

W6VIO Calling



Jet Propulsion Laboratory Amateur Radio Club
4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, CA 91109-8099



Volume 24 Issue 5

June 1995

President: Merv MacMedan, N6NO, 4-7004
Vice President: Jay Holladay, W6EJJ, 4-7758
Secretary: George Morris, W6ABW, 4-0035
Treasurer: Jim Marr, AA6QI, 3-1528
Director at Large: Bob Dengler, NO6B, 4-9620

Emer. Comm. Mgr: Walt Mushagain, K6DNS, 4-3036
W6VIO Trustee: Jan Tarsala, WB6VRN, 4-4564
WB6IEA Trustee: Walt Diem, WA6PEA, 818-248-7525
W6VIO Calling Editor: WB6TZS Trustee: Bill Wood, WB6FXJ, 619-256-5529

Meeting Notice

By Jay Holladay, W6EJJ

The next regular JPL Amateur Radio Club membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 14, at noon in 238-543. Club Board of Directors meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month in 301-227. Everyone is welcome at both meetings; bring your lunch.

May Club Meetings

By George Morris, W6ABW

The regular May JPL Amateur Radio Club membership meeting was held Wednesday, May 10. President Merv MacMedan called the meeting to order. New members and visitors were introduced.

Bob Polansky reported on the work parties at the W6VIO operations trailer. It is coming together. Bob suggested that another three or four work parties should put things in good shape for the upcoming coming commemorative activities. A 3 dB improvement occurred after the squashed hardline was replaced on the run from the trailer to the mesa. Bob also reported that we now have approved permits for the Field Day site.

A report was given on the May 4 emergency preparedness drill. (See the article on page 6 of this issue.) Three people supported the April 29 Special Olympics from the JPL ARC. They shadowed officials to provide immediate communications between them. George Morris reported the support of the Altadena Guild Home Show. The hams coordinated the people that needed to be transported by bus.

Merv MacMedan commented that only 15 or 20 club interest questionnaires from the March issue of W6VIO Calling were returned thus far. Merv requested that others be submitted so the club will have an idea of how the membership wishes the club to go. Merv pointed out the comment in some of the

submitted questionnaires suggesting a better way of giving help to newcomers. Merv asked for people who were willing to act as "Elmers" to help newcomers: Jan Tarsala, Bob Polansky, and Greg LaBorde all expressed an interest.

Jay Holladay and Mark Beckwith, WA6OTU, of the Caltech ARC, presented the detailed plan for this year's joint Field Day. Jay presented an analysis of club FD performance in past years. There has been a steady increase in scores with 1994 being the best ever. Mark went into more detail about the operations plan. Both stressed that you do not have to be a super contest operator to come up and have a good time at Field Day. Anyone who wants to come up and just visit the site and see what is going on will be welcome. If people want to operate they should turn in a sign-up sheet so they can be put on the schedule.

Next Jim Marr conducted the door prize drawing for the \$100 gift certificate for Ham Radio Outlet. The lucky winner was Peter McClosky, N6TGZ.



Peter McClosky, N6TGZ and Jim Marr, AA6QI

The regular Board of Directors meeting was held in Room 301-227 on May 24, 1995. The call to order was made by President Merv MacMedan. A quorum was present. Merv

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

MacMedan requested Secretary George Morris to provide him with a list of all members who have keys to the shack. The multicolor Apollo special event certificates should be completed today. Treasurer Jim Marr gave his report. There was a discussion of selling the TS-820 and FT-101 through ERC. Field Day plans and progress were reported by Jay Holladay.

Jay Holladay requested a volunteer to lead the effort to put an amateur radio beacon on the Venus Balloon experiment that is scheduled to fly in July. Amateurs could aid recovery by tracking the beacon. The balloon may be carried by winds to the midwestern US.

The Mile High Radio Club from Idyllwild is planning to bus 47 members to visit JPL on September 6. PIO will provide a JPL tour. The club members will also talk to Walt Mushagian and George Morris about JPL emergency preparedness and the LA County Disaster Communications interface.

Merv MacMedan asked anyone who had experienced lightning strikes at JPL to contact him. JPL is now studying lightning protection since buildings were struck in a recent storm.

Field Day, 1995

By Bob Polansky, N6ET and Jay Holladay, W6EJJ

It's that time again – time to shake the dust loose from all that equipment and operating expertise that may have been sitting dormant since last Field Day. The 1995 Field Day effort by the JPL ARC will take place on June 23 through June 25 on Mount Gleason.

This year the JPL ARC will again join forces with the Caltech Amateur Radio Club to mount an assault for Number One nationally in our category, Field Day Class 3A, using the call W6UE. There will be ample opportunities to contribute to achieving this goal for everyone who wishes to participate. It will be a challenge, and we will need everyone who is willing to help.

If you do not feel up to tackling all the FD QRM, please come up and help with setup, computer logging, dupe-sheet chores, or what have you. All hams at JPL and Caltech and their families and friends are invited to visit us at the Field Day site.

This year, as last, the rules allow us a separate VHF/UHF station that can be operated for the full 24 hours. We will have three HF stations operating on whatever bands are open, stations for satellite and packet operation, and a Novice/Technician station. With all these stations there will be something there for everyone. We especially encourage Novice and Technician operators to come up and give the contest a try. CW operation by the Novices (and Techs with HF privileges) is highly encouraged, and any Novice/Tech who completes at least 25 CW contacts will receive a free Field Day dinner!

This year we will again use computers to log our Field Day QSO's. We will use the contest logging program CT (ver. 9.0) by K1EA. To learn the software and also practice CW

QSO's, we will hold practice sessions most days at noon time, beginning on June 6. Location will be Building 171 Room 267. Contact Jay Holladay at 354-7758 or Bob Polansky at 354-4940 for more information.

How You Can Take Part:

Please fill out the sign-up sheet on page 9 of this newsletter and return to Jay Holladay. Keep the rest of this issue and bring it with you to Field Day. Even if you do not return the sign-up sheet, please feel free to visit us at Mt. Gleason – but, you'll have to take your chances on operating time if we are not expecting you.

Come to the JPL ARC Meeting on Wednesday, June 14 (238-543 at Noon) to hear more detail on Field Day planning and ask any questions you may have about the operation. There will be a work party on June 17 to check out equipment and get things ready to move up the hill. Also attend the noon-time training sessions mentioned above. The latest Field Day planning information will be disseminated via the Club's e-mail list and via the Monday net on the WB6IEA repeater.

Field Day activities will kick off on Friday morning, June 23. The hard-core FD types will take vacation that Friday to assist with the logistics and transportation chores. We will meet at 8:00 AM at the ham shack trailer by the East Gate to load all of the gear for the trip up the mountain. Once everything is loaded we will caravan to Mt. Gleason and begin setting up. Lunch and dinner will be served on Friday while we erect tents and the big antennas. The Field Day contest starts at 11 AM local (1800 UTC) Saturday and ends at the same time on Sunday. Three meals will be served on Saturday, as well as breakfast and lunch on Sunday. After the contest is over we will have lunch and disassemble everything, leaving Mt. Gleason as we found it. Then it's back to JPL to return the Club equipment and home for a well-deserved shower and nap.

What To Bring To Field Day:

Even if you only plan to visit for the afternoon, it is wise to be prepared for anything. You may enjoy Field Day so much you will want to spend the night. To get to Mt. Gleason, see the map and directions on the next page. The road is paved all the way except for the short bypass around the correctional facility and any car can make it to the top.

Meals will be provided by the Club - suggested donation is \$2 per person per meal to help defray expenses. You are responsible for your own place to sleep and enough warm clothing to stay comfortable during the cold nights (Mt. Gleason is at 6520 ft). Be prepared for weather like the Sahara Desert during the day and the Arctic at night, along with gale force winds, and you should be OK. Seriously, light thermal underwear is a big help if you are operating in the wee hours of Sunday morning.

The following is a suggested checklist for your personal FD preparations:

Wide-brimmed hat	Long-sleeved shirt
Mosquito repellent	Toothbrush & paste
2 gallons of water per person	Favorite snack food

Sleeping bag	First-aid Kit
Heavy jacket	Undershirt
Thermal underwear	Jeans
Several pairs of socks	Boots
Money	Tent
220 MHz Handi-talkie	Sunglasses
Sunscreen	Soap
Lip balm	Maps
Flashlight	Chair
AM/FM Radio (for earthquake report, etc.)	

Don't forget any needed medications or aspirin and vitamins. If you do spend the night, it is highly recommended that you bring a tent or camper. The view is well worth bringing camera and binoculars.

As far as Amateur Radio gear is concerned, rigs will be furnished by the Clubs (with some additional loans from the members). We can always use a spare HF or VHF rig as backup, so bring one along if it's convenient. Don't forget the rig-compatible power supply and cables. Bring whatever specialty operating items you wish. If you have a favorite keyer, headset, or boom mike, please bring it along. All the HF rigs will use 8-pin mike connector wired for Kenwood. (We could really use a digital voice "keyer" if anyone has one!) Also a small tool kit, extra table, antenna wire, battery-operated clock, spare batteries of all types, etc., always seem to come in handy. In short, anything you might need to be self-sufficient and stay operational under emergency conditions will probably be useful at Field Day. In fact, that's what the exercise is supposed to be all about. CU at FD!

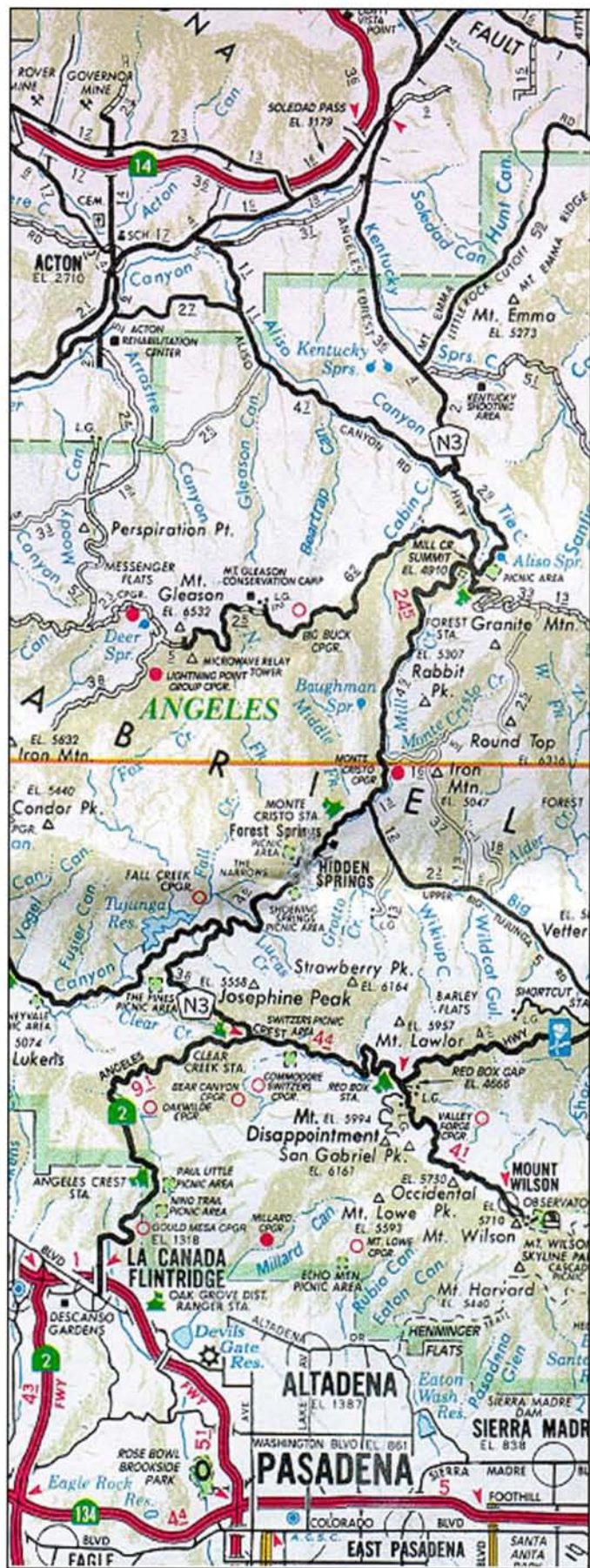
Directions to Mount Gleason Field Day Site:

Take the Foothill Freeway (210) to La Canada. Exit at Angeles Crest Highway/Route 2. Go north 9.1 miles on Route 2 up into the San Gabriel Mts. Turn left at the junction with Angeles Forest Highway (N3). Continue 3.8 miles on Angeles Forest Highway past Big Tujunga Junction. Go another 5.9 miles through the tunnels, past Hidden Springs to the Monte Cristo Campground. Continue another 4.9 miles on Angeles Forest Highway to the Mill Creek Campground at the Mill Creek Summit. Turn left on Mt. Gleason Road. (The Mill Creek Campground will be on the right.) Continue 6.2 miles on Mt. Gleason Road until you reach the Mount Gleason Conversation Camp. Take dirt road bypass left of the Correction Facility; continue 2.5 miles. Keep to the right at Y junction just after Microwave Station. When you reach the locked gate, call on Simplex for admission. The road will end at the Summit and our FD site. Do not block the road at the far end of the Mt. Gleason operating site by parking on it. Watch out for kids, antenna wires, loose hams

Alternate Route: 210 Freeway to Interstate 5; North to 14 Freeway; Exit at Angeles Forest Highway take Angeles Forest (N2) South, turn right on Mt. Gleason Road

Talk-in Frequencies

224.08 (-) W6VIO SIMPLEX 224.08 (switch to Simplex)
147.15 (+) W6VIO SIMPLEX 147.15 as you near the site)



N6NOtes

By Merv MacMedan, N6NO

At last! We can finally close the books on W6VIO's special event operation last year, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. I am happy to report that after a 10-month delay the long-awaited certificate QSL's are really in the mail! Many of you have been wondering where they were, and how to answer the many queries we have had from anxious contacts. I'll try to explain here.

The NASA-wide special event operation was conceived and coordinated by the Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club, W5RRR, as a multi-NASA-center celebration during the period July 19-22, 1994. The idea is that the operation gives hams over the world the opportunity to talk with a real NASA center. Then, each center would answer the QSL cards it receives with a special collector-quality certificate confirming the contact and, incidentally, providing a bit of hard copy publicity for the space program.

Most of the clubs of the various NASA centers participated, and a supply of certificates was to be furnished to each sta-

tion. The operation was quite a success, but then the follow-up work with the certificates lagged. In true ham and NASA spirit, the GSFC club jumped in to help. They were able to pay for the graphic art for a very attractive full color certificate with an astronaut-on-the moon photo and the official logo. (See photo below) Over the photo, customized lettering for each participating club (with name and call) was prepared and overlaid. Unfortunately, Goddard's budget didn't allow for printing the thousands of certificates needed for all of NASA. JPL's Public Information Office was also unable to find funding to help with our certificates.

Since I am frequently at GSFC on business, I offered to bring the artwork to JPL in case we could find a way to print our certificates locally. However, the W6VIO file alone took 8.5 megabytes of memory, far more than would fit on a disk. So I arranged with GSFC to transfer it by ftp on the Internet. That worked, but then the PostScript print file had an unresolvable problem and we had to go to the native file (in Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop). That also almost worked, but there were some problems with obscure fonts. Finally we got a good picture on the screen but couldn't find a good enough color printer (that had enough memory to handle this file and that we could afford) connected to the network!



With encouragement from Rick McKinney and monetary help from ERC's Mark Banuelos, we were able to transfer the file to a 44-Mbyte Syquest tape and contract the job to a local printer who had a Syquest drive. It worked! In looking back, the whole process had seemed to take forever since all this was going on one step at a time each day in "background" mode, but we finally completed the task. The printer delivered 600 gorgeous certificates last week. Our certificates would now be similar to the others in the NASA series for this event, making many collectors of NASA special event memorabilia happy.

There was only one problem with the certificates, which we had anticipated: they didn't have any place for the confirming-QSO stuff. We gave lots of thought to things like adding a transparent label on the front, an opaque label on the back, etc. But the picture is so nice it is worth framing. A label would ruin the front and would be hidden behind the frame in back.

So, Bill Wood, WB6FXJ, designed a special black and white W6VIO QSL certificate that merges the customized QSO confirmation information along with story and pictures of the DSN's involvement in support of Apollo 11. To do the customized confirmation information, he needed a data base of the special event log. Bill actually took the handwritten logs and keyed the information manually into a data base for this task! He printed them two-sided on his high-quality laser

printer and put both his customized certificates and the NASA color certificates into the self-addressed stamped envelopes furnished by each QSL-seeker and mailed them. The total QSL's received – and answered – so far are 501.

I wish to thank all those who made the special event operation a success last year, but this QSL problem was on "my shift" and deserves special recognition. On behalf of the entire club I wish to thank Mark Schaefer, WB6CIA; Mark Banuelos manager of the Employees' Recreation Club; Rick McKinney, KA6DAN, our club ERC rep; Bill Wood, WB6FXJ, and Jim Blackwell N3KWU, of the Goddard Amateur Radio Club who was instrumental in getting the NASA-wide art completed for each of the centers, and who went out of his way to get us a usable file. To all those of you that had to wait so long for your certificate, the club apologizes and thanks you for your patience.

But let us not rest yet. We have learned a mighty lesson from this experience. Ten months delay in getting out QSL's is not fair to our customer, the public (although it is really not so unusual for many special event operations!). This lesson must be kept in mind for our next special event in December, celebrating the arrival of Galileo at Jupiter. We must have the artwork done **BEFOREHAND**, and we will use real time computer logging! Plan on helping us make this next opportunity a smooth running, great special event!



NASA

Jet Propulsion Laboratory
Amateur Radio Club Special Event Station

W6VIO

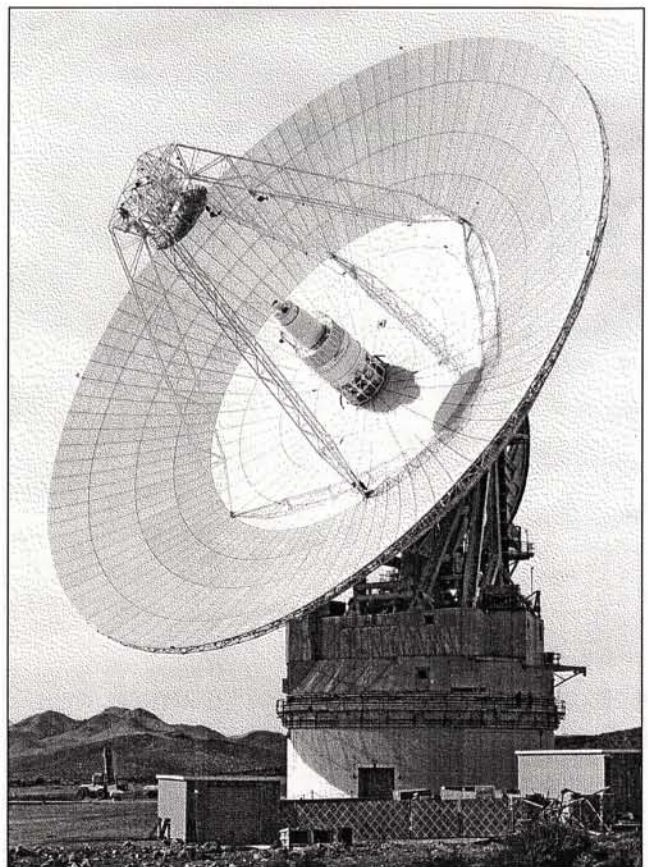
Apollo 11 25th Anniversary

This confirms that

GSFC ARC, WA3NAN

Completed a SSB radio contact with W6VIO on 14.233 MHz, at 2015Z on 7/21/94. Signal report received: 59.0 Signal report given: 56.0. Thanks for the contact commemorating the first landing of Man on the Moon, July 21, 1969.

W6VIO Operator: *Mark Schaefer, WB6CIA*



Goldstone 210-foot Diameter Deep Space Network Antenna, 1969
The DSS-14 64-meter antenna provided critical communications and telemetry data from the Apollo 11 Lunar Module during the final phase of man's first landing on the surface of the Moon. It is located in the Mojave Desert of Southern California.

220 SMA Meeting

By Walt Diem, WA6PEA

The 68th General Meeting of the 220 SMA was held on Saturday, April 22, at the Westlake City Hall. JPL ARC members present were Dick Mathison, Rick McKinney, Jan Tarsala, and Walt Diem.

A significant part of the meeting involved discussion of the new 219-220 band for use by Amateurs on a secondary basis for fixed point-to-point digital message-forwarding systems. The primary occupant of the band is the Automated Maritime Telecommunications Systems (AMTS). To protect the primary occupant, the ARRL has been designated as the national contact point for all amateur operations in the 219-220 MHz band, and is responsible for maintaining a database of all amateur operations in the band. However, the ARRL is coordinating frequencies. They are leaving coordination of frequencies for amateur operations to local frequency coordination organizations.

Since the Southern California Digital Communications Council (SCDCC) is not willing to be responsible for frequency coordination of this band in Southern California, it was proposed and approved by the membership that the 220 SMA take this responsibility. The President will appoint a temporary committee of four members to handle initial requests for coordination until a Digital Coordination Board can be established. Walt Diem, WA6PEA, assisted by Dick Mathison, KG6Y, will lead a committee to revise the bylaws to form a Digital Coordination Board, similar to the Repeater Coordination Board, for coordination of point-to-point link frequencies in the new band.

Based on input from Chip Angle, N6CA, at the last, Mark Gilmore, WB6RHQ, is heading an Ad Hoc Committee to again review the 220 Band Plan with respect to the frequency needs of the weak signal community.

The 220 SMA appointed President Jim Fortney, K6IYK, to represent the 220 SMA at the ARRL Repeater Coordination Ad Hoc Committee meeting to be held in St. Louis in May. The committee consists of existing repeater coordinators and was formed by the ARRL as a result of the FCC proposal to the ARRL for a single point of contact on amateur coordination matters. Discussions will include concepts of repeater licensing based on establishment of a coordination, coordination of emitters other than repeaters, coordination resolution procedures, coordination standards, appeal procedures, and coordination of new technologies.

The President indicated that the new post office box is working well. The box is being checked periodically by either the Treasurer or Barry Flint. Any mail in the box on Friday marked "Attention Frequency Board" is forwarded by the commercial service to the Frequency Board Secretary.

The next 220 SMA meeting will be held at JPL in von Karman auditorium on 15 July at 9:00 AM.

JPL ARC Repeaters

Pasadena:

W6VIO	147.150 MHz	(+)	PL 131.8 Open
W6VIO	224.080 MHz	(-)	PL 156.7 Shuttle Audio
WB6IEA	224.720	(-)	Closed Autopatch
W6VIO-1	145.090 MHz		Packet Node/BBS
W6VIO-1	223.540 MHz		Packet Node/BBS

Table Mountain:

WB6TZS	145.280 MHz	(-)	PL 131.8 Open
WB6TZS	223.96 MHz	(-)	PL 156.7 Open
WB6TZS	447.325 MHz	(-)	PL 94.8 Open

JPL Emergency Drill

By Richard Schick, KE6BKE

On May 4, 1995 the JPL Emergency Operation Center (EOC) was activated during a drill to test the readiness of the JPL Multihazard Emergency Response Plan. The plan is designed to coordinate the different parts of the Laboratory to deal with various emergencies.

The EOC was activated at 8:00 AM, when an emergency scenario was presented to the committee members present. For this drill it was assumed that a major brush fire was surrounding the Laboratory, requiring the full evacuation of all Laboratory personnel as a possible response. Three JPLARC members; Chris Carson, Walt Mushagian, and Richard Schick, were present to bring up the JPLARC Emergency Communications Team Net, take check-ins, give updates and dispatch members to give assistance as needed. The JPLARC was well represented by its members and special thanks to the following people who participated in the drill:

KE6ABQ-Chris Carson	KE6BKE-Richard Schick
KA6DAN-Rick McKinney	KE6DKY-John Carnakis
K6DNS-Walt Mushagian	N6ET-Robert Polansky
W6EJJ-Jay Holladay	KG6LG-Carl de Silvera
N6MTI-Bob Blakely	N6NO-Merv MacMedan
WA6PEA-Walt Diem	AA6QI-Jim Marr
KE6SRN-Carol Bruegge	N6UNI-Steve Jenkins

The exercise lasted until 11:00 AM with a number of incidents occurring during the 8-11 AM drill period. The following is a thumbnail account of the simulated event:

By 9:15 AM the fire was out of control and live embers were falling on the Mesa, additional Fire Fighting resources were called to back-up LA County Fire Department that was already using the Mesa as a heliport. The JPLARC had deployed N6ET to the Mesa to assist. By 10:15 AM the situation had escalated to the point where the Laboratory was under full evacuation. KE6ABQ was dispatched to assist in traffic control and during his watch a mountain lion was sighted by building 256. Panic had set in and a traffic colli-

sion at the west end of the Laboratory had resulted in a fatality. The additional snarl-up cause all traffic on the west end to be rerouted slowing the evacuation. At 10:20 AM the facility was closed till further notice and all remaining personnel were to report to the LA County Fire Department staging area near the south gate. As with any exercise much was learned and in the final moments preceding the 11 AM stand down of the drill, talk of a possible chemical explosion at the Micro Devices Lab brought home the reality of what could occur under these circumstances.

A lot of preparation is needed to perform well under these conditions and the experience was a valuable one to all the committee members. I invite all JPLARC members to become familiar with the Monday 12 PM JPLARC Emergency Communications Team Net and have some exposure to what is happening at JPL with regard to emergency preparedness.

DX News

By Bob Polansky, N6ET

Time's very short this month, so my usual prelude will be eliminated. Credit, as usual, goes to "The DX Bulletin" that provides source material for this article.

ANDAMANS - VU2JPS operates on 14196 kHz around 0200Z. There's possible propagation to the West Coast at that time.

KERMADEC - For anyone who missed ZL8/G4MFW, early word that this would be the last operation from Kermadec was grossly exaggerated.

KUWAIT - 9K2HN has been worked from California around 1630Z on 14224 kHz. That seems a bit late for long path, but the Bulletin doesn't indicate where to beam.

PRATAS ISLAND - Look for BV9P through 5 June. This one may become a new country on the DXCC List; although, it's not a sure bet yet. Frequencies to be used are: 3504, 7004, 10104, 14024, 18074, 21024, 24894, and 28024 kHz on CW; 3795, 7065, 14195, 18125, 21295, 24945, and 28495 kHz on SSB.

VIETNAM - XV7SW plans low band capability shortly. Perhaps we can catch his Zone 26 signals on 80 meters this year!

That's about it for this month. At this point in the sunspot cycle, we should be thankful for even this much. See the Bulletin on the W6VIO wall for more "less spectacular" DX spots.

Roster Changes

Welcome to following new and reinstated club members:

Jeff Phinney, KE6LDN
Phillip Barela, KE6NJX
Carolyn Baraela, KE6OKX
Orin Serviss, KC6YQV
Norm Chalfin, K6PGX
Johnny Kao, N6PXN

Treasurer's Report

By Jim Marr, AA6QI

For Period Ending May 31, 1995

General Club Account

	Beginning of Month Balance:	\$1,366.54
Income:		
Dues (four renewals at \$10.00 ea.)		\$40.00
Reimbursement for Cook Pots		\$50.00
	Total Income:	\$90.00
Expenses:		
Postage to mail WB6IEA/R xtal examples to manufacturer		\$1.01
Postage for W6VIO QSL cards		\$28.51
Tools (socket wrenches & screwdrivers)for W6VIO Trailer		\$43.28
Postage for off-lab mailing of May "W6VIO Calling"		\$20.48
Gift Certificate at HRO for May General Meeting Drawing		\$100.00
Roll of double-stub tickets for May General Meeting Drawing		\$6.14
RS232 double-male cable for WB6IEA/R VCI Control Interface		\$6.39
	Total Expenses:	\$205.81
	End of Month Balance:	\$1,250.73

Autopatch Account

	Beginning of Month Balance:	\$335.68
Income:		
One new autopatch membership		\$16.00
	Total Income:	\$16.00
Expenses:		
April '95 Autopatch Phone Bill		\$16.26
	Total Expenses:	\$16.26
	End of Month Balance:	\$335.42

Emergency Communications Account

	Beginning of Month Balance:	\$1,126.75
Income:		
	Total Income:	\$0.00
Expenses: (Purchase Requisitions in Process for these items)		
Solder and coax fittings @ JPL Stores		\$33.48
	Total Expenses:	\$33.48
	End of Month Balance:	\$1,093.27

Classified Section

For Sale

Battery Packs for HT's, camcorders, cordless and cellular phones, etc. at unusually low prices. Larsen mobile antennas also at discount. Call Walt Diem at (818) 248-7525.

Wanted

Twenties radio vacuum tubes and radios; Los Angeles radio manufacturing catalogs or historical publications about Los Angeles radio manufacturing in the 1920's and 1930's. Call Floyd Paul, W6THU, 818-242-8961.

Your want ad or article for inclusion in a future issue of W6VIO Calling. Submit either to Bill Wood, Mail Stop DSCC-33; or via Internet (bill.wood@jpl.nasa.gov); or ccMail direct (Wood, Bill).

Newsletter Deadline:

June 30 for the July issue of W6VIO Calling. Your articles, ads, photos, diagrams, letters to the editor, or technical material should be submitted to the Editor at the return address shown on the last page of this newsletter.

ARRL News

Provided by Jan Tarsala, WB6VRN

Shuttle Launch Change

Amsat News Service Bulletin 119.01

This week NASA announced that the launch of STS-71, which was to perform the docking with the MIR space station, has been delayed. The new launch date has now be set for June 19, 1995. This delay was caused by additional work needed to move some solar panels on MIR and it appears that the work will not be completed in time for STS-71. Therefore, STS-70 will fly first. Its launch date has now been set for June 8, 1995.

Both of these STS missions will be carrying the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX). STS-70 with Discovery will carry the SAREX payload, courtesy Mission Specialist Don Thomas (KC5FVF) into a 28.5 deg orbit. The SAREX payload will operate with both FM voice and packet for six days. To preclude confusion about the downlink frequencies, those wishing to make a contact with STS-70 should note that the usual downlink frequency of 145.550 MHz will be utilized. STS-71, on the other hand, is slated to use a downlink of 145.840 MHz. The STS-71 Atlantis docking mission will use the MIR communication equipment to simulate SAREX as well. On that mission it will be FM voice only! STS-71 will be a 9 day mission. It will carry Pilot Charlie Precourt (KB5YSQ) and Mission Specialist Ellen Baker (KB5SIX) into a 51.6 deg orbit.

Here are the Amateur Radio frequencies for STS-70 (from ARRL Letter Volume 14, Number 9):

FM Voice Downlink: (Worldwide) 145.55 MHz;

FM Voice Uplink: 144.91, 144.93, 144.95, 144.97, and 144.99 MHz;

FM Voice Uplink: (Europe only) 144.70, 144.75, and 144.80 MHz;

FM Packet Downlink: 145.55 MHz;

FM Packet Uplink: 144.49 MHz.

(The call signs used will be KC5FVF on FM and W5RRR-1 on packet).

Upcoming VEC Examinations

The following test session information is provided by the ARRL/VEC for the upcoming eight week period. For further information, please call the test session contact person at the telephone number listed. If necessary, you may contact the ARRL/VEC at 203-666-1541 x282 for additional information. Electronic mail may be forwarded to the ARRL/VEC via USENET at "bjahnke@arrl.org" or via MCI Mail to MCI ID: 653-2312 or 215-5052.

Although the test session information presented here does not indicate whether walk-ins are accepted or not, most test sessions do allow walk-ins. We encourage you, however, to always call

the contact person at the telephone number provided so that the VE Team is aware that you be attending the test session.

06/05/95, A, Lancaster, 805-948-1865, Adrienne J Sherwood
 06/06/95, A, Culver City, 213-292-6423, C Lutz
 06/10/95, A, Fontana, 909-823-6818, Louis Johnson
 06/10/95, A, Fontana, 909-822-4138, E William Gruber
 06/10/95, A, Torrance, 310-328-0817, Joe Lanphen
 06/11/95, A, Rialto, 909-867-9270, Patricia Essary
 06/15/95, A, Fountain Valley, 714-778-1542, Thomas Harris
 06/17/95, A, Long Beach, 310-431-8998, Ken Newkirk
 06/22/95, A, Colton, 909-825-7136, Harold Heydenfeldt
 06/24/95, A, Culver City, 310-459-0337, Scott V Swanson
 06/24/95, S, Garden Grove, 714-534-8633, John Gregory
 06/24/95, A, Pomona, 909-620-2089, Frank Westphal
 07/08/95, A, Fontana, 909-823-6818, Louis Johnson
 07/08/95, A, Fontana, 909-822-4138, E William Gruber
 07/09/95, A, Thousand Oaks, 805-375-1385, Marco Treganza
 07/14/95, A, Irvine, 714-824-8477, Jack C
 07/15/95, G, Signal Hill, 310-420-9480, Don Boyce NN6Q
 07/20/95, A, Fountain Valley, 714-778-1542, Thomas Harris
 07/22/95, A, Pomona, 909-620-2089, Frank Westphal
 07/27/95, A, Colton, 909-825-7136, Harold Heydenfeldt
 07/29/95, A, Culver City, 310-459-0337, Scott V Swanson

FCC Issued Call Sign Update

The following is a list of the FCC's most recently issued call signs as of May 1:

District	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AA0XH	KG0WA	++	KB0SIT
1	AA1NB	KE1BK	N1UZZ	KB1BQA
2	AA2XG	KG2CN	++	KB2ULC
3	AA3LK	KE3SY	N3VEA	KB3BHX
4	AE4HK	KS4VU	++	KE4ZNV
5	AC5CG	KK5NW	++	KC5OEV
6	AC6ML	KO6UK	++	KE6TKU
7	AB7JU	KJ7NE	++	KC7KRF
8	AA8TL	KG8QY	++	KB8ZEI
9	AA9ON	KG9CB	++	KB9KFO
N. Mariana	KH0R	AH0AW	KH0DW	WH0ABC
Guam	WH2O	AH2CZ	KH2NM	++
Midway	++	AH4AA	KH4AG	WH4AAH
Hawaii	++	AH6OC	++	WH6CVA
Am. Samoa	AH8O	AH8AH	KH8CG	WH8ABB
Alaska	++	AL7QB	++	WL7CMN
Virgin	WP2R	KP2CD	NP2IF	WP2AHV
Puerto Rico	++	KP4ZK	++	WP4MYB

++ All call signs in this group have been issued in this area

Rules Changes Detailed

ARRL Bulletin 50 ARLB050

The FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making on several changes in amateur service rules announced last month.

The FCC proposes to designate one volunteer examiner of a team as the examination session manager, saying that would increase "examination efficiency." The FCC said that con-

tinuing to require at least three VE's to be present would preserve the protection of cross-checking, as sought by the ARRL.

The Commission also proposes to give examination credit to former licensees, as requested by the ARRL in RM-8418. The FCC said the League's position had merit, and the proposed new rule would allow VEs to give exam element credit for any exam the applicant had previously passed. In addition, the FCC asks for comments on criteria "it should use" to allow credit on amateur exams for other types of formerly and currently held US operator licenses and foreign licenses.

The FCC also agreed with the ARRL proposal in RM-8462 that bona fide Amateur Radio clubs should comprise a minimum of four people in order to be eligible for a club station license and proposes a rule to that effect.

In response to an ARRL request as part of the vanity call sign program, the Commission proposes to make one-by-one call signs available to special event stations. Requests for such call signs would have to be made 120 days in advance; the period of the special call sign would be 15 days or for the duration of the event, whichever is shorter. The application would have to state the nature of the event and include a list of requested call signs in order of preference.

Finally, the FCC also proposes to allow portable indicators to be included before, after, or both before and after, the assigned call sign. This was, the FCC said, in response to several informal requests for clarification of its rule 97.119.

The comment deadline for these proposals, in WT Docket 95-57, is July 14, 1995. The reply comment deadline is August 14, 1995.

JPL**Amateur Radio Club****ARRL Field Day
June 23, 24, & 25, 1995**

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: JPL M/S: _____

Home: _____

Telephone Number (Home): _____

(Work): _____

E-mail address: _____

Expected Arrival Day: _____ Time: _____

Departure Day: _____ Time: _____

Preferred Operating Position/Activity:

- ☐ Novice/Tech (28,220)
☐ Novice/Tech CW (80, 40, 15)
☐ VHF/UHF (50, 144, 220, 440, 1200)
☐ Phone (HF)
☐ CW (HF)
☐ Packet
☐ Satellite

- ☐ Logging/Dupeing
☐ Set-Up
☐ Tear-Down

How long would you like to operate?

A lot _____ (4 or more Hours)

A little _____ (1 to 4 Hours)

Preferred Hours _____

Is late shift O.K.? _____

Please mail this sheet to:
Jay Holladay 171-243

What's Inside This Month's W6VIO Calling

Meeting Notice	1
May Club Meetings	1
Field Day, 1995	2
N6NOtes	4
220 SMA Meeting	6
JPL Emergency Drill	6
DX News	7
Classified Section	7
Roster Changes	7
Treasurer's Report	7
ARRL News	8



JPL

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