

# THE CIRCLE CITY COMMUNICATOR

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CORONA NORCO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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

## VE REPORT

Our February 6th VE Test Session featured licenses for 9 new Technicians and 1 new Extra class. To our surprise, 2 General test-takers didn't make the grade.

Our VE Team for the day was Erick-W6GEV, Fred-W6TKV, and George AF6UI.

Our next session will be on March 6th, and our VE Team looks forward to seeing some of our club members taking advantage of the VE Test Sessions. VE Testing will never be more convenient. Hint, hint.

## THE MAUNDER MINIMUM

The Maunder Minimum (also known as the prolonged sunspot minimum) is the name used for the period roughly spanning 1645 to 1715 when sunspots became exceedingly rare, as noted by solar observers of the time.

Astronomers had also named the period after the solar astronomer Edward W. Maunder (1851–1928) who studied how sunspot latitudes changed with time. The periods he examined included the second half of the 17th century. Edward Maunder published two papers in 1890 and 1894, and he cited earlier papers written by Gustav Spörer. The Maunder Minimum's duration was derived from Spörer's work. Like the Dalton Minimum and Spörer Minimum, the Maunder Minimum coincided with a period of lower-than-average global temperatures.

Starting one 30-year period within the Maunder Minimum, astronomers observed only about 50 sunspots, as opposed to a more typical 40,000–50,000 spots in modern times.

## OUR MARCH PROGRAM

Our March program should be of particular interest to some of our newer members who have no recollection of earlier times of great propagation. Our most recent Solar Cycle has spent an excessive length of time on the bottom of the barrel, raising fear of a repeat of the Maunder Minimum. Recently, however, there are clear signs that things are definitely getting better.

Fred-W6TKV will discuss how many amateurs spend a lot of their "spare time" in other

club-like organizations. Drawing on his operating experiences and a view of where he has spent operating time over the past 60 years may open windows of opportunity for our members, particularly those newer to ham radio.

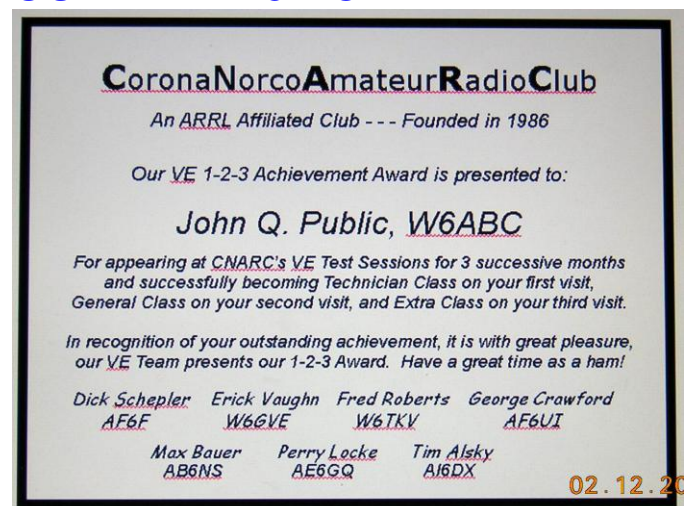
Areas of discussion will range from 10M T-Hunting, Ten-Ten International, County Hunters, YL International Single-Sidebanders, Southern California DX Club, Special Events, Operating from other locations, states and countries, Getting into CW, to the ubiquitous QSL.

## CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

At a recent meeting, amendments to our Constitution and By-Laws were approved by the membership. Copies of the current copy have been distributed to each of the three members of our Management Committee. As members may recall, after the three committee members are elected, they select one of their number to serve as Chairman, and they also split up the management of the club so that between the three of them, all bases are covered.

Minutes of our Meetings will be distributed to all members by e-mail. This will provide all members with a run-down on current club activities. We urge all members to check our web-site and read the Constitution & By-Laws.

## OUR VE 1-2-3 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



All CNARC VE's are listed on this award, and the award is amended as needed.