

February's club meeting was a good meeting. Our president Dick Parker K7ZI opened the meeting at 7:30 P.M. Started out with club business.

1. Field Day:
 - a. Looking for volunteers
2. Ecom needs:
 - a. Manager
 - b. Net Controls Operators
3. ICS & NIMS Training:
 - a. IS-100 and IS-700
4. Motion on the clubs money:

March Club Night

Digital Modes demo. Ken Oliver W7KBM and Bill Rankin WA0YPL have been asked to put on this presentation. I bet we will hear about packet radio, satellite, 802.11b and more.

Steve Miner from the local radio station will be here to listen in on what we have to say. I think Steve may help us get our name out in the community and let people know we are here.

Also we may hear about a little club history from one of the club members, to be announced.

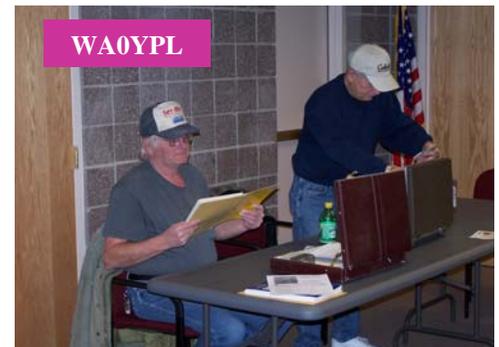


First, Filed Day Chairman. Dick asked for any volunteer's to chair this position. NO takers.

Second, Bill Rankin WA0YPL is doing a great job with the Ecom responsibilities. Bill has asked for some help to chair the ECOM committee.

Bill is reading off his list of items and people he needs. Some of those needs are: ECOM manager, secretary, and net controls. Bill Express that this is a big job to do, and needs our help and support to make ECOM successful.

Third Item of business, is ICS & NIMS Training. The Club for the last few short years has been working on getting involved in emergency communications with public safety. As we get more involved we are finding out that we need to



be trained in ICS IS-100 and IS-700. Last Club night we discussed the minimum radio operators needed to fulfill this training. As of yet I don't believe we have had any volunteers. If you are interested in taking part in RACES, ARES, or our ECOM group, please get with Bill WA0YPL and he will get you started in the right direction. We feel like we need at least 5 qualified people to fill these needs. We will take all we can get.

Fourth Item, there was a motion to move all the hamfest money into the general fund account, motion was seconded then voted on and passed in favor of moving it to the general fund.

RCARC Finance Report

Beginning Balance as of	01/31/06	1673.32
Membership deposit	02/00/06	+90.00
Check # 435	02/00/06	-7.04
Check # 436	02/00/06	-10.60
Check # 437	02/00/06	-69.32
Ending Balance	02/28/06	1676.96



Happy St.
Patrick's Day !!

FYI

Bill Rankin is also working on something called weather watch. I am sure Bill will have more information coming in the future to let us know what we need to do to be certified as weather watch people. Sounds like fun to me. I have always wanted to chase after a twister. Keep up the good work Bill.



President's Page

For the last few months I have been flogging the concept of personal preparedness. I would like to leave that, for a minute, and address a matter that takes precedence over personal preparedness. That is, family and home preparedness.

I think we all know that in the event of “the big one”, our first priority will be caring for home and family. Preparing the home and family for a possible catastrophe is an absolute necessity. Thinking about it should be the first step. Talking together should be next and actually doing something about it should be final.

May I suggest— you hold a discussion with all family members what you would do in event the lights go out. What will you do if you go to get a drink and the faucet has no water in it? Or, what to do if a severe earthquake strikes? What would you do if a fire starts somewhere in the home?

Questions along this line will go a long way in helping children and yourself begin the process of developing a workable action plan for when the real thing happens—or when you use this idea as an activity for the family to work through, some weekend.

Let me suggest several things that should have already happened in your home.

- Do you know, step by step, what to do in case of fire?
- Do you have a backup plan in case the primary plan doesn't work?
- If family members get separated, do they know the common meeting place?
- Do you know how to shut off water, electricity and gas? Are tools handy?
- Has the family actually participated in an emergency drill? Different scenarios could have different action plans.
- Is the water heater secured to an outside or sturdy wall?
- Is the house itself bolted to the foundation?
- Are fire extinguishers in strategic locations around the home? Are they up to date?
- Can the 72 hour kit be retrieved from the outside of the home? Are they up to date?
- Do the storage shelves have barriers on them so bottles can't be shaken off?
- Can we sustain life in our home for a week without outside assistance?

These and many more questions should be topics of discussion with the family and periodically drilled with them. I think you will agree spending a weekend planning and working through an emergency drill with the family will be just as exciting as a long weekend away from home. It will certainly be more educational and challenging than riding the 4 wheelers all weekend!

If you're like me and answer "no" to any one of the questions above, then its high time we get busy. Once the family is secure, then, we can lend ourselves to the community in our expertise in radio communication. Personnel preparedness is important. Family and home is even more so.

Do you like a challenge? Here is a contest

San Bernardino Microwave Society 2GHz and Up Contest for 2006

In the spirit of stimulating more activity in the microwave bands, the San Bernardino Microwave Society (SBMS) members came up with the 2GHz and Up Contest.

The contest period is April 29 to April 30, and runs for 24 hours.

This contest should encourage activity and level some of the microwave contest playing field. The contest would involve activity from 2GHz and up, and center around club activity. Members tally up their scores and add them up with other members' scores to make up a Club Score. The final score is then submitted in one of three categories based on club size.

For the purposes of this contest, you can make up a club of two and call yourselves whatever you like. (However, we don't encourage names that may not appear in print). This is not meant to break up a large club into 25 small clubs, for example, but rather to give isolated stations, roving groups and others a chance to win in a special category.

For instance, several SBMS members have extensive roving stations on multiple bands. Should they enter as a separate club or should they be a part of SBMS? We felt that ordinarily if you are a member of an established club you should enter under that club name. However, if you are not a current member of a club, either join one or start your own. Minimum club size is two members/operators with separate stations. The contest rules appear below. This is still a very new event and we look forward to your comments to improve it.

Go to the SBMS Web site for more details:

http://www.ham-radio.com/sbms/club_contest/2GHz_Up_test_2006.pdf

Send entries no later than 30 days after the contest to be considered.

Send contest logs via snail-mail to SBMS Contest Committee, Pat Coker, N6RMJ, 40916 179th Street, Lancaster CA 93535, USA

Scores will be posted on the SBMS web page. Winners in each of the club categories (Small, Medium, Large) will receive a certificate, suitable for framing.

2006 2GHz and Up World Wide Club Contest

Sponsored by the San Bernardino Microwave Society

1. Object

Worldwide club groups of amateurs work as many amateur stations in as many different locations as possible in the world on bands from 2GHz through Light.

2. Date and Contest Period

The 2006 dates for the 2GHz and Up Contest are **April 29 to April 30**. Operations take place for 24 hours total on the contest weekend. The weekend begins at 6AM local Saturday through 12 Midnight local Sunday. Listening times count as operating time. Times off must be clearly indicated in the log.

3. Club Entry Categories

Clubs will be divided into three categories by number of active members:

Small = 2-10

Medium = 11-50

Large = 51 and more

4. Exchange

Six-character Maidenhead Locator (see April 1994 *QST*, p 86 or www.arrl.org/locate/gridinfo.html). Signal report is optional.

5. Miscellaneous

Scheduling contacts is both permissible and encouraged. Stations are encouraged to operate from more than a single location. For purposes of the contest, a change of location is defined as a move of at least 16 km (10 miles). A station may be worked again on each band for additional credit by either end of the contact after moving to a new location.

Contacts may not be duplicated on the second day (that is at least one end of the QSO must be from a different location). Contacts must be made over a minimum distance of 1 km.

A transmitter used to contact one or more stations may not be used subsequently under any other call during the contest period. The intent of this rule is to prohibit “manufactured” contacts.

6. Scoring

Distance points: The distance in km between stations for each successfully completed QSO. One point per kilometer (eg., 10km is 10 points).

QSO points: Count 100 QSO points for each unique call sign worked per band. Portable indicators added to a call sign are not considered as making the call sign unique.

In making the distance calculations, a string (or ruler) and map may be used. However, calculations by computer program are preferred. Several such programs are available, including a BASIC program listing in *The ARRL World Grid Locator Atlas*. For purposes of making calculations, stations are defined as being located in the center of the six-character locator sub-

square (most computer programs make this assumption).

7. Multipliers are based on power output

- 1mW to 500mW: 3x
- 501mW to 5W: 2x
- 5.1W and up: 1x

Once you designate your power class, you cannot change it to get larger multipliers. For example, if you start the contest with a 5W rig, and the amplifier breaks, making your power output 2mW, you must calculate your score with a 1x multiplier, not a 3x multiplier.

You can have a different power level for each band.

Log page example from K6ODV: K6ODV is part of a club called The SC6MS, which consists of K6ODV and N6RMJ. At the end of the event, K6ODV and N6RMJ send in both logs with a summary sheet, simply combining the total score from both operators to enter their club score.

K6ODV Log – SBMS 2GHz and Up Contest							
Call	Grid Square REC	Grid Square SENT	Unique Call/Band 100pts ea	Band GHz	Distance Points (km)	Power Multiplier	QSO Points
N6XQ	DM04MS	DM05DR	1	2	126	1	126
N6XQ	DM04MS	DM05DR	1	3	126	2	252
N6XQ	DM04MS	DM05DR	1	5	126	1	126
WA6CGR	DM05FO	DM05DR	1	2	21	1	21
Totals			400				525

Total score is 400 + 525 = 925

Explanation:

K6ODV uses 20W to work N6XQ on 2GHz, 126km distance (20W = x1) = 126 points

K6ODV uses 5W to work N6XQ on 3GHz, 126km distance (5W = x2) = 252 points

K6ODV uses 5.1W to work N6XQ on 5GHz, 126km distance (5W = x1) = 126 points

K6ODV's 2GHz amplifier blows up, and the rig puts out 2mW, but he makes a QSO with WA6CGR anyway, at a distance of 21km. Note the multiplier still reflects the use of high power – the 2GHz category he chose to enter at the beginning of the contest (20W x1) = 21 points.

There are a total of 4 unique calls, at 100 points each for a total of 400 points

Total Unique Calls per band (400) + Total QSO Points (525) = 925 total score for K6ODV.

Add all club members' total scores to come up with the Total Club Score. All scores are to be submitted to the SBMS Contest Committee as a club total. No individual scores will be accepted for this competition.

Send entries no later than 30 days after the contest to be considered.

Send contest logs via snail-mail to SBMS Contest Committee, Pat Coker, N6RMJ, 40916
179th Street, Lancaster CA 93535, USA

Scores will be posted on the SBMS web page at <http://www.ham-radio.com/sbms/>

Winners in each of the club categories (Small, Medium, Large) will receive a certificate, suitable for framing.

Club breakfast

Cub breakfast is on the first Saturday of each month 9:00 A.M. at the Main Street Grill. This was Shirleen KB7QXB and myself N7BO's first time to this restaurant. We were impressed.

Shirleen and I had parked in the back, and my first thought was great what kind of place is this going to be. I thought it was going to be a hole in the wall. Wait, it was just a hole in the wall, but one of the first things I had noticed was how clean and cozy it was. Not only that, it has a very friendly atmosphere, it seemed like all the people that were in having breakfast was having a good time.

We had nine people from our ham radio group show up. We had a great time we chatted about all kind of things. Radios, Antennas, Propagation, and DX. You who did not show sure missed a great time. We are looking forward to next months breakfast.

Thanks Kal KB7FWR for putting effort into this good idea of having a breakfast once a month.

GOOD NEWS! Steve KB7BGS has excepted the responsibilities for Field Day chairman. When Steve calls upon you and asks for your help please say yes, and lets make Field Day a great one.

If you would like to share something with the club members, please feel free to call or write. Send the info you would like to post to n7bo@infowest.com.

73's de Happy Hamming.