



The Circle City Communicator



October 1993

Volume IX

Issue No. 10

President's Soapbox

I hope everyone enjoyed the video at the September meeting. I know I did. It was quite some station shown in the video. I wish I had one like it.

I realize I came on a bit strong regarding the ham community's lack of political involvement. This is only because I am very concerned about the future of amateur radio. To paraphrase, if the shooting community was only as involved in politics as it appears the amateur radio community is, then today anyone wanting to shoot would have to get a permit and go to the police station to pick his or her gun. Believe me, it does not pay to be part of the silent majority. A letter or postcard at the right time can perform miracles. But, enough on that subject.

Our future board meetings will be held at the Senior Citizens Center, on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 P.M.

There are many of the board that feel it is time for new blood and do not wish to stand for election. So think about getting involved. The club needs you. I'd hate to see it die for lack of interest.

We are considering opening the club station an hour before meeting time so interested parties may use it. We would like to know how many would take advantage of this opportunity. Let a board member know so we can decide if it is worth the extra time involved.

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The Board has modified it's thinking on the club station and has decided to first concentrate on VHF, FM and packet as the most needed in case of emergency. As proven for Barney Oldfield Day, it is no big deal to bring in and set up an H.F. station.

A big **THANK YOU** to all who operated on the Barney Oldfield Special Event. We have received a good response in QSL requests already.

So, '73 and **happy hamming**.

Dick, N6XUC

We Want You!!!!

Any licensed ham who has been a member of CNARC for a minimum of six months and is interested in a position as a CNARC club officer should contact a member of the nominating committee by October 13, 1993. The nominating committee may be contacted at the numbers listed below:

Dan, KD6QCO	734-2217
Doc, WA6ZKZ	734-0994
Don, N6DYR	371-4056

Elections will be held during the November General Meeting.

CNARC General Meeting September 13, 1993

President N6XUC called the meeting to order at 07:30 PM followed by introductions. The meeting was held at the Corona Senior Citizens Center.

The Treasurer's Report by KC6YRH shows a General Fund of \$579.65 and an Equipment Fund of 353.65 for a total of \$933.30.

The following stations submitted logs for the Barney Oldfield Special Event operation: W6TKV, AAF6F, KN6KH, N6XUC, KC6YRH, KD6KRI and KD6OKT. Over 350 QSO's were made.

W6TKV will study several options for using the Equipment Fund. One option is a club station and another is to set up an emergency station.

N6XUC read parts of the W5YI Report. It is now possible to get a special call from the FCC by paying a \$7 fee per year.

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KD6QCO reported that the nominating committee does not yet have a full slate of candidates for election. Anyone interested in running for club office contact committee members WA6ZKZ, N6DYR or KD6QCO.

If you are interested in helping with the Rose Parade communications contact KB6OWJ for an application.

NF6Y reports that we will hold a No-Code Technician class starting October 2nd. VEC's will be needed on Oct. 9 for the Novice test and Oct. 16 for the Technician and code tests.

KN6KH won a belt buckle in the Equipment Fund drawing and KD6QFA and N6XUC won Scratcher Tickets.

The program was presented by KC6YRH and was a video entitled *The Last Voice From Kuwait* about the efforts of 9K2DZ in providing news from Kuwait during the occupation by Iraq. If he had been caught, it would probably have cost him his life.

Respectfully submitted by AF6F

Corona Norco Amateur Radio Club

ARRL Affiliated Club #2108

P.O. Box 1783

Corona, California 91718

Board of Directors

President	Dick Moll, N6XUC	371-0555
Vice-President	Norm Musselman, KN6CV	734-8835
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Treasurer	Art Sutorus, KC6YRH	734-1485
Editor	Phyllis Frasier, KD6AUU	734-4464
Pub/Srv Coord	John Miller, NF6Y	735-0284

A man who views the world at 50 the same as he did at 20 has wasted 30 years of his life.

Muhammed Ali

Too Good Samaritan

Those of us who have for years been active two-meter mobilers can relate numerous incidents where we helped our fellow man by using our radios. We've stopped to assist drivers with flat tires, overheated engines, empty tanks, etc. In doing so until just a few years ago, I doubt many gave a second thought to our safety. Apparently, being a good Samaritan was assurance enough that no one would think of doing us harm.

Well, today that perception is out of place. Consider these reports:

* "Two Colorado good Samaritans stop to help stranded motorist on East Coast highway shot and left to die."

* "Good Samaritan buys gas for a down-and-out driver; robbed and shot while pouring it in tank."

* "Boulder resident stops to help lady motorist waving for help; her accomplices beat, rob, and shoot this good Samaritan."

On and on it goes. My message to you is, "**Personal Safety First.**" You cannot afford to let your human sympathies make you a statistic on America's crime rolls. You have a radio. Look the situation over as you drive by. If it warrants a call for help, use your radio -but don't stop. Let the police do the job they are trained and paid to do.

Are their exceptions? Of course. If you come upon an accident with other people gathered at the scene, or if you actually see an accident happen, it's reasonable to assume it is safe to stop to offer communications help.

So be concerned but cautious and wary. Observe and communicate. Use your radio to call the professionals to respond and handle the situation.

When you are a good Samaritan, make sure you are a Survivor, not a victim.

by Robin Moseley, WA3T, from the Sept. '93 ARNS, from the April '93 Mountain ARC "Communicator" - NBCIX Editor

A Word of Advice by Mike Frasier, KN6KH

Many of the newest hand-held radios sold today are easily modified to function outside of the amateur bands. While at this time it is not illegal to listen into the public safety, military, and other activities near the amateur bands it is very illegal to transmit outside the amateur allocation. To keep yourself out of trouble if your HT can transmit in an unauthorized band try this simple solution.

If I want to monitor the Corona Police Department on my HT, I can set it to 154.755MHz. The difference between that frequency and the club's simplex frequency (146.535MHz) is 8.220MHz. I can then program an odd offset into my radio for a receive of 154.755 and a transmit of 146.535. Then, if I accidentally hit the push-to-talk button while on the Corona PD frequency, the radio will transmit on 146.535, where it is legal. Do this for all of the non-amateur frequencies that you have programmed into your HT to avoid any problems.

Mark Your Calendar Now!!

**The CNARC Christmas
Monday, December 6, 1993
Senior Citizens Center
Tenth and Belle
Corona**

Details to be announced.

Digital Digest
by Mike Frasier, KN6KH
KN6KH @W6TJ.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA

Before I get into the topic for this month, I want you to notice the change in my packet address. W6TJ is the Riverside County RACES BBS in Riverside. It has been around for some time, but I could not reliably access the BBS from my location. The operators of W6TJ have arranged for KC6JJU in Alta Loma to provide a node which can be used to access the BBS. To use the node, set your radio to 145.610Mhz. Connect to **ALTA** or to **KC6JJU**. Nodes can be accessed either by name or call sign. Once connected to **ALTA**, issue the command **C W6TJ-1**. This will connect you to the BBS and seems to be very reliable and fast. W6TJ-1 will become my home BBS since it looks like KD7XG may never return.

The topic for this month is packet parameters. Parameters are the values that control the actions of the TNC. Because we share a single packet frequency with several other stations at the same time, it is important to make sure that the TNC doesn't try to "hog" the channel by transmitting too often or transmitting without listening. If everyone sets their parameters correctly, the total activity on a channel can be maximized. There are dozens of values that can be set in the TNC and several that deal with controlling when the TNC will transmit or listen. For this article I want to look at just six; CHECK, FRACK, SLOTTIME, PERSIST, RESPTIME, and MAX. Each of you will have to look up how to set the parameters in your TNC based on the software you are using.

CHECK should be set to a value of about 30. Each increment of CHECK represents 10 seconds, so a value of 30 is 300 seconds or five minutes. This will cause the TNC to check for a valid connection after five minutes of NO

activity. This will prevent the TNC from getting "hung-up" if a connection fails.

FRACK stands for FFrame ACKnowledge. A value of 5 for this parameters is good. FRACK determines the time to wait for an acknowledgement after a packet is sent. Each increment is one second so the TNC will wait five seconds for an acknowledgement after sending a packet before trying to send it again. If this is set too low the TNC transmits too frequently tying up the channel. If the number of tries exceeds the maximum as determined by RETRY, the connection is terminated.

SLOTTIME and PERSIST work together to determine how often the TNC will transmit packets. The recommended values are 30 for SLOTTIME and 40 for PERSIST. SLOTTIME of 30 stands for 300 milliseconds (one-third of a second). The TNC will wait for 300 milliseconds and then generate a random number between 0-255. The random number is compared to PERSIST. If the random number is less than or equal to PERSIST then the TNC will restart the timer and start the process over. If the random number is greater than PERSIST the TNC will transmit the packet. For this process to work DWAIT must be set to 0.

RESPTIME stands for RESPONSE TIME. Set this to 5 which translates to 500 milliseconds or one-half of a second. This is the time that your TNC will wait before responding to packets received. This allows a break on the channel for other users.

MAX means MAXframe. A good value for this is 4. The TNC will allow a maximum of 4 UN-acknowledged frame to be outstanding at any time. No additional (Cont'd page 5).....

CNARC FINANCIAL REPORT
(9/13/93)

PERIOD BEGINNING: 8/2/93
PERIOD ENDING: 9/13/93

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE(8/2/93):-----\$949.79

INCOME

Income-----

Raffle Receipts.....\$ 31.00
Equipment Fund Donation (KC6VUY)..\$ 30.00

Income Subtotal-----\$61.00

EXPENSES

Expenses-----

Communicator Expenses.....\$77.49
M. Frasier

Expenses Subtotal-----\$ 77.49

Current Balance-----\$933.30

General Fund....\$579.65
Equipment Fund..\$353.65

Note: The ARRL provides a commission to the Club of \$5.00 for first time memberships and \$2.00 for subsequent annual membership renewals. CNARC members are encouraged to renew their ARRL annual membership through the Club.

Submitted by:



Art Sutorus, KC6YRH
Treasurer



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(909) 734-8181

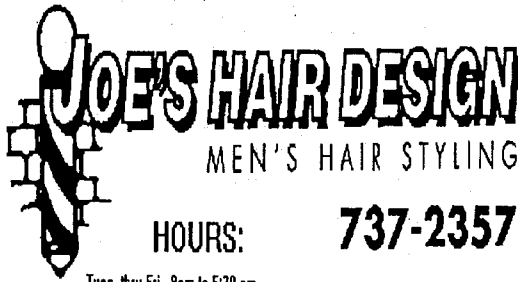


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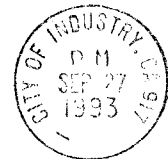
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, Oct. 4, 1993, 7:30 pm	General Club Meeting Senior Citizens Center Tenth and Belle, Corona
Wednesday, Oct 6, 1993, 8:00 am	Monthly CNARC Breakfast Location to be announced. Check-in on local frequency.
Tuesday, Oct. 12, 1993, 7:00 pm	Board Meeting Senior Citizens Center Tenth and Belle, Corona
Saturdays, Oct. 2, 9, & 16, 1993	No-Code Technician Class Senior Citizens Center Tenth and Belle, Corona
Monday, Nov. 1, 1993, 7:30 pm	CNARC Election of Officers for 1994 General Club Meeting Senior Citizens Center Tenth and Belle, Corona

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An ARRL Affiliated Club
P.O. Box 1783
Corona, California 91718



N6XUC
Dick Moll
1508 Emerald St.
Corona, CA 91720