

Q5

By and for the Downey Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



Volume XXI Number 3

Our 51st Year

March 2002

March Meeting of the Downey Amateur Radio Club to be Held Thursday, March 7

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Downey Amateur Radio Club will take place at 7:30 PM on Thursday, March 7. As usual, the meeting will be held at the Sussman Middle School (formerly South) Auditorium. The meeting will begin with a guest speaker who is yet to be announced, and will feature a raffle, refreshments, and other activities. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is encouraged to attend.

MARCH MEETING

The March meeting of the DARC will be held in the auditorium at Sussman (formerly South) Middle School, 12500 Birchdale Ave., in Downey, beginning at 7:30 PM, Thursday, March 7, 2002.

OPERATORS NEEDED FOR ARC WALK – 2002

The 6th annual ARC Walk for Independence will take place on Saturday, April 20. The DARC has given communications support to this event from its beginning when 250 walkers participated, to last years event which drew almost 1500. This is major fund raising occasion for ARC of South East Los Angeles County (formerly known as the Association for Retarded Citizens).

The Walk begins and ends at Stonewood Center Mall at the corner of Firestone Blvd. and Lakewood Blvd. There are two routes, a one-mile and a three-mile, both of which take walkers past commercial and residential areas as they earn money for ARC from pledges they have obtained from local merchants and residents.

We will need approximately 10 – 12 operators for this event. Radio

See "ARC Walk", page 3

Tour de Sewer March 16

Each year DARC participates in communications support for this interesting and strangely-named special event. The other day I was asked for a definition of the phrase: Tour De Sewer. Those of us who have been involved in supporting this event over the years tend to forget that other hams, either recently licensed or new to the Club, don't have the slightest clue as to its meaning. I can envision thoughts of something being held underground; in large pipes! Nope, not quite. Here's a brief overview of the event; and I hope it will pique your interest in participating with your fellow DARC members this year.

This annual event, which is a large-scale bicycle ride, sponsored by the Bell Garden's Lions Club is held each March. Participants pay an entry fee and, together with the profits from the sale of Tour De Sewer shirts, the Lions Club donates these funds to the support of their eye bank program.

For serious bicycle riders as well as recreational cyclists, the event provides a varied and challenging venue
See "Tour de Sewer", page 6

ARRL Asks FCC To Reject RFID Rules Proposed For 425-435 MHz

The ARRL says the FCC "cannot legally proceed with the rules proposed for unlicensed RF Identification Device (RFID) tags at 433 MHz," and it has asked the Commission to reject them. The League filed comments February 12 as part of its continued opposition to what it called "this ill-conceived proposal" of SAVI Technology to deploy unlicensed transient [devices] between 425 and 435 MHz at much higher field strengths and duty cycles than Part 15 rules now permit. The FCC appears inclined to agree with SAVI's proposal, but FCC staff members have told the ARRL that it's not yet a "done deal."

The League reiterated its stance that the Communications Act of 1934 "is devoid of any authority to allow unlicensed devices with substantial interference potential; such devices must be licensed." Among other applications, RFID tags are used to track and inventory parcel shipments and vehicles.

The proposed rules would [create] unacceptable interference that would "preclude or repeatedly disrupt amateur operation," the ARRL said. The ARRL also pointed out that deploying the proposed RFID tags elsewhere [in the RF spectrum] would make much better sense.

- Extracted from *The ARRL Letter*, February 15, 2002

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**THE DOWNEY
AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB, INC.**
P.O. Box 207
Downey, CA 90241



<http://www.DowneyARC.org>

Affiliations

Affiliated ARRL Club
ARRL Special Service Club
Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs
Orange County Council of Amateur Radio Organizations

Frequencies

Simplex & Phone Patch: 145.595 MHz
2-Meter Repeater: 146.175+ no pl*
440 Repeater: 445.640 (-) PL 156.7 Hz*
* See Calendar for Net Skeds

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VE Exams

The Downey Amateur Radio Club provides VE examinations for all classes of Amateur Radio licenses on the third Saturday of each even-numbered month. Exams are held at the Downey Fire Department Headquarters, 12222 Paramount Boulevard, beginning at 8:30 AM. The exam schedule for the remainder of 2001 is as follows:

Apr 20 June 15
Aug 17 Oct 19 Dec 21

The ARRL/VEC test fee is \$10.00 for all tests. This fee is controlled by the FCC but goes to the ARRL to cover their expenses in providing the tests and handling the applications. Those planning to take tests are asked to contact **Wes Printz**, W3SE, at (562) 923-5598, or wprintz@ix.netcom.com prior to the test. This contact is appreciated but not mandatory. After the test session please wait 10 days before contacting the ARRL at (860) 594-0300 or <http://www.qsl.net/w3se> for new license information. Please do not call the FCC directly.

DARC Badges

DARC name badges are available for \$4.00, payable on order. Give your name and callsign to **Ray Fas**, KD6GRM. Previously ordered badges may be picked up at the Club general meeting.

**Club Cups, Caps,
Shirts and Jackets**

Item	On Hand?	Price	Pay
Caps*	Yes	3.00	On order
Jackets	Yes	25.00	On order
TShirts	Most Sizes	10.00	On order
Polo Shirt	Most Sizes	16.00	On order
Coffee Mugs	Yes	3.00	On order

Contact **Ray Fas**, KD6GRM, at any meeting or at (562) 861-6651
*Free to new members

**Saturday
Breakfast Location**

Many DARC Club members meet for breakfast each Saturday morning at 7:00 AM at **The Nordic Fox** Restaurant, 10924 S. Paramount Blvd., in Downey (1/2 mile south of Florence Ave.) The restaurant reserves an area for DARC and offers good food at reasonable prices. See you there!

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March Birthdays

The officers of the Downey Amateur Radio Club join the members of the Q5 staff in wishing each of the following a very happy birthday.



KE6NXZ	Yolande Craig	1
WB6ZGF	Dave Buhler	5
W6AEJ	Robert Vitzelio	15
K6FOO	Karen Mason	29

Check out the Downey Amateur Radio Club **World Wide Web** site. It has more than just the articles from this newsletter. See color photographs, special features not included in the Q5, and links to other Ham Radio related sites.

<http://www.downeyarc.org>

**DOWNEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
SERVING THE DOWNEY AREA
SINCE 1951**

DARC Annual Membership

Single: \$20 Associate: \$10
Maximum for Family: \$35

Make check payable to "DARC", send to: **DARC Membership**
1400 Masser Place
Montebello, CA 90640
Include your name(s), callsign(s), address, and phone number

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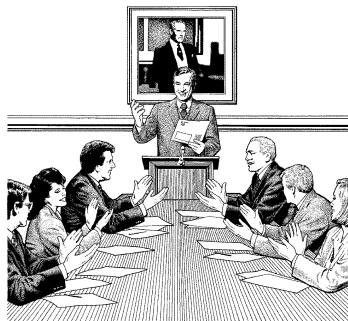
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DARC Board of Directors Meeting, February 12, 2002

Dave Glenn, N6TEB, President, called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM at Downey Fire Station #1. Other Board members present were **Frank Hornberger**, N6ZDS, 1st Vice President; **Jon Olesen**, KD6HXP, Treasurer; **Bill Heather**, KB6WKT, VP-Programs; **Ann Wright**, KF6UEA, VP-Membership; **Dave Buhler**, WB6ZGF, VP-Service; **Ray Fas**, KD6GRM, VP-Ways and Means and **Tom VanBuskirk**, K6TV, Director, Two Years. Absent were **Paul Metzger**, KQ6EH, Secretary and **Steve Grudzinski**, AD6HT, Director, One year.



Minutes of the January meeting were approved.

Officer's reports: President: Dave, N6TEB, said he had enjoyed the last Club meeting and noted that there were approximately 50 people present. He attributed that turn out partially to the phone contacts that were made prior to the meeting.

1st Vice President: Frank, N6ZDS, had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Jon, KD6HXP, reported he had received a letter from Washington Mutual Bank stating that as of this April, a fee of \$10 per month will be charged on our Money Market account if the balance drops below \$2500. He noted the account earns very little in interest. This issue will be revisited at the next Board meeting. Jon also reported on a bill received for insurance on the Club equipment. Following discussion, the Board decided to let the policy lapse pending the upcoming inventory on the contents of the Club shed and its value.

Jon reviewed the proposed budget noting the need to recruit new members and devise additional fund raising opportunities as well as reducing expenses as much as possible. During discussion, motion was made by Tom, K6TV, seconded by Ann, KF6UEA, to reduce the amount paid to the Rio Hondo Amateur Radio Club as support for their repeater W6GNS from \$350 to \$200 per year. Motion approved. There may be other expense reduction opportunities to be explored.

V-P Programs: Bill, KB6WKT, reported he has programs lined up from now until August and reviewed the programs for each month. He repeated the need for a refreshment committee chair.

V-P Membership: Ann, KF6UEA, reported she had made up ten membership kits for new members. She also has been making minor corrections to the roster which she will coordinate with Jon. She still needs to obtain the Club stamp from the Secretary, Paul, KQ6EH so she can process the membership cards.

V-P Service: Dave, WB6ZGF, said he would discuss items when they come up under the planning calendar section of the agenda.

V-P Ways and Means: Ray, KD6GRM, reported the membership at this point can only support one yard sale per year. It will probably be held in the June/July time frame at a location to be determined.

Director – Two Years: Tom, K6TV, had nothing to report

Planning Calendar:

1. Tour de Sewer: Dave, WB6ZGF, reported **Larry Vaughn**, KD6NZW, has volunteered to take charge of this project.
2. ARC Walk: Scheduled for April 20. Sign up sheets to be at the March meeting.
3. Shed Cleanout Day: Ray will organize this and report back next month.

Old Business: Bank account changes: No changes will be made at this time.

Licensing classes: Discussion regarding materials costs and other logistics as well as proposed dates and times. Motion by Frank, seconded by Jon that the Club buy the necessary videotapes. Motion approved.

New QSL Cards: Due to the present economic situation and the fact that we still have many of the old style cards available, the Board decided to table this issue until the fall.

Continued, see "**Board Minutes**" on page 5

Remembering Frank Griffin by John Powell, KF6EOJ

In 1966 I was part of the first class of students at Warren High to be "exposed" to Mr. Frank Griffin, or "Mr. Griffin," as we *always* called him. Those were the days that *everybody* was a Mr., Miss, or Mrs, (*no Ms.* back then!). The class was Vocational Electronics and Mr. Griffin was the sole teacher and "Lord" of that class.

The class was so new to Warren that the lab had not even been finished yet. It and the Physics Lab were the only two classrooms on campus to be air conditioned at that time, and the envy of some other students on hot days. Since the building was not finished yet we spent the first part of the semester in the Cafeteria, where we soon learned his temperament.

In the back of the room were several "hoods" (as they were called in those days) and on the first day of class (I think) Frank stood at the front of the room and said "Gentlemen [as we were to be called from there on out] there are several of you here that don't belong in this program and you won't be here tomorrow". Startled silence and furtive looks followed.

True to his word the next day the "hoods" were gone. We found out later that they had been kicked out of all of the other shop classes for disruptive behavior and our wonderful counselors thought that Electronics was just another shop class they could be tossed into. How Frank found out about them we never knew, but it probably had to do something from his years' of experience in Junior High classes.

Some of Mr Griffin's quirks:

--Always said, "Gentlemen, pardon my French but" when he used the word damn.

--Always washed the chalk dust off his hands with alcohol.

--Generally slept through films.

--Was usually only a page ahead of us when using new equipment.

--Quite often used his bare fingers as a voltmeter in AC class. Said his hands were so dry from washing them with

Continued, see "**Mr. Griffin**", page 7

DARC General Meeting Minutes for February 7, 2002 (not available at press time)

CQ Contest de N6TEB/rover

The January VHF sweepstakes has always been one of my favorite contests. It's touted as one of the contests with low participation, but I have found it often times to contain more activity than the September VHF contest. January, of course, presents it's own unique challenges such as cold, fog, wind and snow. Only the hardiest of mountain toppers brave the environment for this contest.

As a Rover, I spend the weeks prior to the contest planning my route, selecting the gear, finding a good second operator and setting up the car. When I first started roving my wife requested "no holes" be drilled in our 1992 Chevy Suburban. My setup now includes 8 loop antennas that I use while mobile, 5 yagis on a 26 foot pushup pole mounted off the rear trailer hitch, a rotor in the center of the roof for the microwave loopers and several magmount verticals for FM. None of these antennas required any holes to be drilled. Inside the car I drive and operate 6 and 2 meters from the front seat with the aid of a passenger to help log. In the four years I have been roving I have burned out my entire family in this task and have gone on to use my daughter's boyfriends, kids from church etc. Funny, I can't seem to get any loggers to come back for a second trip. And I thought contesting was fun!

In the rear seat I have a second operator running 222 and up. The rear operator sits in the Suburban's third seat, which is right over the rear axel. This time out by partner was Bill, K6WHP, who's back will never be the same thanks to some dips on the 5 freeway between Kettleman City and Bakersfield.

On Friday night I leave home in DM03 and head up to a relative's house who lives in DM07 to spend the night and get a good night's rest before the contest. On the way up this trip we had made a quick stop for supplies just before going over the grapevine. Returning to the road I noticed my meter reading 12.6 volts at the front radios which is way too low to charge the batteries and I had a flashback to the last June contest when I lost my alternator in the middle of Joshua Tree, but that's another story. About 10 minutes later Steve who came along to log looked at the FM radio and commented wasn't it unusual for the Downey Club repeater to be full scale up here? Well, let's just say I was operating by the seat of my pants, literally. Apparently when I got back into the car I ended up sitting on the mic, keying it. Once we realized this I properly identified myself, unkeyed and the voltage immediately popped back up to 13.8 volts. Another possible disaster averted.

All contests present their challenges, and this was no exception. As we pulled into CM95 Saturday night it was cold, dark and windy. When I got out to push up the rear yagi, one of the nuts froze on the bolt and I couldn't tighten it meaning it couldn't go up and I couldn't drive with it loose. Rummaging through my toolbox I got the biggest flat blade screwdriver I had and a hammer and tried to chisel it in half. Eventually I broke the bolt off and after a half an hour or so got it dislodged and replaced with only minor damage to the push up pole and my hands.

Another unexpected challenge came on Sunday when I was in DM13. We had gone up a sidewalk path to a hilltop in Diamond bar with no problems but on the way down a tree snagged my antennas bending some of the loops, twisting up the 432 and 902 yagis and breaking my 1296 yagi in half. Again looking in my toolbox I came up with a two foot section of ¼ inch allthread and used it as a splint for 1296. I did the best I could bending everything else back together and it all held up for the rest of the contest. Making this my best January effort ever and the highest score I have ever turned in.

In total I worked from 12 grids in this order DM07, DM06, CM96, CM97, CM95, DM05, DM04, DM03, DM13, DM14, DM24 and DM24. Sunday morning Paul, N6DN, with his partner Neil, N6VHF, and I headed out to Joshua Tree in the middle of the

Continued, see "CQ Contest", page 7

Board Minutes

Continued from page 4

Q5 Editor: Ginny, AJ6CW, is slated to take on this responsibility in the April/ May time frame as there have been no other volunteers.

Audit committee: Due to a miscommunication, the audit committee has not met. Dave, WB6ZGF, will convene this committee as soon as possible.

Field Day Power boxes: Tabled until next month.

Field Day Committee: No one has come forward to be Chair. We will continue to ask members to volunteer. Several possibilities were proposed. Discussion was held regarding changing the style of our Field Day, possibly combining it with the Club Picnic.

New Business:

Q5 Advertising: Dave, N6TEB, related a conversation with the owner of Ford Electronics regarding his business advertising in the Q5. This prompted discussion of ad rates, cash versus in-kind contributions, ads for other than radio related businesses, etc. Dave, N6TEB, encouraged the Board members to think about possible advertisers and rates between now and the next meeting.

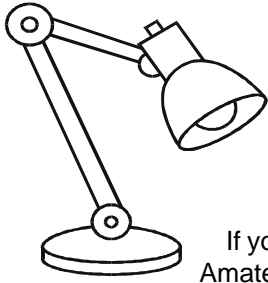
Club Contesting Get Together: Bill, KB6WKT, will take charge of this project and will find a venue. Bill noted several upcoming contests that could serve as demonstrations.

Club Merchandise: Ray, KD6GRM, has inventoried the available items and will have to place an order soon. As a fundraiser he proposed selling a "premium" Club hat which would be an embroidered type providing more sun protection than our present one. Different styles and types were discussed.

Fund Raising: Various types of additional fund raising methods were proposed. Some of these will be reviewed at later meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF
Substitute Secretary



Spotlight on Wes Printz, W3SE

If you ask Wes Printz, W3SE, how he developed his interest in Amateur Radio, he will tell you he has always been interested; it's in his genes. Personally, I would bet more on contagion than genes. His dad was licensed in 1957 as WN3FNA. Wes still has his dad's first ticket.

When Wes got his first Novice ticket in June 1979, they were living in Pennsylvania. The FCC had just changed from issuing Novice licenses as one-year non-renewable license to two-year renewable licenses. That suited Wes just fine, since at that time his main interest was CW and he figured he had all the operating privileges that he would ever want. He got his Novice renewed in '81 but soon (in '82) moved to Ohio. He advised the FCC of his new QTH on a Form 810, expecting to get a new K8 call and perhaps a two-year extension to '84. To his surprise his ticket came back with his old KA3DSE call, and with a five-year extension – both resulting from FCC policy changes. His timing has been impeccable, or maybe his luck was inherited, too.

Perhaps following the admonition "Go west, young man" he did, and ended up in Southern California in 1982. Finally, after nine years as a Novice, Wes upgraded to Technician in March 1988. He got his General two months later, and upgraded again to Extra in early 1989.

From his home, Wes works all bands from 160 meters down (in wavelength) or up (in frequency) to 432 MHz. By sticking up a couple of temporary antennas, he could add 902 MHz. and 1.3 GHz. On HF, he uses a Kenwood TS940S and, when needed, a Kenwood TL 922A amplifier. On 6 meters, he has a Kenwood TS 690S. On VHF and UHF, he uses an FT 736R, which covers 2m, 220, 440 and 1.3 GHz.

The above list of equipment led me to suggest to Wes that he has several dollars tied up in his ham gear. He admitted this was true. He said in 1998 when he was mountain topping and working as a single operator station in the VHF contest, he was looking at his equipment and started to mentally add it all up. After adding up his equipment in the tent and adding in the antennas and towers outside the tent, Wes concluded that with that much money, he could have purchased a very nice car. I don't believe Wes would have made the trade.

Wes joined the Downey Amateur Radio Club about 1987, was elected Vice President (when there was only one) for 1989, and President for 1990. He represented DARC as a Committee member for two ARRL SW Division Conventions, took over from **Ralph Jump**, K6OWA, the responsibility for coordinating the DARC VE exams, conducted the VE exams at the Convention on the Queen Mary in 1995, was DARC's representative to the ARRL National convention in 1992 where he also conducted the VE exams, and was DARC's Field Day Chairman for at least one or maybe two years. He has served as an Assistant ARRL Director, first under former Director **Fried Heyn**, WA6WZO, and currently under Director **Art Goddard**, W6XD.

Wes has dabbled in many aspects of amateur radio and says he hasn't gotten bored with it yet. Unlike many hams, he started out on HF and got into VHF and UHF only after the last solar cycle turned down and there was little on HF. He has tried a little operation through satellites, via moon bounce and meteor scatter. His best DX on 2 meters is Oklahoma via meteor scatter, and he has logged QSOs with about five other states via 2-meter meteor scatter.

Wes is a fiercely competitive guy and admits that of all his ham activities, he finds contesting the most fun. Last year he really got into it and made over 8,000 contest QSOs, most on CW, but quite a few on RTTY and phone. This January he may have made a new Division VHF Sweepstakes record for the Single Operator, QRP Portable category. "How was it?" I asked. "Great," he said, "There's nothing like January mountain topping alone in 30 MPH winds with gusts to 60 for 12 hours straight." Sometimes I wonder about Wes. --W4HDC

Tour de Sewer

Continued from page 1

and is one of the major bike ride events in the Southern California area. The different routes vary in length from 10 to 50 miles and partially follow the concrete river beds of the Los Angeles, Rio Hondo and San Gabriel Rivers. Inas much as these rivers also provide for rain water runoff, hence comes the term "sewer". Not all of the routes parallel only the riverbeds, the longer routes include surface streets through a number of local cities. The tour starts and finishes at Ford Park in the city of Bell Gardens which is alongside the Rio Hondo river. It continues (on the long route, anyway) through parts of the cities of Montebello, Pico Rivera, Whittier, City of Industry, Santa Fe Springs, Norwalk, Paramount and Downey.

Because the ride encompasses a rather large geographical large area, radio communications for safety's sake from any one point along the route back to the start point at Ford Park is imperative. To provide coverage over the Whittier Hills (Turnbull Canyon, Colima, East Road, etc.) it has been necessary to use a combination of unique systems.

At previous events, DARC has established a radio network of 16 or more portable stations (some mobile, some hand-held) located along the route which are manned by Club members together with a Net Control station set up at Ford Park.

So, that's the Tour De Sewer. Sound interesting? I hope so. It 's one of our Clubs major public service efforts and your officers and I encourage you to participate. We need your help. Not all radio locations will be active all day, so if you can only participate in the morning or the afternoon hours, we'll find a place for you. If you've never participated in any public service events, there is no better chance to get started that right here. We'll pair you up with a veteran communicator. Look at your calendar; check the date and time of the ride, make the time and call **Larry Vaughn**, KD6NZW, to sign up. See you there and 73,

Doug Lyon

Mr. Griffin Remembered

Continued from page 4

alcohol that he barely felt the jolt from 110 VAC.

--Gave students who helped him with his code practice setup A's for extra credit (I was one).

--Climbed the pole tower with only a piece of cord for a safety belt to re-position the coax "choke" at the beam antenna feed point.

--Reserved the best equipment for his A students.

--Sometimes didn't even let us touch some of the equipment locked away in cabinets. (I always wondered what he kept hidden there.)

--Started each class by playing scratchy code practice records that were always dusty since they were next to the chalkboard.

--Assigned the class to practice writing requisitions for equipment, which he then used to buy the equipment! Pretty clever idea.

Interesting Firsts:

--First class to use the new lab.

--First Ham Radio club at Warren High, *The Brasspounders*. Larry Vaughn, KD6NZW, and I were in the club at the same time and I didn't even remember.

--First Ham Radio/CB/Civil Defense club (or organization) in Downey, called the *Downey Communicators*, a compilation of the Ham clubs at both Downey

and Warren High, sponsored by the Downey Lions Club. One of the first groups to help with communication at the Downey Christmas Parade.

--First TV camera on campus, used it only once.

--First, last and only tower and beam antenna on campus (why is it still there??).

Ham Club History (via yearbook photos and call signs I remember as of that time): Maybe you recognize some of them.

1967 members:

Dennis Webster
Don Armbruster
Art May
Larry Vaughn
Bill Dotson
John Powell
Sponsor: Frank Griffin

1968 members:

Jack Petersen
Gary Bakker
George Epperson
Larry Vaughn
Todd Leone
Don Armbruster
Dennis Webster
Bob Kimbrell
John Powell
Sponsor: Frank Griffin

New Advertiser for the Q5

Recently I had the need for a multi-pin din connector to work with my Yaesu FT847. When I inquired at HRO, they sent me to Ford Electronics where I was pleased to find them carried in stock. Since I often pick up the raffle prizes for our Clubs' monthly raffle, I noticed a really cool toolbox that would make a great raffle prize. Inquiring about setting up an account for the club, I was introduced to **Scott Ford**, who I must say is one of the nicest persons I have recently met. He was excited to help us out with some raffle deals and offered to advertise in our newsletter in return for being a loyal customer. Scott was happy to hear about the resurgence of kit-building within our QRP ranks and is looking forward to helping us out in the future. Although Scott is not a Ham himself, there are a few operators who work there and I have found all of the counter staff to be knowledgeable and helpful. We had a nice chat and I am looking forward to returning there in search of the many treasures that can be found among their shelves. They have a large selection of staples like soldering stations and DVMS, not to mention a great assortment of kits. So join me in welcoming Ford Electronics as our premier Advertiser. They are freeway close: just take the 5 south to Beach Blvd North, a right on Commonwealth and they are just a few blocks down on your left. When you're there, check out the collection of old Broadcast receivers on display above and behind the counter. --N6TEB

CQ Contest (continued from page 5)

California Desert (read middle of nowhere). This time out we were joined by Fred, K6FZY, and his son Jon, K6FZZ, to take advantage of the occasional opening into Arizona and Nevada and the close proximity of the grid squares in the middle of the park. This is where we stopped for a very cold photo of our three vehicles lined up together.

All in all, there was very good participation - a little low on the microwave activity in the Central Valley and not as much activity back in LA as in years past, but a great time was had by all. Thanks especially to N6MU, N6AJ, and K6MI, who made every effort to work us from all the central valley grids, and to W2ODH, W3SE and W6TOI for staying on the air in LA until the wee hours.

Special thanks to Glenn, KE6HPZ, (the voice of W6TOI) who's always there with a helping hand getting things set up.

I have already started planning some improvements for June, which include 3456 as a new band, so let's get out there and tear up the airwaves in June. Until then, 73 de N6TEB/Rover



Contesting with N6TEB, K6FZZ, and N6DN

Treasurer's Report January 2002

SUMMARY

Bank Balance as of 12/31/2001	\$3,577.61
Income	\$553.03
Expenditures	(\$523.21)

Bank Balance as of 1/31/2002	\$3,607.43
Raffle Holding Fund	\$297.25

INCOME	This Month	Year to Date	Annual Budget	(Over) Under Budget
Club Merchandise		\$0.00	315.00	315.00
DARC Dues	160.00	160.00	2,100.00	1,940.00
Interest on Savings	2.53	2.53	40.00	37.47
Luncheon Reserv.		0.00	800.00	800.00
Misc. Income	390.50	390.50	1,380.00	989.50
Fund Raisers		0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Totals	\$553.03	\$553.03	\$6,135.00	\$5,581.97

EXPENDITURES

	This Month	Year to Date	Annual Budget	(Over) Under Budget
Attend. Prizes		0.00	55.00	55.00
Autopatch, Repeater	35.53	35.53	240.00	204.47
Club Merchandise		0.00	400.00	400.00
Club Bulletin				
Printing	123.12	123.12	1,500.00	1,376.88
Supplies		0.00	20.00	20.00
Postage	68.00	68.00	650.00	582.00
Committees				
Awards		0.00	75.00	75.00
Education		0.00	30.00	30.00
Membership		0.00	50.00	50.00
Pub & Pub Rel		0.00	25.00	25.00
Sunshine		0.00	50.00	50.00
Equip Maint		0.00	150.00	150.00
Events				
Christmas Party		0.00	25.00	25.00
Field Day		0.00	750.00	750.00
Luncheon		0.00	800.00	800.00
Picnic		0.00	50.00	50.00
Fund Raisers		0.00	50.00	50.00
Other Events	250.50	250.50	20.00	(230.50)
Insurance		0.00	400.00	400.00
Misc. Expenses	46.06	46.06	0.00	(46.06)
Officers' Expenses				
President		0.00	25.00	25.00
Secretary		0.00	25.00	25.00
Treasurer		0.00	25.00	25.00
Other Organizations				
Dues		0.00	20.00	20.00
RHARC Repr		0.00	350.00	350.00
PO Box		0.00	65.00	65.00
Refreshments		0.00	200.00	200.00
Stationery, Copies		0.00	20.00	20.00
Worldradio Listing		0.00	65.00	65.00
Totals	\$523.21	\$523.21	\$6,135.00	\$5,611.79

Misc. Income \$250.50 Silent Key Sale
 Misc. Expense \$46.06 Raffle
 Other Events \$250.50 Silent Key Sale

Jon Olesen, KD6HXP
 Treasurer





DARC DEAL

Special on QRP shirts shown at the Feb. meeting. \$5 of the \$20 will go to DARC.

Custom shirts, mugs, name tags, license plate frames, and much more available.

Ann Palmer—KE6EDB
www.justfur.net

QRP Information

Dick Palmer, WB6JDH

As you might have gathered from the talk I gave at the February Club meeting there is a lot of interest in QRP, not just here but throughout the amateur radio community. I didn't have time to make handouts for the meeting so I will list several of the website that offer information or QRP kits.

- NorCal QRP group - <http://www.fix.net/~jparker/norcal.html>
- Red Hot Radio - <http://www.redhotradio.com/>
- QRP - <http://www.qrparci.org/cub.html>
- MFJ - <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/index.htm>
- K-2 - <http://www.elecraft.com/>
- Dave Benson - <http://www.smallwonderlabs.com/>
- Steve Weber - <http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>
- Chuck Adams - <http://www.qsl.net/k7qo/>
- New Jersey QRP group - <http://www.njgrp.org/>
- Oak Hills Research - <http://www.ohr.com/>

Although you can buy commercially made rigs that qualify for QRP, the real fun is in the building. Or, at least it is for me. Whether it is building something from a kit, working from the plans layout in a magazine or designing it myself – this is where the fun is (and, at times, a fair amount of frustration).

There is never a shortage of ideas and there are magazines as well as club publications that offer project plans as well as kits to satisfy the hardest of QRP appetites. Buying a kit is the easy no-hassle way of getting everything you need to build the project but it isn't necessarily the most fun or the cheapest way to do it. Just ask any NorCal or Lake Perris QRP'er and he will tell you the only way to do it is to head to the swap meets. Did you know old US made cordless phones contain an hard to find integrated circuit that is also used in QRP projects? And you can be sure those swap meet phones are a lot cheaper than a Radio Shack part – if they had them!

Of course part of the fun of the swap meets is getting together with the other like-minded individuals to compare notes and 'treasure' locations and usually a stop at a local eatery for lunch and more talk. If you would like more information or have questions about QRP just ask. Or email – wb6jdh@catalina-inter.net

DARC Members**DXCC count:**

WA6RTA 326 Phone (AM & SSB)

KK6T 297 Mixed, 264 CW, 235 SSB, 137 RTTY, 80 Meters 100

K6ICS 295 Mixed, 288 Phone (AM & SSB), 40 Meters 164 Mixed

KK6K 250 Phone, 200 CW

KB6ATT 305 Mixed, 60 CW

N6WZI 10 Meters 198 Phone

K6TV 180 SSB, 31 CW

KE6ARF/Mobile 142 SSB

WA6OUD 10 meters 129 Phone

W6TOI 102 Mixed

KQ6EH 30 Meters 57 CW

More than just Field Day

Field Day + Club Picnic + Community Awareness = Fun

By Dave Glenn, N6TEB, DARC President---This year we will be combining Field Day with our annual Club picnic to make for a great event. I have already had volunteers for at least 1 HF station, and I will be supplying the VHF/UHF station and at least one mode of Digital HF. **Ginny Grudzinski**, AJ6CW, has offered to put together some "Introduction to Ham Radio" training materials for kids that we will be using for Kids Day and Field Day to get those interested in Radio to give it a try. What better place than Field Day to make your first contact?

We will also be incorporating our annual picnic with Field Day this year thanks to a suggestion from **Doug Lyon**, N6WZI, turning Field Day into a very festive event not to be missed. We will have more details as we get closer. Contact me (N6TEB) if you would like to volunteer for any of the activities that will be going on during Field Day.

FIRST CLASS



The Downey Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 207
Downey, CA 90241-0207