

# THE CIRCLE CITY COMMUNICATOR

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CORONA NORCO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

September 2010 – Editor & Rumor Monger: Fred Roberts, froberts-w6tkv@att.net

## ARRL ELECTIONS

The current Director of the Southwestern Division is Dick Norton, N6AA who has served 2 terms, and is running for re-election.

Running in opposition is current Orange Section Manager, Carl Gardenias, WU6D.

Ballots will be mailed to members in the ARRL Southwestern Division no later than October 1, 2010. Ballots being returned by the members must be received by the ARRL in Newington, CT no later than noon on Friday, November 19, 2010.

It wouldn't hurt to plan on having your Ballot in the mail by the end of October.

## HEALTH ALERT

For those of you who watch what you eat, here's the final word on nutrition and health. It's a relief to know the truth after so many conflicting nutritional studies.

1. The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
2. The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
3. The Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
4. The Italians drink a lot of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
5. The Germans drink a lot of beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

### CONCLUSION:

Eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills you.

## THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT NET

At 7:00PM on each Wednesday evening, there is a 2M net on our repeater - 147.060 Mhz (+) with a PL 162.2 Hz.

This net is regularly hosted by Jim-KD6ECI who has done a great job in making the net an interesting one. It's a good way to make sure your 2M rig and your antenna works well. Jim is there for the benefit of all members. So, why not be a regular and have a good time?

## WANDERING

de Fred-W6TKV

When I was licensed in 1952 as a Novice, there was a written exam and a 5 wpm code test. The privileges were CW - period, no Phone.

But, the FCC had a terrific incentive program for motivating Novices to upgrade. What was it? Well, Novices had to meet a 10 or 15 wpm code requirement within 12 months. No upgrade, no more license. That was a real incentive program!

My first home-brew rig was a Crystal Oscillator with a 6L6 tube, a small DC power supply, and a big multi-band war-surplus receiver. My antenna was a 40M dipole in the attic of our apartment building - a 2-story building with 2 apartments on each floor, a center stairway, and a peaked roof with a large attic space for installing a 40M center-fed antenna.

In 1952, all transmitters were crystal controlled, while all receivers covered the whole band. Thus, one had to call CQ and then tune across the band to see if anyone was calling in response to your CQ. This led to my log having significant time gaps - each gap being my search time.

I didn't have a large number of QSOs, but I did upgrade in 4 months, and then my CW key was put aside and Phone took over.

I still have my Crystal Oscillator - it's only 58 years old, so why on earth would I discard it?

## CONTESTS & THE CLUB STATION

The ham station in our meeting room in the Fire Station is available for use by our members - particularly for those members who don't have a home station due to CC&R's in their local neighborhood.

If you have interest in getting on the air, a club member is sure to be available to help you get your feet wet. And, if anyone has just a Tech license, a club member with a higher license class can be there so you can use the club call sign - W6PWT ... the original owner used the phonetics Pole Cats Wild Cats and Tom Cats.

Right now, Field Day seems to be the only active day. Why not add a contest or two?

## **JOIN THE ARRL** **de Fred-W6TKV**

There are 140 clubs listed by the ARRL as "Affiliated Clubs", and CNARC is one of them.

I have been a ham for 58 years, and am currently a member of 3 other local clubs, all very much like CNARC - the city locations are Riverside, Seattle, and Minneapolis.

I cannot recall any of these clubs ever discussing or spending any money to protect their members, or hams in general, from losing any of our frequencies. My guess is that none of the 140 ARRL Affiliated Clubs have spent any money for this purpose.

In the not to distant past, the 220 band was being threatened, and I had occasion to be talking to a local ham about it. He said, "Well, I don't operate on that band." indicating loss of that band was of no consequence to him.

My response was, "You don't understand. If a member of your family was threatened in some manner, the remaining family members would get together and vigorously defend the rights of the single family member who was threatened. All of the hams in the U.S. are members of same family just as I am - the Ham Radio Family. I will do my best to protect the rights of any member who is at risk of losing any of his rights."

I would imagine that many of our newer hams today don't grasp that they are all part of the large Amateur Family, and if we don't protect all of our frequencies, we will lose each of our bands surprisingly fast.

Toward this end, the ARRL spends about \$100,000 per year to protect our frequencies. Do you understand that ARRL Membership makes you an active member of our Amateur Family?

ARRL Membership is a lot more than a monthly magazine. If you are not a current member, why not join now?

## **CNARC T- HUNT**

The September 4th hunt starts at 10:00 AM from St. John's Church located on the corner of Magnolia and Ontario Avenues in Corona.

Members are welcome to ride along with one of the hunters. Our hunts usually take 1 to 1-1/2 hours, and always end up for lunch at Norco's Best on Hamner Avenue (halfway between 4th and 5th Streets). For info: call Norm-KN6CV.

## **DON'T FORGET THE PICNIC**

Our Picnic will be on Saturday 11th at the Naval Warfare Assessment Division located just west of Hamner. Access is off of Hamner onto 4th Street (not 5th Street as incorrectly noted in last month's issue).

- 1) The Time - 10:00AM to 3:00PM
- 2) CNARC provides Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, and Soda.
- 3) You bring food items such as Salads, Chips, Fruit, Cookies, Cake, etc.
- 4) Bring your own Knives, Forks, Spoons, Napkins, etc.

Remember, if you haven't called Norm-KN6CV and told him everyone who is in your picnic group, you will not be able to access the picnic facility. If you haven't already done so:

**CALL NORM KN6CV NOW**

## **MEETING PROGRAM**

Our Program for the September Meeting will be a discussion of our repeater in an emergency environment. And, this includes reviewing how our communications can be handled in the event the repeater is down for any number of reasons. For example: a regular power outage, wind damage, a lightning strike, or an airplane crash.

Give some thought as to how we might best handle emergency communications while limited to simplex operation.

## **VE TEAM MEMBERS**

We currently have 8 VE Team Members with our latest VE being Paul Deveny, KV6P.

The other members of the VE Team are listed in their order of becoming a VE are: Fred-W6TKV, Dick-AF6F, Perry-AE6GQ, Tim-AI6DX, Max-AB6NS, Erick- W6GEV, and George-AF6UI.

Our first VE Test Session was some time ago - March 7, 2009. Our second Session was September 5, 2009 and since then our Session's have been held on the 1st Saturday of every month.

All Volunteers hold Extra Class licenses which is a requirement. We invite every club member holding an Extra Class license to join our VE Team. Being a VE is not a demanding task, and it is satisfying to provide a service in bringing newcomers into ham radio. And, it's nice to know

we have a few who have moved up from scratch to Extra Class in 3 consecutive Test Sessions.