



Amateur Radio Club of Alameda

Electronic News Letter September 27, 2004

By KL7IDY

October Activities:

September 30	KO6JF, Sandy
October 7	KL7IDY, Joe
October 14	KF6YRG, Michael John
October 21	KL7IDY, Joe
October 28	KF6YRG, Michael John

Congratulations to Sandy, KO6JF and Bill, AE6HP for passing the requirements to become Volunteer Examiners for the ARRL VEC Program. Check out the ARRL web site to review the Volunteer Examiner Manual. This has all the information needed to become a VE. This is a great way to help other hams advance themselves in the state of the art of Amateur Radio: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/veman2000finalpdf.PDF>

September Meeting

Thanks to Texx Woodworth, KG6ATH, the East Bay Section Affiliated Club Coordinator for attending the September ARCA Meeting.

Disaster Preparedness Strategy Session:

Al, KG6HM and Sandy, KO6JF reported on their luncheon meeting with Alameda Fire Captain Rick Zombeck. Topics discussed include authorization for ARCA to install radio equipment and antennas in Building 522 for a club station. Al accepted the task to follow-up with Capt. Zombeck for an access and installation date for the station.

Joe, KL7IDY accepted the responsibility to configure permanent HF, VHF and UHF antennas for the station.

Other topics included having ARCA members provide radio communications between CERT training classes and fire stations as support to the Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) training program.

Another Fire Department Disaster Office is for ARCA to establish communications capability with other Emergency Operations Centers in the East Bay.

Standing Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report - The club cash on hand is \$137.00. U.S. Bank has a program for no-cost checking accounts for organizations such as ARCA. Treasurer Kohler will follow-up with an account application with signature authorities for the President, Vice-President and Secretary/treasurer.

EMCOMM Report - Sandy, KO6JF reported on participation in the ORCA Simulated Emergency Test held on Thursday, September 24th and upcoming Tri-County SET scheduled on October 2nd. ARCA participation to the Tri-County SET will be a member check-in.

Date: Saturday, October 2, 2004
Time: 0800 PDT
Frequency: 146.505 MHz FM

Education Committee Report - Bill, AE6HP reported that plans are still on for Wednesday night meeting times in Building 522 for educational training purposes. Joe, KL7IDY has the responsibility to make room reservations for the meeting place.

ARRL Affiliation - The ARCA application for Club Affiliation has been acknowledged by ARRL and is undergoing Pacific Division and Section Review. Andy, N6AJ0 advised that final approval of Club Affiliation requires ARRL Executive Board approval at the quarterly board meeting.

Club Call Sign KG6WJF - The ARCA Club license has been received and is in the possession of the Club Call Sign Trustee, Jay, KF6YQZ. A discussion was held at the meeting and a variety of vanity call signs were suggested. A consensus of the criteria for call sign selection was discussed:

- a. Prefix letter: W, K, N, A in descending order of preference.
- b. Call area numeral digit: "6"
- c. Call sign format: 1x2, 1x3, 2x1 descending order of preference.
- d. Suffix letter options:
 - JAH "Just A Hobby"
 - OAH "Only A Hobby"
 - ALA "ALAmada"
 - ACA "Alameda, California"
 - ARA "ARCa"
 - EAR "EAR"

The application for a vanity call sign will be forwarded with up to ten available call signs that meet the above criteria.

October Meeting Program - Al, KG6HM will arrange for the program for the October meeting. The tentative topic is "Microwaves"

Pacificon Reminder - Andy distributed copies of the Pacific Division Report at the meeting. The main topic of this report is Pacificon 2004. Pacificon runs from Friday, October 15 though Sunday, October 17th.

NCCC California QSO Party - Little to no interest was expressed in a Club operation during the October 2-3 California Party. No organized club operation is planned.

Alameda Hospital Health Faire - ARCA will have a booth setup in the Alameda Hospital Health Faire. Thanks to Sandy, KO6JF, the club now has a 4' x 2' durable banner with the new logo. This banner will adorn the ARCA booth. It is planned to have active radio equipment, solar panels, a live VHF station to communicate with the Hospital VHF station. Members wishing to work the booth or the Hospital station should plan to be in the Hospital parking lot about 8:30 am on Saturday, October 23rd.

September Meeting Program - Sandy, KO6JF presented an informative program on PSK-31 digital mode complete with an active station, screen shots and a real time projections. Murphy was lurking about on meeting night because the normally signal filled spectrum on 20 meters was dead as a door nail. Not even the excellent signal to noise ratio capabilities of PSK-31 could dig a signal out of the noise. Sandy reported that 20 meters was hot on the night *before* the meeting....

Thanks to all members that attended the September meeting.

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If you have any comments or information for this electronic newsletter, please e-mail Joe Kohler, KL7IDY at:

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