



RF



ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

VOL. L NO. 5

P.O. BOX 3454, TUSTIN, CA 92781-3454

May 2009

The Prez Sez.....

by Nicholas AF6CF



April is finally over!

This was a busy time for my family and me, as one of our two daughters got married and the other had an 8 lb baby boy.

Finally, I'll be able to concentrate on important events, like Field Day. Some OCARC members have been to Visalia for the DX Convention, so I hope to hear a couple of good stories and maybe an article or two in the newsletter. Other members will be at

Dayton so next month we may have a report on that event, too.

Back at the club, Field Day planning is nearing completion, and I look forward to participating in the event. We will use once again the Los Alamitos JFTB site and the team captains are looking for more operators, breakfast chefs, helpers, etc so this is your chance to step in, help the Club and have a great time.

See you all at the meeting.

73 DE AF6CF



How to Send an Article to the EDITOR

Do you have an article or picture you found that you think may be of interest to the OCARC members??

Just e-mail the article to

EDITOR@W6ZE.org

JPEG files are best for pictures. Use WORD or .TXT files to send articles.

--- OCARC--- May 15th Meeting

The Speaker for the May 15th general meeting will be Skip Freely - K6HMS who will talk on:

"Telegraph Instruments - Keys, Bugs, Sideswipers, & Paddles - Through the Years -"

Skip has a collection of over 200 telegraphic items; some he'll be bringing, and others he will present on slides.

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The next general meeting will be:

**Friday, May 15th
@ 7:00 PM**

We will be meeting in Room 208
In the east Red Cross Building

**ORANGE COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**
www.W6ZE.org



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Monthly Events:

General Meeting:

Third Friday of the month
at 7:00 PM

American Red Cross
601 N. Golden Circle Dr.
(Near Tustin Ave. & 4th St.)
Santa Ana, CA

Club Breakfast:

First Saturday of the month
at 8:00 AM

Jagerhaus Restaurant
2525 E. Ball Road
(Ball exit off 57-Freeway)
Anaheim, CA

**Club Nets (Listen for
W6ZE):**

7.086 ± MHz CW **OCWN**

Sun- 9:00 AM – 10 AM
Rick KF6UEB, Net Control

28.375 ± MHz SSB

Wed- 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Bob AF6C, Net Control

146.55 MHz Simplex FM

Wed- 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM
Bob, WB6IXN, Net Control

VISIT OUR WEB SITE

<http://www.w6ze.org>

for up-to-the-minute club
information, the latest
membership rosters, special
activities, back issues of RF,
links to ham-related sites,
vendors and manufacturers,
pictures of club events and much
much more.

Club Dues:

Regular Members ...\$20

Family Members* ...\$10

Teenage Members ..\$10

Club Badge**\$3

Dues run from Jan thru Dec and
are prorated for new members.

*Additional members in the family
of a regular member pay the family
rate up to \$30 per family.

**There is a \$1.50 charge if you'd
like to have your badge mailed to
you.

The 2009 ARRL Field Day is Fast Approaching!

OCARC 2009 Field Day Information

Field Day Location: The [Orange County Amateur Radio Club](#) will be holding its 2009 Field Day, the 24-hour simulated emergency communications operation, at the Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB).

[See MAP of the base on the following Page]

The main gate to the base can be reached by:

- taking the Valley View exit from the 405 FWY and heading north on Valley View St. until you reach Katella Ave.
- Turn left on Katella Ave.
- Turn south onto Lexington Dr. from Katella Avenue and continue to the JFTB gate.

Tell the guard at the JFTB gate that you are visiting the Amateur Radio Field Day event at the EOC site.

The location of the OCARC FD site on the base can be reached by continuing south on the gate road and turning left (East) at the road leading to the swimming pool. As you head east, you can see the California Office of Emergency Services EOC building (with large microwave tower.....see annotated map below) as the first building on the north side of the road. Field Day operations will be held in the field north of the EOC building.

All Hams and visitors are welcome to the OCARC Field Day event. For a map of the 2009 Field Day Site, check out www.w6ze.org

Club Call: We will be operating under the club call **W6ZE**.

Date: The ARRL Field Day is always held on the 4th full weekend in June. This year's dates are Saturday June 27th and Sunday June 28th.

Time: Initial setup will begin Friday morning at 11:00 AM. Final setup will begin on Saturday at 7:30 AM. Operations will begin at 11:00 AM local time (1800 hours GMT) on Saturday and continue till 11:00 AM local time Sunday. Tear-down will start at about 11:15 AM Sunday and should be complete before 2:00 PM

Team Captains: This year we expect to be operating in Class 9A with up to 9 simultaneous stations on the air (plus VHF/UHF) for the 24 hour period. We need all the help we can get in each of the 3 phases (setup, operation and tear-down), even if you can come for only a few hours.

Below are the various Team Captains. They can all use more operators, so please contact them or Paul, W6GMU. Remember, this is a Team effort. Let's show the Amateur Radio community and ourselves what **TEAM OCARC** can do!!

And, above all, ENJOY this wonderful activity!!!

OCARC Field Day Coordinator – Paul Gussow, W6GMU (714-624-1717)

ALL CW OPERATIONS: Bob Harrington, AA6PW (AKA “The CW Contest Master”) is the team captain.

15M/80M SSB - Kathy Gardenias - K6VC is the team captain for the 15/80 meter station. This station will operate 15 by day and 80 by night as conditions allow.

20M SSB- Hank Welch, W6HTW is the team captain. This station will remain on while the band is open.

40M SSB – Larry Mallek, K6YUI is the team captain.

VHF/UHF – We still need a team captain; he/she may also be our Bonus Points coordinator.

We can get lots of bonus points by performing the actions listed below:

- Public information table - 100 points. We need to make hand out sheets and a visitor log.
- Alternate power - 100 points. We need to make a minimum of 5 contacts on solar power.
- Demonstration - 100 points each for a demonstration of APRS, ATV and SSTV.
- Site visitor - 100 points for a visit to our site by a government official or Red Cross official.

Additional Points: We get 100 points for emergency power, 100 points for each H.F. station (900), 100 points for being in a public place, 100 points for a published newspaper article and up to 200 points for message receiving/sending. Phone contacts count 1 point each and CW/digital contacts count 2 points each. Each station is challenged to make a few CW contacts. We will be using laptops for logging or log sheets for manual logging.

OCARC FIELD DAY SITE AT THE JFTB IN LOS ALAMITOS



TechTalk #74**Amateur Television (ATV)****-- The Digital Fork in the Road --****By Ken W6HHC**

By now, everyone has heard of commercial **Digital** Television. Old commercial analog TV transmitters will essentially go off the air in June of 2009 and are being replaced by digital TV transmitters.

For several years I have listened to some interesting ham conversations about "we hams should change analog ATV over to Digital-ATV (aka D-ATV) to keep up with technology".

This article is my attempt to get "my arms around digital ATV" and be able to explain it to other hams. I must admit that I am no expert in D-ATV, but I am very much interested in it.

Why Go Digital ATV?

The main benefits of digital ATV are:

- 1) The picture quality can be nearly perfect much of the time
- 2) Digital techniques allow error correction from noise, multi-path
- 3) Digital techniques allow advanced modulation (less bandwidth) and compression
- 4) Digital TV components will become more common on the marketplace.
- 5) Analog TV components will start to disappear from the marketplace.

Different Types of Digital Video Broadcasting Specs

To start with, there are three fundamental broadcasting environments for Digital Video broadcasting:

- Cable
- Satellite
- Terrestrial

Each of these three different environments requires a different specification as described below.

DVB-C (cable)

The DVB-C standard for cable broadcasting was established by the Digital Video Broadcasting organization (www.DVB.org). The environment of cable is very low noise and very low loss. So resistance-to-noise and lots of error-correction-technology is not needed for cable digital TV. The nice cable environment allows implementing higher order modulation schemes starting from QPSK up to 256QAM. Because of the guaranteed low signal path loss in cable, this does not represent a good choice of technology for hams to consider.

DVB-S (satellite)

The DVB-S standard for satellite broadcasting is designed to work in an environment that contains lots of signal path attenuation and line-of-sight communication. To compensate for the weak signals, the DVB-S standard uses different layers of Forward Error Correction (FEC) for a very robust protection against any kind of errors. One drawback for hams is that DVB-S was NOT designed to deal with multi-path environment situations. Typically, the DVB-S uses MPEG-2 for video data compression and QPSK for modulation that can be run in a 2 MHz bandwidth mode. This is the standard chosen by many European and United States D-ATV groups for digitizing ATV.

DVB-T (terrestrial)

The DVB-T standard for terrestrial broadcasting by the Digital Video Broadcasting organization is designed to work in the classic situation where a transmitter is broadcasting RF signals to home antennas coupled to a digital TV receiver.

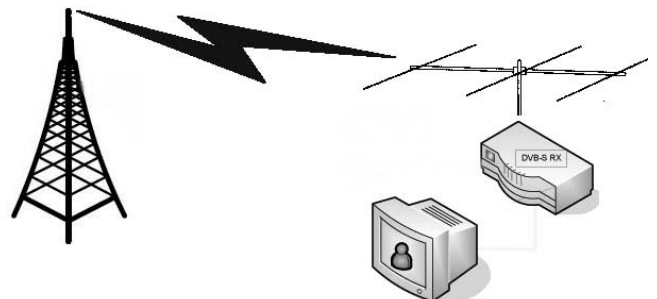


Fig 1 Terrestrial reception using commercial set-top box

Digital-ATV - - Cont'd from Pg 5

In over-the-air broadcasts, the technology needs to overcome the destructive effects of multipath reflections. Also, the terrestrial signal path attenuations can be frequency dependent and can result in a partly distorted received signal. The negative effects of multipath reflections can be reduced, by using 16QAM modulation for a low effective bitrate per carrier,. To reduce the effective bitrate per carrier, DVB-T spreads out the bitrate over a large amount of carriers. This spreading out will result in 1,705 closely spaced carriers (using COFDM...aka Coded Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing) to create a 6 MHz bandwidth. Creating 1,705 different carrier frequencies with the conventional approach of VCO's and PLL chips is impossible. If we look at the possibilities for D-ATV then hams will come to the conclusion that DVB-T will be the ultimate approach if it comes to robustness. However the combination of, (1) the high signal to noise ratio which is needed for demodulation, (2) the big impact on hardware implementation and (3) the fact that commercial DVB-T set-top boxes are not widely available yet, let many hams come to the conclusion that the DVB-T approach is currently far away for amateur use.

What I have not mentioned, so far, is that the Digital Video Broadcasting organization standards are only used for commercial TV in Europe and Asia....NOT in the United States. In the United States (and Canada) the commercial TV industry uses standards from the Advanced Television Systems Committee (ATSC) a spin-off from the old NTSC TV standards organization. One exception in the US is that Dish Network uses DVB-S technology for its home satellite receivers.

ATSC 8-VSB (terrestrial)

8-VSB is the 8-level Vestigial Sideband Modulation method adopted for terrestrial broadcast of the ATSC digital television standard. Like DVB-S, it usually uses MPEG-2 for video compression and multiple layers of

Forward Error Correction (FEC) for a very robust protection against any kind of errors. Interestingly, the 8-VSB modulation does not use phase-shift techniques, but uses 8 levels of amplitude for modulation and demodulation. This modulation approach produces a gross bit rate of 32 Mbit/s, and a net bit rate of 19.39 Mbit/s of usable data in a 6 MHz bandwidth. The net bit rate is lower due to the addition of forward error correction (FEC) codes. While, the set-top DTV boxes are very common, the current lack of low cost 8-VSB transmitting circuitry has prevented US hams from using this ATCS 8-VSB approach for ham radio D-ATV.

Drawbacks for D-ATV

There are two main drawbacks to D-ATV for ham radio ATV enthusiasts:

1) Weak Signal Reception

Digital TV technology tends to have "ALL or NOTHING" video performance. The picture is GREAT thru noise and weakening signals....then POOF, it's gone. The transition phase between ALL or NOTHING tends to be very narrow. As Henry AA9XW explained in the Amateur Television of Central Ohio News (ATCO), "Yes digital [ATV] is "noise free" until you hit the blue wall. **There is 1 dB between perfect and nothing. So don't expect a lot of DX** since you can't find the signal in the noise without a spectrum analyzer and BPF [band pass filter]."

2) High Cost of Equipment

One advantage of analog ATV was the cost of equipment, especially transmitting equipment was relatively cheap. You could buy commercial analog CCTV equipment and easily modify it for ham radio ATV use. The receiving circuits can be obtained from old home satellite dishes (DVB-S) that are surplus on e-Bay & can be converted to D-ATV. But, obtaining

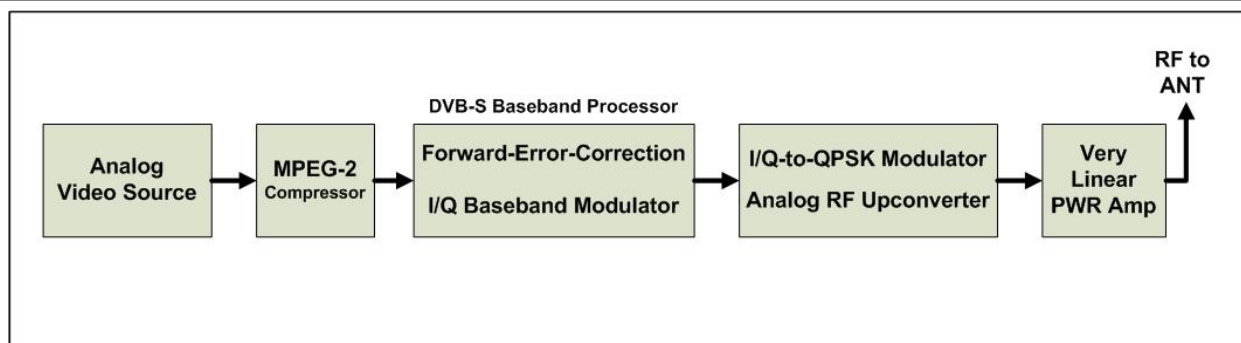


Figure 2 – Block Diagram of DVB-S Transmitter for Digital-ATV

Digital-ATV - - Cont'd from Pg 6

transmitters...with image processing and the modulators...is the main problem. There is no surplus satellite transmitting equipment around. So you either buy boards from European D-ATV companies or you buy the Integrated Circuits used by transmitters and build your own equipment. In my opinion, this last approach takes a lot of engineering/software technical skill that most hams do not possess and requires an investment of a lot of time. SR-Systems in Germany offers a wide selection of printed circuit boards for D-ATV. Robbie KB6CJZ of OCARC estimates it costs about \$1,200 or more to buy a D-ATV transmitter exciter, digital band-pass filter, and very-linear power amp. A camera and a wide-bandwidth antenna would also be needed. D-ATV repeaters are more expensive.

Status of D-ATV Today.

Groups and clubs of D-ATV enthusiasts have shown that digital technology was possible for hams and works as expected.

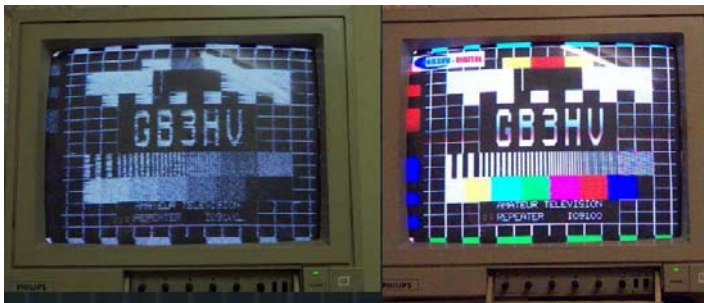


Fig 3 – Comparison of analog PIX and D-ATV PIX using the same antennas with weak sigs
(courtesy of G7LWT & GB3HV)

In next column, Fig 4 is a picture of an early European DVB-S prototype transmitter demonstrated at the 2001 Friedrichshafen Ham Fair in Germany by Howard HB9JNX/AE4WA, et al.

In my probing the internet and through having local conversations, I found that there was a very large burst of D-ATV efforts by hams (mainly in Europe) that lasted from about 2000 to about 2004. Many (if not most) of these ham radio sites on D-ATV seemed to eventually go dormant:

- www.D-ATV.com in Holland went dormant in 2005
- pagesperso-orange.fr/jf.fourcadier/television/exciter/exciter_e.htm Jean-François F4DAY went inactive in 2004/2005
- www.G7LWT.com in UK appears to be now dormant on D-ATV

- www.BATC.org.uk British Amateur TV Club is very active with ATV, but very small amount of D-ATV activity.
- www.GB3BH.com South West Herts UHF Group in UK is active with D-ATV
- www.ATCO.TV Amateur Television of Central Ohio published its last ATV newsletter in 2007, although the WEB site appears alive and a D-ATV repeater is up.

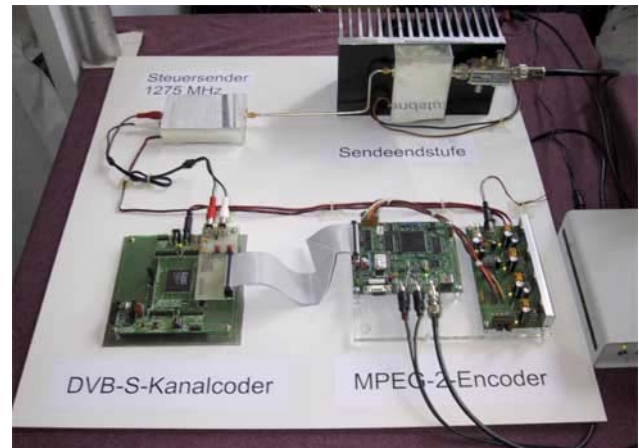


Fig 4 – Prototype DVB-S D-ATV transmitter like Fig 2
(courtesy of Thomas Sailer HB9JNX/AE4WA, et al.)

From what I have learned, there are only three or four areas in the US that have D-ATV repeaters or are even testing D-ATV.

- ATCO has the WR8ATV/R digital DVB-S repeater output on 1260 MHz
- Nick Sayer, N6QQQ from Santa Clara is designing/building/testing an 8-VSB D-ATV transmitter on 900 MHz
- There is a ham from OC who moved to Idaho who has been actively designing and building and using D-ATV for several years.
- Rumors of a group in either Oregon or Washington who are active in D-ATV (but I can not find them via the internet).

What is the Future for D-ATV??

Based on what I have learned while preparing this article on D-ATV, I am surprised by the small amount of current D-ATV activities in the United States. I expected a lot more activity. There is a great picture-quality-performance attraction for Digital TV. But, it seems to me that the weak signal picture loss associated with D-ATV may be taking some of the adventure of DX out of the equation.

Digital-ATV cont'd - - see Pg 10

Your Invitation from SCDX

By Arnie Shatz – N6HC

The Southern California DX Club would like to invite you to our 7:30 PM Thursday evening meeting on May 14, 2009. The meeting is held at the Syd Kronenthal Park recreation center located in Culver City, CA. Please visit our web site at <http://www.scdxc.org> for directions to the meeting place and a map of the area.

The SCDX featured speaker will be Bill Scholz, W1HIJ, who will tell us how to set up a remote station operation. He will try to do a live demonstration of how his equipment functions under remote control. After seeing this presentation, there should be no excuse about missing a DXpedition because of a pleasure or business trip taking you away from your station!

Bill was licensed in 1954 in Rhode Island as WN1HIJ and earned his General Class ticket shortly thereafter. Deeply immersed in the famous cycle 19, he immensely enjoyed chasing VK/ZL on 10 meter AM. He was a regular participant in 1RN and EAN CW traffic nets. After college and graduate school, ham radio took a back seat to "life". He moved to Washington State in 1968 and became W7GEG, but he let his license expire in 1975. The ham radio bug bit again in 1996. He earned an Extra Class license (AC6UH) and then took advantage of the vanity call sign program to reclaim the W1HIJ call sign. Bill is an accomplished contester and DXer. He has operated from French Polynesia (FOØSCH & FO8DX), Cuba (CO0US & T42FD), US Virgin Islands (KP2AA) and Puerto Rico (NP4A). He is in charge of the Telecommunications Division of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and spends a lot of time on the air on Coast Guard HF frequencies. For the past ten years he has been one of the friendly faces behind the counter at HRO-Anaheim.

Many of our club members gather before the meeting for dinner at the Roll 'n Rye deli at 10990 Jefferson Blvd., Culver City, California 90230. Telephone (310) 390-3497. Come join us to swap tall tales or learn of someone's latest exploit over the repast of your choice.

If you have any questions about this event, please contact Arnie Shatz, N6HC at n6hc at aol dot com.

The DXers of Southern California are looking forward to seeing you at our May meeting. Don't miss it!

When Vandals Strike Infrastructure, Hams Provide Communications Support

- - via ARRL News Bulletins - -

In the early morning, just after midnight on April 9, someone climbed down four manholes in the San Jose, California area and cut underground fiber optic cables. The sabotage led to widespread disruption of phone service -- including tens of thousands of land lines, an undetermined number of cell phones, Internet access and 911 emergency service -- in southern Santa Clara County, as well as in Santa Cruz and San Benito counties. San Jose is the county seat of Santa Clara County. With the infrastructure disabled, local Emergency Management officials called on ham radio operators in their communities to provide back-up communications. According to the San Jose Mercury News, Santa Clara County called a local state of emergency, "but worst-case scenarios were successfully avoided through use of ham radios, door-to-door checks and extra-vigilant patrols."

In Santa Cruz County, just over the Santa Cruz Mountains from San Jose, Santa Cruz County District Emergency Coordinator Cap Pennell, KE6AFE, was awoken that Thursday morning just after 5 AM by uniformed police at his door. Sent by Dominican Hospital President Nanette Mickiewicz, the police officers escorted Pennell-KE6AFE to the hospital for a brief on this situation: The fiber optic lines that had been cut in San Jose had affected the Santa Cruz hospital's communications infrastructure, cutting off communications from the hospital to the outside world. Santa Cruz is located on the northern edge of the Monterey Bay, about 72 miles south of San Francisco.

"While I was meeting with hospital department heads, Bob Wolbert, K6XX, had started our ARES Resource Net on the W6WLS/W6MOW linked repeaters," Pennell told the ARRL. "During the briefing, the hospital determined to implement HICS/SEMS for this emergency. There hadn't been telephones or Internet anywhere since about 2:30 AM. The hospital's phone system did work, but only within the hospital. Their internal computer local area network wasn't working either, so they were instantly on a 'paper system.'"

By 6:15 AM, Pennell said they had established tactical radio links on the K6BJ/KI6EH linked repeaters between the Dominican Hospital Emergency Operations Center in Santa Cruz and the Watsonville Community Hospital emergency room; Watsonville is about 15 miles south of Santa Cruz via the Pacific Coast Highway. "We established HEARNET 155.385 simplex between both hospital ERs and County 911; HEARNET is the Hospital Emergency Administrative Radio Network. Once HEARNET (ER staff) and K6BJ repeater (hams) were staffed and operating at both hospitals, I left the hospital to become our initial ham operator at the County Emergency Operations Center and operated as ARES/ACS shift supervisor from there for the rest of the day," Pennell reported.

Community Leaders Praise Hams

Gilroy, the southernmost city in Santa Clara County, was also affected. City Administrator/Director of Emergency Services Thomas J. Haglund expressed his thanks to the Amateur Radio operators who assisted with communications support, saying, "This particular emergency situation underscores that our reliance on technology should be balanced with maintaining the very types of capabilities that you provided to us. Communication is an obvious key to adequately responding to any emergency and the efforts of the Mutual Aid Communicators and the Gilroy Police VIP's provided the necessary communication and public visibility in this instance and demonstrated just how important your training and skill is to our community. Thank you very much for your dedication and expertise."

Gilroy Police Chief Denise Turner echoed Haglund's comments: "We truly appreciated all of your help during this challenging event! Each of you played a key role in a successful operation. I feel better knowing we have dedicated volunteers like you that will come to our aid in time of need! Thank you!"

-- Some information provided by The San Jose Mercury News and The Daily Tech

Local ARRL CW Sweepstakes Results

by Arnie Shatz – N6HC

Two OCARC members qualified for recognition in the 2008 ARRL CW Sweepstakes contest.

Bob Harrington, AA6PW, was the Orange section, single operator, low power winner with 833 QSOs, 80 sections worked and a final score of 133,280 points.

Arnie Shatz, N6HC, was the Orange section, single operator, high power winner with 1,064 QSOs, 80 sections worked and a final score of 170,240 points.

Both Bob and Arnie will also receive a whisk broom and commemorative pin from the ARRL for their "clean sweep" contest achievement.

Digital-ATV - - Cont'd from Pg 7

If I examine the needs of emergency communications groups (like RACES and ARES) to provide ATV pictures back to an EOC....currently it is difficult to get a little analog ATV (point-to-point) through the hills of Orange County...I can imagine that D-ATV may have more path loss difficulties and may deliver NO picture at all. Some D-ATV testing in Orange County needs to be done.

Finally, I personally find D-ATV technology quite complex. Since transmitters for D-ATV are expensive or you can design your own...I find the complexity of designing my own D-ATV much much more complex than designing my own SSB transmitter or FM transmitter. In addition, commercial standards continue to evolve. For example: The DVB-S spec is being replaced by the newer DVB-S2 standard. While DVB-S2 is faster and better (and even more complex - using new FEC scheme like Bose-Chaudhuri-Hocquengham), it threatens to obsolete D-ATV equipment built with DVB-S designs.

In conclusion, it appears that the mainline ATV-ers in US are currently passing up the "the Digital Fork in the Road" for D-ATV and continuing to use analog ATV. I will be surprised to see a big increase in D-ATV usage over the next five years. Only the cheap availability of US DTV antenna set-top boxes and more inexpensive D-ATV transmitters/components are probably able to change my outlook.

As I said in the beginning, I am not a D-ATV expert, just very much interested in D-ATV technology. If readers have other knowledge of D-ATV information and activities, and other insights on the viability of D-ATV...I would be delighted to hear from you.

D-ATV References and Links:

- Digital Video Broadcasting organization (DVB) – see www.DVB.org
- Advanced Television Systems Committee (ATSC) – see www.ATSC.org
- The Ultimate Resource for Digital Amateur Television – see www.D-ATV.com
- WHAT EXACTLY IS 8-VSB ANYWAY? – see <http://www.broadcast.net/~sbe1/8vsb/8vsb.htm>
- Digital Amateur TeleVision (D-ATV), by HB9JNX/AE4WA, et al – see www.baycom.org/~tom/ham/dcc2001/datv.pdf
- DATV / Digital Amateur Television Primer – G7LWT – see www.G7LWT.com/datv.html
- CQ-TV magazine from BATC (mostly analog) – see www.BATC.org.uk/cq-tv/
- SR-Systems D-ATV components (Boards) – see www.SR-systems.de

OCARC General Meeting Minutes

for: April 17, 2009

The OCARC April General Meeting was held at the Red Cross complex in Santa Ana on Friday evening, April 17th, at 7 PM. There were a total of 29 members and visitors present (with many club members absent due to the Visalia DX Convention). A quorum of the club officers was present, with Nicholas-AF6CF, Kristin-K6PEQ, Bob-AF6C, Dan-N6PEQ, and Ken-W6HHC attending.

PROGRAM:

The speaker for the meeting was Dennis Kidder W6DQ who presented:

“Precision Timing and Frequency Standards”

Dennis-W6DQ was able to start with showing us drawings of the earliest timing devices (clocks) and how they improved over the years to the point where today’s “atomic clocks” are accurate to 1 second in 2.7 million years. He also traced the progress of oscillators and frequency standards and made the point that today’s ham rigs have more accurate frequencies than the National Bureau of Standards (now called NIST) had back in the 1920’s and 1930’s.



Dennis-W6DQ Describing the Earliest Clocks

NEW BIZ:

Nicholas-AF6CF explained that the Board had accepted the resignation of the Director-at-Large, James-AF6DE who is tied up with the publicity for his new book. A motion was made and unanimously approved to elect George-N6VNI to the position of Director-at-Large.

GOOD OF THE CLUB:

The club Membership director Bob-AF6C introduced 5 visitors to the meeting:

- KI6RCG Albert Kuhl
- KI6RCH Elke Kuhl
- KI6RCI Ines Kuhl
- KD6MWZ Cheryl Simpson
- K6RMX Fred Fry

Submitted by:

Ken W6HHC (Acting Secretary)

Internet GOOGLE Celebrates Birthday of Samuel Morse

The popular Internet search engine, **Google**, celebrated the birthday of the inventor of Morse Code, Samuel Morse, on April 27. Google used Morse Code to spell out their name G-O-O-G-L-E as shown below. Morse sent his famous first message between Baltimore and Washington, DC in 1844.



OCARC**Board Meeting Minutes****2009-04-02**

The OCARC Board meeting was held at the Jager-Haus Restaurant, 2525 East Ball Road, Anaheim, at 8:15AM Saturday, May 2, 2009. There were a total of 10 members and visitors attending. There was a quorum of directors present, with the following directors absent: Kristin K6PEQ, Dan N6PEQ, Hank W6HTW, and Rich KE6WWK.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

- Treasurer Paul W6GMU reported \$3850.
- Bob AF6C said that the preliminary membership roster was emailed to the club and is now waiting for additions and/or corrections. As soon as he receives the information the new roster will be posted.
- Ken W6HHC has received the quote on the business cards with the help of Kris KC6TOD (from one of her suppliers). The price is reasonable and we will move forward. Ken will also contact local newspapers and possibly Newline for publicity for Field Day 2009.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **RF Newsletter "Rotating" Editors**
 - May – Ken W6HHC
 - Jun – Kristine KC6TOD
 - July – ???
 - Aug – Bob AF6C
 - Sep – Paul W6GMU
 - Oct – Nicholas AF6CF
- **QSL Printing and Mailing** – the QSL cards have been sent to Lee Barrett, he will reply with cost and time frame. Kristin to provide estimate.
- **Guest Speakers** – Kristin has the remainder of the year covered.
- **Morse code Class** - Kristin K6PEQ and Larry K6YUI will have a second class tentatively in July.
- **Field Day June 26th-28th, 2009**
 - Larry K6YUI will be organizing the equipment for Field Day
 - Paul W6GMU reported that the plans are

- moving along for FD to be held at the Los Alamitos Joint Training Base as last year.
- Possible cost to use the base is \$300.00, motion to pay the cost by Kristine KC6TOD seconded by Bob AF6C. All were in favor!
- Paul W6GMU will have a letter in the May newsletter outlining Field Day 2009.
- Discussed chuck wagon – Kris KC6TOD said the menu for Saturday night will be flexible to accommodate all volunteers. Friday night's steak dinner will remain the same for the hard work of those volunteers. Kris has suggested that a \$20.00 donation be made per person for the food for the entire weekend. A contain will be circulated at the May & June meeting, that will help with the expenses and covers food from Friday night through Sunday morning breakfast. Kris also asked for YL volunteers to help – for the weekend and also for Sunday morning to bring electric skillets and griddles. Please contact Kris to volunteer.
- Suggestion to invite the Anaheim Radio Club to join OCARC and WARA at FD.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Financial Report**
 - Revision 1 of the 2008 Financial Statement was signed off by auditing committee including Paul W6GMU. It was motioned to be accepted by Paul W6GMU, seconded by George N6VNI, and approved unanimously. [\[see copy on Pg 13\]](#)
 - For future accounting a more detailed monthly spreadsheet will be used to make a more responsible explanation of income and expenses.
- **2009 Field Day WEB Info** – the Web page on FD has been updated
- **New Board Member Welcome** – Nicholas welcomed our newly elected board member, George N6VNI, as Director-At-Large.

Respectfully submitted:

Kristine Jacob KC6TOD, Secretary

		Orange County Amateur Radio Club - W6ZE			
		12/31/2008			
		Financial Report for 2008			
		Revision 1			
Receipts:		Cash - Beginning Balance: 2008-01-01			
Auction Income	\$324.89	Checking Account		\$4,747.00	
Badge Income	\$35.00	Savings Account		\$783.63	
Christmas Dinner Ticket Sales	\$1,206.00	Total Beginning Balance:		\$5,530.63	
Coffee Mug Sales	\$24.00				
Donations - FD (Tip Jar)	\$351.37				
Donation - Kei Yamachika Trust	\$250.00				
Donation - other	\$2.00				
Dues Membership	\$885.00				
Dues Family	\$90.00				
Dues Future	\$140.00	Cash - Ending Balance: 2008-12-31			
Interest	\$8.31				
Miscellaneous	\$0.67				
Pal Pal "nudges"	\$0.33	Checking Account		\$3,097.73	
Raffle - Christmas	\$1,082.00	Savings Account		\$792.94	
Raffle - Monthly	\$1,311.00	Outstanding checks		-\$112.60	
		Total Ending Net Balance:		\$3,778.07	
Total Receipts:	\$5,710.57				
Disbursements:					
Auction Payout	\$199.89				
Awards and Plaques	\$131.46	Total Beginning Balance: \$5,530.63			
Badge Expenses	\$0.00	Total Ending Net Balance: \$3,778.07			
Bank Service Charges	\$0.00	Net Change for the Year -\$1,752.56			
Brochure Printing Expense	\$61.84				
Christmas Dinner Payout	\$1,271.84				
Coffee Mugs	\$140.08				
Donations - OC Fair	\$100.00				
Field Day Food	\$964.08				
Field Day - Tower	\$1,385.97	Approved: (Signed copy on file.)			
Field Day Base, Hardware + Gas	\$685.71				
Flowers - KQ6JD	\$43.09				
Generator Maintenance	\$13.64	K. Jacob KC6TOD			
Insurance	\$320.00	Kristine Jacob - Audit Committee Member			
Legal Fees	\$20.00				
OCCARO Membership	\$20.00				
P.O. Box Rental	\$38.00	K. Dankert K6PEQ			
Programs - DVD	\$25.00	Kristin Dankert - Audit Committee Member			
Raffle - Christmas Radios	\$175.63				
Raffle - Christmas Womens	\$100.00				
Raffle - Monthly	\$1,382.26	D. Dankert N6PEQ			
Refreshments - monthly mtgs	\$17.45	Dan Dankert - Audit Committee Member			
Refreshments - 75th Anniversary	\$282.42				
Supplies	\$24.83				
WEB Site Expense	\$59.94	M. Gussow W6GMU			
		Paul Gussow - Treasurer (2008 - 2009)			
Total Disbursements:	\$7,463.13				
Net Profit (Loss)	-\$1,752.56				

A HISTORY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Part 15

by Bob - WB6IXN, Club Historian

*** THE MODERN ERA – cont'd ***

1996

President Bob Eckweiler, AF6C, picked up the gavel for the January 1996 Club meeting. John KD6PZF helped with ham radio communications for the Rose Parade on New Years Day.

The Saturday morning Board Meeting Breakfasts were held at the Wildflower Café on Grand Ave in Santa Ana. Some years back, the Activities Chairman would secretly designate a 'Mr(s) RF' prior to each meeting. Mr. RF would keep track of the 3rd person to shake his/her hand, and that person would receive extra raffle tickets...More tickets were awarded if that person was wearing a Club badge! The Club voted to re-instate Mr. RF that year.

The Orange County Amateur Radio Club becomes recognized as a Special Services Club by the ARRL for the first time. Ken-W6HHC, Frank-WA6VKZ, Bud-WA6VPP, Bob-KD6BWH, Tom-WA6PFA, and Phil-KK6QE (now N7PA) helped with communications for the Baker-to-Vegas Race in April for the Orange Police Department running team.

Chris- KJ6ZH volunteered to be Field Day Chairman, and Frank-WA6VKZ was Chief Cook. Field Day was held once again at the MCAS(Helicopter) Base in Tustin. The Club operated Class 4A with 2,609 QSOs for 7,696 points.

The OCARC Annual Auction took place on Oct. 18, 1996. The Club nets +or- \$800 from the Club Auction and K6VDP's sale of a Club tower. Art, KE6WOX, filled in for Activities Chmn. for the remainder of the year for KJ6TK.

The Club Christmas Dinner found the Club at the Chinese China Palace on Dec. 8. A gift exchange was held, and children under 10 received a gift from the Club. The 1996 'Good of the Club Award' was awarded to Art Dillon, KE6WOX. Finally in 1996, AF6C was awarded his 'Good of the Club' Award from 1981, thanks to detective work by Ken-W6HHC.

1997

President Frank Smith, WA6VKZ, was found pounding the gavel at meetings in 1997 for a club-record fifth time. Bob-WB6IXN worked OCARC charter member, Shelley Trotter, W6BAM, who was living in Firebaugh, CA, on 40M CW.

Larry-K6VDP and Larry-K6LDC co-chaired Field Day. Field Day was held June 28-29 at the Marine Corps Helicopter base in Tustin with setup getting started on the 27th. Steve-KE6NAH, Frank-WA6VKZ, and Bob-KM6TL shared cooking duties for Field Day. Raw FD scores were: 2,152 QSOs for 5,024 points.

Kei Yamachika, W6NGO, a long-time OCARC member beginning in the mid-1930's, became a Silent Key in July 1997. The Club voted unanimously to rename the 'Good of the Club Award' to the 'W6NGO Good of the Club Award' in memory of Kei. His widow, Ida, set up the Kei Yamachika Trust Fund from the sale of his station that is still making donations to the club in 2009.

OCARC members were involved with quite a few events during 1997. Several members worked the Baker-to-Vegas relay run in early April. W6ZE held its 1st 'Not-so-DXpedition' April 25-27 at the El Mirage Dry Lake Bed through the efforts of Larry K6LDC. Members from the OCARC staffed the Amateur Radio Booth at the Orange County Fair. Club volunteers provided communications for the California Classic Marathon horse-carriage competition in Palos Verdes that was organized by Bob-KD6XO. A second Not-so-DXpedition to El Mirage Dry Lake Bed was held in October. Tom-WA6PFA performed public service tele-vising the October fire in Orange to the Orange P.D EOC using ATV.

HAMCON '97, the ARRL Southwestern Div. Convention, was held Sept. 12-14 in Riverside. Chris Breller KJ6ZH produced the Wouff Hong Ceremony at the ARRL Southwestern Convention with the help of many OCARC members. Bud-WA6VPP recorded the Wouff Hong Ceremony, and a CD was placed in the Club Historical Records.

The Club made a profit of \$119.64 at the Annual Club Auction. The Club Christmas Dinner was held on Dec. 13 at Country Harvest Buffet in Orange. The "W6NGO Good of the Club" Award was presented to Chris Breller, KJ6ZH.

(To be continued next month
...Bob Evans, WB6IXN, Club Historian)

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