested in:

RACES/ARES

Spouse's Name

Anniversary

VIP

Phone

Don't list in the roster

DXing

Email

Don't list in the roster

Digital

Contesting

Hobbies

ARRL Member

License Class

Year Licensed