

W6VIO Calling



Jet Propulsion Laboratory Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 820, La Canada CA 91012-0820

Volume 33, Issue 2



February 2004

President:	Jim Lux, W6RMK	4-2075	Emer. Comm. Mgr:	Christopher Carson, KE6ABQ	3-3888
Vice President:	Christopher Carson, KE6ABQ	3-3888	W6VIO Trustee :	Rob Smith, W6GRV	3-7937
Secretary:	Jonathan Cameron, KF6RTA	4-1189	W6JPL Trustee:	Eric Archer, N6CV,	4-7350
Treasurer:	Chuck Sarture, KG6NF,	4-2706	WR6JPL Trustee:	Randy Hammock, KC6HUR	
Director at Large:	Jonathan Cameron, KF6RTA	4-1189	WR6AZN Trustee:	Bill Wood, W6FXJ,	760-256-9576

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Meeting Notice

By Chris Carson, KE6ABQ

The February JPLARC Board Meeting will be held February 25th in 161-230, where the budget will be discussed. Everyone on Lab at the time is welcome to attend – bring your lunch if you want. ■

President's Message

By Jim Lux, W6RMK

Wow! It seemed like only yesterday that Bill was asking for my president's column for W6VIO Calling; for the January issue. Here it is February already, and I'm horribly behind schedule already.

There's been a lot going on with the club and changes afoot, all for the better. Chris (KE6ABQ) is gathering all the information that's scattered about in one place. Bob Polansky (N6ET) is retiring from both the lab, and the club, after many years of fine service, and he's been handing over responsibilities and information. I hope you'll all come to the commemorative lunch/club meeting to send Bob off with our thanks.

Jan, WB6VRN, has been participating in the W1AW frequency measurement tests (FMT), measuring the frequency of W1AW's transmissions to millihertz. We've been talking about how "1 land" centric ARRL is, and how, perhaps W6VIO should do some FMT transmissions of our own, and I've emailed HQ about it. How accurately do you think we might be able to accurately measure our own frequency? (Parts per trillion, per quadrillion?) Let's show those folks

Calendar of Events

February 21	[CMRA Hamfest, Cal Poly, Pomona, 7 AM]
February 25	Board Meeting, Noon - 161-230
February 28	[TRW Swap meet, Redondo Beach]
March 6	[Fontana Swap Meet, A. B. Miller HS, Fontana]
March 10	General Meeting, Noon - 238-543
March 20	[CMRA Hamfest, Cal Poly, Pomona, 7 AM]
March 24	Board Meeting, Noon - 161-230
March 27	[TRW Swap meet, Redondo Beach]
April 3	[Fontana Swap Meet, A. B. Miller HS, Fontana]
April 14	General Meeting, Noon - 238-543
April 17	[CMRA Hamfest, Cal Poly, Pomona, 7 AM]
April 24	[TRW Swap meet, Redondo Beach]
April 28	Board Meeting, Noon - 161-230
May 1	[Fontana Swap Meet, A. B. Miller HS, Fontana]
May 12	General Meeting, Noon - 238-543
May 15	[CMRA Hamfest, Cal Poly, Pomona, 7 AM]
May 26	Board Meeting, Noon - 161-230

back east that when it comes to high tech, we'll show them how it's done. Suggestions, complaints, political advice are all gratefully solicited.

Courtney, N5BF, has been trying to do a cross-lab 40m QSO with John, W6GL, using their Rockmites. When last I saw 'GL, he had 30 feet of wire strung around the office and he was talking to 'BF on the phone, who I think had moved up to the roof of 301 and was using a railing as an antenna. There's that amateur radio improvising pioneer spirit!

Speaking of improvisation, it's time to start thinking Field Day, and, somewhat related, JPL Open House. These are great chances to show what duct tape, baling wire, and ingenuity can do. Let's make this a great marketing opportunity to get folks involved: existing members; "dormant" members; the interested public; and the uninterested public. What cool stuff can we do?

I had this great idea to call every member and harangue them mercilessly into coming to the meetings and supporting the club. I blithely thought this would take a few afternoons, at

most, until Jonathon (KF6RTA) said that we have over 300 people on the list. I was astounded! What a resource we have in our membership. All of you who can't make it to the meetings, but have opinions, be sure and call me, or send me an email. (Come on, I know you all have ideas and opinions... take the 30 seconds and zap that email to me: w6rmk@earthlink.net or jimlux@jpl.nasa.gov). 73 ■

Club Meetings

By Robb, W1EEL and Jonathan, KF6RTA

General Meeting, January 14

The normal meeting we superceded by President Bush's talk on the future of space exploration. Club members present were included Robert Blakely (N6MTI), Jonathan Cameron (KF6RTA), Chris Carson (KE6ABQ), Bob Dengler (NO6B), Jay Holladay (W6EJJ), Jim Lux (W6RMK), Walt Mushagian (K6DNS), and Phil Smith (WB6LQP).

After President Bush's talk, the club members listed above stayed and had a short meeting. Our new club president, Jim Lux (W6RMK) led the meeting. Chris Carson informed us that he is in the process of getting special emergency response badges for all JPL ARC members who indicated a desire to be available for emergency response. Jim Lux discussed a few of his plans for the club this year. He encourages club members to tell others about the fun radio-related projects that they are doing at home.

Bob Polansky will be retiring in March or April. He has been a faithful and productive club member and has been instrumental in upgrading our club shack as well as organizing field day activities for many years. Thanks Bob! As he retires, we need to transfer his club-related responsibilities and knowledge to current club members. Bob informed us that he has recruited 3 volunteers to take over various aspects of his club duties. He is still looking for one more person. Contact him at 4-4940 if you would like to help out.

Board of Directors Meeting, January 28

No quorum was achieved. Board members present included Jonathan Cameron (KF6RTA), Chris Carson (KE6ABQ), Jim Lux (W6RMK), and Bob Polansky (N6ET).

We discussed several upcoming events. Jim Lux will work on details for these items and inform the club when plans ready.

Bob Polansky told us that he has introduced Rob Smith to several security officials on-lab as part of his transfer of responsibility to other club members. Bob Polansky has received FCC confirmation of the official transfer of the club station to Rob. Bob Polansky verified that the club has \$2500 from the EOC budget.

Eric Fuller talked with La Canada officials about getting a key for the Serra Negro site. Eric Fuller should be able to get a key and keep it as an official local emergency preparation official. We would then be able to borrow it as needed. If La Canada starts charging for rental, JPL EOC may step in to help provide funds for rental.

Jim Lux will look into setting up group AFS space for the club for official documents, etc. ■

W6VIO Station and DX News

By Bob Polansky, N6ET

First, this will be the last article I submit to W6VIO Calling as the W6VIO Station Trustee. That responsibility has been turned over to Rob Smith formally this last month.

It has been an exciting run here at JPL for the last 42 years, but it's now time to retire and spend much more time on the more personal and important parts of life, specifically my wife, my kids, my grandkids (and amateur radio of course).

"Space biz" has always been extremely exciting to me as has been proximity to the World Class capabilities we have put in place at W6VIO. The three areas I have supported the Club in have been turned over to a very capable group of dedicated fellow amateur radio enthusiasts.

Rob Smith and Mike Tope have assumed the co-lead in maintaining the W6VIO capabilities in B173 in addition to our fantastic antenna farm on the Mesa. Jay Holladay has agreed to lead the JPLARC/CITARC joint Field Day venture for our joint Clubs. He'll need to rely heavily on support from other club members to make this the "fun event" we have enjoyed in past years.

The third area, namely all activities associated with maintaining Emergency Preparedness for JPL has been stepped up to by Chris Carson, who has already been heavily involved in most of these activities anyway. Chris is already well known to the JPL security people for these activities for the past number of years.

Additionally, Chris and Rob will maintain contacts with the Laboratory organizations providing funding support needed to maintain viable capabilities in support of Emergency Preparedness activities. I wish you all continued success in these ventures, and I hope to join some of these Club activities when my vehicle finds its way back to the La Canada area.

Your Club conducted, in consort with the Indianapolis ARC last August and September, an educational radio activity targeted to America's youth. The subject of this activity was "educating our younger generation on the subject of the Mars missions currently operating on the Martian surface".

We answered hundreds of questions on this subject during the four evenings of this joint event, not only from the younger generation, but from hundreds of amateur radio operators hemisphere-wide who participated. Mars' proximity to Earth dictated the timing of this event.

The Club received a "well-signed" thank you card from the Indianapolis ARC congratulating us on our accomplishments on Mars and also for our participation in the "Event". I'll bring the card to the next Club meeting for all to see.

Now for the DX news:

ARRL CW DX Contest will take place the weekend of 21/22 February.

ARRL SSB DX Contest will take place the weekend of 6/7 March.

AVES ISLAND – This operation, previously scheduled for January/February has been moved back probably to March. This entity is about tenth in the Most Needed Entity List.

CQ WW SSB 160M Contest will take place the weekend of 28/29 February.

HAITI – 4V200YH is active now through 15 February. The Club still needs this entity on ssb.

IRAQ - A large number of American hams have been licensed and are currently operating from Iraq on 10 through 40 meters. Propagation to the West coast has been poor and I don't recall seeing any West Coast spots for these operators recently.

That's all for now. It's been a pleasure working with the other JPL ARC members all these years. I hope our Club continues to flourish and that more and more of the members get involved with operating and assisting with the maintenance of the fantastic capabilities we have at W6VIO. Hope to have QSOs with many of you from my new QTH in Douglas County, Nevada. In closing I wish you all good health and happiness in the future. 73 from N6ET. ■

Treasurer's Reports

By Chuck Sarture, KG6NF

August, 2003

General Club Account

Beginning of Month Balance: **\$3,545.54**

Income:

No Income This Month	\$0.00
	\$0.00
Total Income:	\$0.00

Expenses:

Parts for WR6AZN Repeater	\$275.03
Total Expenses:	\$275.03
End of Month Balance:	\$3,270.51

September, 2003

General Club Account

Beginning of Month Balance: **\$3,270.51**

Income:

Mistaken Check Re-Deposited	\$428.70
Total Income:	\$428.70

Expenses:

PO Box Rental	\$38.00
Field Day Tool Expenses	\$31.62
QSL Postage and SASE's	\$24.62
Check Mistakenly Written	\$428.70
Total Expenses:	\$522.94
End of Month Balance:	\$3,176.27

October, 2003

General Club Account

Beginning of Month Balance: **\$3,176.27**

Income:

No Income This Month	\$0.00
Total Income:	\$0.00

Expenses:

No Expenses This Month	\$0.00
Total Expenses:	\$0.00
End of Month Balance:	\$3,176.27

Emergency Communications Account

Beginning of Month Balance: **\$0.00**

Income:

FY'04 Grant	\$2,500.00
Total Income:	\$2,500.00

Expenses:

No Expenses This Month	\$0.00
Total Expenses:	\$0.00
End of Month Balance:	\$2,500.00

November, 2003

General Club Account

Beginning of Month Balance: **\$3,176.27**

Income:

No Income This Month	\$0.00
Total Income:	\$0.00

Expenses:

No Expenses This Month	\$0.00
Total Expenses:	\$0.00
End of Month Balance:	\$3,176.27

"December, 2003"

General Club Account

Beginning of Month Balance: **\$3,176.27**

Income:

Membership	\$10.00
Total Income:	\$10.00

Expenses:

No Expenses This Month	\$0.00
Total Expenses:	\$0.00
End of Month Balance:	\$3,186.27

Chuck Sarture, KG6NF
2003 Treasurer

Newsletter Deadline:

Friday, February 27 for the March issue of W6VIO Calling. Your articles, ads, photos, diagrams, letters to the editor, or technical material should be submitted to the editor via email (bill.wood@mindspring.com) or regular mail to: Bill Wood, 31094 Hemlock Ave, Barstow, CA 92311.

Jet Propulsion Laboratory Amateur Radio Club

2004 Membership Form



Name: _____ Call: _____
 License Class: E A G T+ T N
 License Expiration Date: _____ ARRL Member? _____
 Mail Stop: _____ Lab extension: _____ E-mail Address: _____
 Home address: _____ Home Phone w/Area Code _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

JPL Employee: _____ Retired: _____
 On-Lab Contractor: _____ Retired: _____
 Family: _____ Off-Lab: _____ Caltech/Other: _____

Please renew your JPL Amateur Radio Club membership for 2004 by completing the following three steps:

1. In addition to your name and call enter any new or corrected information on the membership form above. Please enter your current electronic mail address if you have one.
2. Return this form with your personal check for 2003 dues as listed below (check the appropriate boxes) to: Scot Nolte, JPL Mail Stop 171-B1 or JPLARC, PO Box 820, La Canada, CA 91012-0820. Please make checks payable to JPL-ARC

- Regular; Retired, Off-Lab or Caltech/Other: \$ 10.00 each
- (\$11.00 If not Paid by Feb. 28, 2004)
- Immediate Family Members living at the same address with a Member above: \$5.00
- Newly Licensed Amateurs - Free for the first year

Please check additional action(s) desired:

- I have already paid my 2004 dues.
- There is an error in the club records, please correct as shown above.
- I no longer want to be a JPL Amateur Radio Club member. Please remove my name from your list.

Thx and 73, Scott Nolte, K6SN



Jet Propulsion Laboratory Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 820
La Canada, CA 91012-0820

First Class Mail

JPL ARC Repeaters			
Pasadena:			
WR6JPL	147.15 MHz	(+)	PL 131.8 Open
WR6JPL	224.08 MHz	(-)	PL 156.7 Open
WR6JPL	224.70 MHz	(-)	Closed Autopatch
WR6JPL	445.20 MHz	(-)	PL 103.5 Open
W6JPL-1	145.09 MHz		Packet Node/BBS
W6JPL-1	223.54 MHz		Packet Node/BBS
Table Mountain:			
WR6AZN	145.28 MHz	(-)	PL 131.8 Open
WR6AZN	223.96 MHz	(-)	PL 156.7 Open
WR6AZN	447.20 MHz	(-)	PL 94.8 Open

