

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!

Have a restful and safe holiday season and remember to take time out to just relax and enjoy your families. They're the best gift of all and sometimes we forget to remember.



W6VIO CALLING

THE ELECTION OF 1984 CLUB OFFICERS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE DECEMBER CLUB MEETING. THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN NOMINATED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE. ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS MAY BE MADE FROM THE FLOOR AT THE MEETING.

PRESIDENT..KERRY ERICKSON N6DSG
 VICE PRES..JAMES (MIKE) STEWART WA6VQI
 SECRETARY..RICHARD (DICK) MALM KF6FK
 TREASURER..RICHARD (RICK) McKINNEY KA6DAN



MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
 Wednesday 14 December 83
 NOON
 New Location this mtg only
 180-101

MAIL STOP: *Jet Propulsion Laboratory
 W6VIO Calling-M/S 233-208
 Attn: Eileen McKinney-Editor
 4800 Oak Grove Drive
 Pasadena, California 91109*

Club Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of Month
 12 Noon in 238-543. All welcome!

Board Meetings: 4th. Wednesday of Month
 12 Noon in 238-543. All welcome!

Permission to copy is granted provided credit is given to "W6VIO Calling".

PRESIDENT: John Repar WA6LWD
 VICE PRES: Paul Goodwin KO6D
 SECRETARY: Mike Stewart WA6VQI
 TREASURER: Kerry Erickson N6DSG

DIRECTOR AT LARGE: John McKinney N6AVW
 Trustee: Jay Holladay W6EJJ
 Emergency Comm: Merv MacMedan N6NO
 Editor: Eileen McKinney KA6DGV

Club Sponsored OPEN Repeater: W6VIO/R 222.44 in/
 224.04 out. Has user operated link to WB6TZS on
 Table Mountain. Closed Repeater Member Only with
 autopatch. 222.48 in/224.08 out.

NETS: Amateur Radio News: Tues 8 PM on W6VIO/R
 OSCAR News Net: Wed 8 PM W6VIO/R

Club Simplex Frequency: 223.4.

JPL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

28 NOVEMBER 1983

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my last column as President. The year has certainly flown by rapidly. I wish to thank all of the other officers and committee chairmen for making my task virtually a breeze. I wish also to express my appreciation to all of you other members who contributed actively or gave moral support to our various activities. One of my personal highlights was to see the antennas and feedlines out into working order. Another was having the club provide Shuttle audio to the ham community.

A sad note for the club and myself was the departure of Dick Piety, K6SVP, for greener pastures. The Uranus Encounter in 1986 will be upon us all too quickly and the slow scan operation in which Dick excelled will be a real challenge. I was able to attend the luncheon which was held for him and expressed the club's appreciation for his many contributions.

Finally, I wish the new regime a successful and productive New Year.

John Repar WA6LWD

Editor's Note: I know I speak for the entire club John when I thank you for all the time and effort you have spent this past year in ramrodding this group. We appreciate your dedication and also wish you a happy and safe New Year. Eileen



PRESENT: K. Erickson, P. Goodwin, J. Repar,
S. Sander, M. Stewart

1. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by President John Repar.
2. John Repar reported on the following items of business:

(a) A review of the ERC by-laws governing sub-clubs indicated that no changes are currently required for the JPL ARC by-laws.

(b) A letter has been received from ARRL requesting candidate volunteers for the Volunteer Examiner Program. John will ask Jay Holladay to write a short item for the newsletter on the subject.

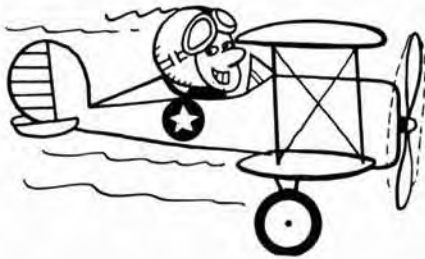
(c) The election of Club officers for 1984 will be conducted at the December 14 general meeting. (Note: this meeting will be held in 180-101 due to a conflict for 238-543.) The newsletter and meeting announcement will be sent out early to provide timely notice to all members.

(d) John announced that Dick Piety, K6SVP, has retired from the Lab, and that Sid Johnson, WB6VWH, has assumed responsibility for handling and sales of the Club SSTV tapes. In appreciation of Dick's long and active service to the Club, it was moved, seconded, and approved to present a Club plaque to Dick.

(e) John also announced the receipt of updated orbital parameters for STS-9, compliments of the Johnson Space Center ARC.

3. Stan Sander, Facilities Manager, reported that work is progressing on the upgrade of the satellite station. Stan has taken down the old antennas, and is working on installing the new ones. (Note: volunteers please contact Stan if you can help.) The IC-211 transceiver has been sent to ICOM for repair, with return expected shortly.
4. Kerry Erickson provided the Treasurer's Report of Club financial status, and a breakdown of costs incurred to date against the ERC grant for the satellite station upgrade.
5. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the application of Dick Wetzel, WA6JBZ, for off-lab membership status. (Dick has supported a number of Club activities, and we welcome him as a member.)
6. The meeting was adjourned at 1245.

J. M. Stewart
Secretary



HAM OF THE MONTH - HORST W. SCHNEIDER WB6INZ

"HAM RELATED MEMORIES"

I learned the morse code in the Boy Scouts in Germany at age 10 in the 20's; strictly with flashlights. My first contact with HAM radio was in my early teens through my cousin. He was wrapping wires over cardboard stars and spools. Dark glowing tubes were lining up on long boxes like spike helmeted soldiers of the Imperial Army. He worked a homemade loop antenna on the roof but had to remove quickly whenever the landlord came to collect the rent. Communicating with another ham only a few blocks away was quite an achievement to brag about. His clothing and the carpet in his room were full of acid holes from the batteries which, in essence, deterred my mother from permitting me any ham-radio activity at home. During WWII I was drilled in code on flight school- 1 hour per day. Pilots had to do 90 characters per minute or 22 1/2 wpm in 4 letter groups. You had to memorize about 100 Q-codes. More than 3 misses in a test would buy you 10 pushups for each miss. Hi, hi, hi. It really helps.

Almost 30 years elapsed after that before I was actually drawn into ham radio by W6VIO Ex Presidents Maurice Piroumian and Nash Williams. After short practice I had no problems of passing the Novice test and I worked my way back up to 20 wpm in a few weeks very quickly. In the 1970-76 period I worked over 150 countries with a 2000 W Yeasu station through a 2-element Quad on a 50 ft. tower, and I experienced the financial woes of ham radio. For every dollar spent on ham radio I had to spend an extra dollar on my XYL. Most communications were in code and the long path. Many of them Russians. They are pretty fast (30 wpm +) and I always had to ask them to come down to my speed. They usually shied away when I tried to make conversation with them beyond the exchange of basic data. One time I asked an East German ham whether "The Olde Goatie" (Ex-President of the DRG, Ulbricht) is still at the helm in the DRG (East Germany). After 5 minutes silence he came back with a strong "Hi.hi.hi", and signed off. But I received his QSL card 1/2 year later. Many times over the years I bumped into hams operating in remote places on less than 25 W power. One as far as New Zealand operating on a flashlight battery. The quad really worked to get in weak signals. For some time I QSL'd on schedule with a missionary in Peru high up in the mountains. He was complaining about corona problems melting off the tips of his beam. He was very interested in my quad and wanted to know where to order one.

I stepped down to a 250 W portable FT 101 when I sold my property in Pasadena in 1976. Since then
(Continued next column)

(Continued from Column 1)

I operate only small scale from my camper - WWII style, with an old Navy Key attached to a clipboard on my knees, trying to make contact with my son-in-law in Yuma, Arizona and with friends in San Diego, where I lived before I joined JPL in 1966. I have also worked 2 meter for a number of years as a RACES member and as a Civil Air Patrol Search Pilot. I am planning to become more active in ham radio again after retirement sometime next year.

Editor's Note: This article was sent in by Horst and is one of the best we've had for our ham profile column. Please take a minute and send in a profile on your "ham life" and let us hear from you.



DX NEWS by Bob N6ET

The most recent issue of the L.I. DX Bulletin was full of neat items; however, a large number of them didn't qualify for this article, due to the operations and dates. The good part is that a number of the operations are either still in progress as planned.

Nepal - 9N1MM will be operated by K4TKM through 14 Dec. Look for him at 14030 & 21030 kHz.

Sri Lanka - From 15 to 24 Dec, look for K4TKM operating either 4s7EA or 4s7TKM, also on CW.

Anguilla - VP2EEW, VP2ES, VP2ESA and others will be active on all bands, both CW & SSB through 14 December.

Nigeria - VE5AFT should be activating operations from Nigeria, possibly as 5N3AFT on 10, 15 & 20 m.

So. Orkney Island - LULZA is active through Mar 84. Look at 14190 kHz from 0000-0500Z.

Guinea - 3X4EX is active daily from 1800Z on 21335 kHz.

Bouvet - Mark your calendar for an operation being planned from this out-of-the-way location in Oct 84.

Chatham Island - ZL40Y/C is still available on 21345 kHz frequently at about 0000Z.

New Hebrides - YJ8RG can be found near 21315 kHz from 2200Z.

Good Hunting - Bob, N6ET

Editor's Note: As usual Bob can be counted on for a terrific DX column. He makes my job easier each month because I can always count on him.

ARRL NOTES
(de W6EJJ)

FCC CUTS EXAM SCHEDULE; VOLUNTEER EXAMS MOVE CLOSER

FCC recently announced a drastic cutback in availability of amateur license examination sessions at Long Beach and other field offices. In the past, license exams were given weekly at Long Beach, but in recent times this was reduced to twice monthly. In 1984 the exams will only be given once per quarter. See the announcement elsewhere in this issue for more details.

Help is on the way, however. After being stalled for some time, the volunteer exam program has been given a big boost by recent passage of legislation which will make it possible to recoup expenses incurred for administering the program. ARRL has taken the position that such recoupment was mandatory before the League could participate as a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC), the idea being that the cost of preparing exams and administering the program should be borne by those taking the exams rather than by the League membership.

ARRL is working to obtain an agreement with FCC which will make it possible for amateur exams to be given on a much more widespread and frequent basis. At last count, over 2000 amateurs around the country had registered their willingness to become a volunteer examiner (VE). December QST has more information on the volunteer exam program.

Would you like to take part in this program and help make amateur exams more widely available? All it takes is an Advanced or Extra Class license and willingness to help administer amateur exams periodically. John Repar and I are collecting a list of JPL ARC members who are willing to serve as volunteer examiners. This list will be forwarded to ARRL Headquarters, who will contact potential VE's once the FCC agreement is signed and implementation of the program can get underway. Please contact John or me if you are interested.



**CHECK AND
BE CORRECT**

GET TUNED-UP JANUARY 21

With the gracious cooperation of member Mike Santana, WB6TEB, the JPLARC plans to hold its seventh annual VHF/UHF Tuneup Clinic on Saturday, January 21 between 9am and noon at Mike's home in Arcadia.

Mike will check your mobile radios, hand-helds and base stations using the best professional test equipment. He will check transmitter and receiver channel frequencies (whether crystal controlled or synthesized) check voice and tone modulation level, power output, receiver sensitivity, and, if he can get a spectrum analyzer as he has in the past, check for spurious outputs.

Watch the January issue of W6VIO CALLING for confirmation of the date and place. Meanwhile, mark January 21 on your calendars. This is a really worthwhile service provided by your club: with it, you can have confidence that the only signal you have NEVER heard (your own) sounds as good as it possibly can! (N6ND.)

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
FIELD OPERATIONS BUREAU
3711 LONG BEACH BLVD., # 501
LONG BEACH, CA 90807

RADIO OPERATOR EXAMINATIONS - 1984

PRIOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION REQUIRED

The following information describes the Commercial and Amateur examinations given by the Long Beach District Office. The tests will not be given at the FCC office but at a rented facility. After submission of the proper form, you will receive a notification card with the time, date and place to appear. You must bring this card to the exam point. Further information should be obtained from this office by writing to the above address or calling (213) 426-4451.

COMMERCIAL OPERATOR EXAMINATIONS (General Radiotelephone, Marine Permit, Radar Endorsement, Telegraph)

1. Obtain FCC Form 756 from this office.
2. Submit FCC Form 756 to this office with current operator license, if held, by the DEADLINE date shown below.

AMATEUR OPERATOR EXAMINATIONS (All classes except Novice)

1. Obtain FCC Form 610 (August 1980 or later).
2. Submit FCC Form 610 to this office with current amateur license, interim permit, code credit certificates, if held, by the DEADLINE date shown below.

<u>TESTING DATES</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
February 6 - 10, 1984	January 15, 1984	Long Beach, CA area
May 7 - 11, 1984	April 15, 1984	Long Beach, CA area
August 6 - 10, 1984	July 15, 1984	Long Beach, CA area
November 5 - 9, 1984	October 15, 1984	Long Beach, CA area

EXAMINATIONS ARE ALSO ADMINISTERED AS FOLLOWS:

PHOENIX, AZ JUNE 1984

NOTE: Exact dates and location for above exam will be announced approximately seven (7) weeks in advance. Completed applications for the Phoenix, AZ exam must be submitted to the above address by May 18, 1984.

HANDICAPPED APPLICANTS - Please write to the above address or call (213) 426-4451.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.