

the *Circle City* **Communicator**

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ARRL Affiliated Club No 2108

CLUB OFFICERS

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Message From The President

QST, QST, QST. . .

THIS MESSAGE IS DIRECTED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE CORONA-NORCO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS.

I want to get right to the meat of the message here. At the last meeting I proposed some by-law changes to those present (*you will find them printed later in this newsletter*). These changes will be voted on at the next meeting in September. I believe that these changes will greatly enhance the election process by allowing a three month transition period from the outgoing officers to the incoming officers. This will eliminate the one night transition that has caused so much confusion in the past. Trying to transfer all the club documents and duties, while running the elections, while trying to cover any other club business is really a tough job. We can save the incoming officers a lot of trouble by passing these changes.

Of course this means that the elections will be at the October meeting and the nomination committee will be looking for candidates for office very soon. In other words if you are thinking about running for office, the time for thinking is past and the time for decision making is upon us. Please let the nominating committee know your intentions. Remember, IF YOU DON'T RUN FOR OFFICE, OR DON'T VOTE IN OCTOBER, DON'T

COMPLAIN about how the club is run. I have to be strong on this because we need to keep our club running smoothly and moving forward.

The Saturday immediately following Labor Day is the Barney Oldfield Special Event with our station to be located at Joy Park on East Grand Blvd. about one-quarter mile east of south Main St. We have commemorative QSL cards for all contacts made and those working the station. Talk in will be 146.535 MHz. Hours will be forthcoming.

DON'T FORGET THE MEETING IS ON SEPTEMBER 14TH, ONE WEEK AFTER LABOR DAY.

Don't forget about the club net on Mondays!

73's
Mark, N6MWH

September Meeting - *Special*

Our September 14 meeting is being moved to the **Corona Police Department** located at the Civic Center on 6th Street.

CNARC members will have the privilege of an exclusive tour conducted by Lt. Sam Spiegel of the dispatch facility, the city's Emergency Operating Center (EOC), and jail facility.

The tour will begin promptly at 7:30 pm so club members should plan to there no later than 7:15 pm.

Any club business will hopefully be conducted prior to the tour so don't be late as this has the makings of being a busy night.

PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGE

OFFICERS: Article II

Section 1 - The officers of this club shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Service Coordinator, and Editor of the Newsletter. The officers shall constitute the Board.

Section 2 - The officers shall be elected for a term of one year by ballot of the members present, providing there be a quorum. To be eligible to hold a club office, he/she must be a member in good standing and hold an Amateur Radio license of Technician class or higher.

Section 6 - The Public Service Coordinator is responsible for arranging and managing the communications for all public service events in which CNARC members (and other interested Radio Amateurs) participate.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting shall be held in the Month of October.

NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS:

The board shall appoint a Nominating Committee at the August meeting. This committee shall consist of 3 full members who are not currently serving on the Board.

The Nominating Committee shall 1) Seek out full members whom they determine are qualified and are willing to stand for election, and 2) present the slate of nominees to the membership in the October newsletter and the October meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting. Immediately following the close of nominations, the elections shall be held.

EXPO '92 IS HISTORY

Expo '92 was attended by some 3,000 hams. Much great equipment was given away - but not to us - and a great time was had by all. Rudy-KC6GTI, John-NF6Y, and Orv-K6LEF are the only known attendees from the CNARC. The two highlights of the convention in the view of NF6Y were the Banquet speaker (Dick Rutan, of Voyager fame) and the Tesla Coil Demonstration. Local Packet BBS Operator and former club member John Lind - KD7XG gave a presentation on Ham Radio and where it is going. The Voyager flight, around the world nonstop and non refueled was something to hear about. It took nine days, and we got most of the details of the living conditions. They mostly flew over water to avoid mountains and other obstacles. But they had to fly across central Africa and dodge thunder storms most of the way. When they were off the coast of California they almost spiraled into the water but got the engine started just in time. Dick Rutan is an excellent speaker and we were all spellbound.

The Tesla Coil shot lightning bolts into the air with utter abandon! We were warned to disconnect the battery and antenna on our handhelds to protect them from the electrical

discharges. As a finale, the lecturer sat in the middle of the coil, having bared his feet and sat in a small puddle of water to make better contact. The coil was energized- at something like 100 kilohertz and a bunch of volts and he lit a 40 watt bulb with this HF discharge through his body (actually across his body) and shot lightning bolts into the air on the other side of the bulb!

CNARC's No-Code License Class

We have finished the Novice/Tech class and are now in the planning stages for the first No-Code License class in the history of Corona. Enclosed with this issue of the Communicator is a flyer announcing the class. Please help us to publicize this event. Copies have been sent to the Libraries, Police, Fire, Senior Centers, Newspapers, etc. Perhaps you can use this flier in other organizations you belong to e.g. your church, civic club, newsletters, etc. Gerhard-WA6BHR, and Mike-KC6TWR, are working on the lesson plans to make the learning easy. We may need more instructors in specialized areas - any volunteers?

If you have any helpful hints or ideas that might be useful for this or future classes, please let us know. We'd appreciate them.

Status Of The HF Packet STA For Automatic Operation

Since 1985, a number of stations have been operating automatic, unattended packet message forwarding on HF using primarily the 40 thru 10m bands (including 30m and 17m) in a network known as SKIPNET. Automatic operation below 30 MHz is not currently authorized by the rules (as of 1987). These stations have been operating under a Special Temporary Authority (STA) from the FCC. The FCC uses STAs for a selected number of specific stations to experiment with new technologies or practices. This allows the "dust to settle" prior to a lengthy and expensive rule-making process.

In perhaps the longest running STA, the FCC has finally told the ARRL that it MUST have a proposal for rule-making before the current extension runs out in January 1993. One attempt was made by the ARRL at a rule-making proposal to the FCC in late 1989 (it became RM-7248). It would have set aside sub-bands for automatic digital operation on HF. Principally because of sub-band frequency selection, the proposal received much flak during FCC comment periods and was subsequently withdrawn by the ARRL. The STA has been extended since then without the FCC receiving any further proposals for rule-making.

The HF packet network is used as the principal means for linking VHF/UHF regional networks together into a truly global system. The U.S. is currently one of the only civilized countries in the world that has not adopted rules allowing some form of automatic packet operation on HF. It is based on a vision originated by Hank Oredson - W0RLI, one of the original packet developers, that would allow any amateur in the world to drop a message into a digital network and have it delivered anywhere else in the world. This vision is now known as The Amateur Radio Global Village.

This past July, The ARRL Digital Committee drafted a set of recommendations to the ARRL Board of Directors which was adopted by the BoD at its July meeting. The recommendations precluded automatic operation, but allowed "semi-automatic"

operation provided the station initiating the contact was attended by a control operator. This was received with an uproar from the STA participants, who were not consulted prior to the Digital Committee or BoD. "Semi-automatic" is not seen as viable for packet switched networks which use a network protocol designed for automation. In addition the Digital Committee report was flawed in a number of areas, both technically and in its use of a poorly constructed and conducted poll (with 507 responses).


The uproar created enough heat from the packet community as a whole that continued building through the end of July and into August. Both ARRL National HQ (and Fried locally) were inundated with mail, telephone calls, faxes, and in Fried's case a tremendous volume of packet messages. Responding to the pressure, Fried held a semi-private meeting at 9:00 pm on Friday, August 21st. This meeting included three members of the ARRL Digital Committee, three members of the ARRL Headquarters Staff, and three HF Packet STA members from the Southwestern Division, Fried Heyn (the SWD Director) and an Asst. SWD Director.

The purpose of this meeting was to seek, if possible, a solution more acceptable to the packet community than the current ARRL proposal for rule-making (which was approved by the ARRL BoD in July). The meeting ran over three hours and hammered out an alternative that would allow automatic, unattended operation. This proposal was taken by Fried Heyn into an ARRL Executive Committee and BoD meeting early the next morning.

While the proposal itself was not "adopted" at that meeting, the "process" was. While I don't have a copy of the minutes of the meeting, the essence of it is for a conference of 5 of the HF packet STA members with the Digital Committee to hammer out an alternative in late September, sponsored by the ARRL. The three primary reasons for this BoD decision are: to allow HF Packet STA members representation on a national level; full Digital Committee to be present and will follow the IARU Region 2 Conference in early September (HF packet is on the IARU agenda); it will give the HF packet STA community at large more time to gather information.

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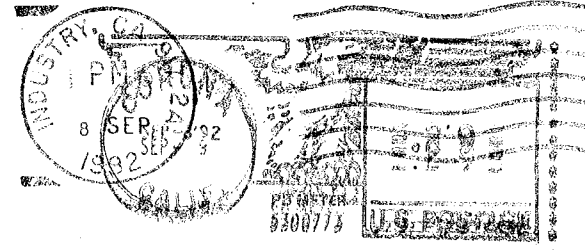
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