

Q5

The Downey Amateur
Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 207
Downey, CA 90241.0207


FIRST CLASS

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Sat. 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Tel: (714) 521-8080
Fax: (714) 521-8920

FORD Electronics, Inc.
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**By and for the
Downey Amateur
Radio Club, Inc.**

Volume XXIV Number 5 Our 54th Year May 2005

Richard Whited, KG6JKJ will be the Guest Speaker for our May 5th meeting. He will be presenting information on the Fire Lookout program.

Rich was licensed in January 2002 and upgraded to General in August 2004. Rich has been a fire lookout volunteer since the summer of 2001. Rich's interests in radio include VHF/UHF contesting and is a member of the Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service and the Torrance P.D. sponsored Torrance Amateur Radio Association.

Most recently he participated as a communications volunteer at the Baker-to-Vegas Challenge Cup race. Rich is also current president of the South Bay ARC. Look for Rich and his friends when they operate the June VHF/UHF contest from the Butler Peak fire lookout near Big Bear. In the past, Rich has worked as a credit analyst and A/R specialist and is currently back to school full-time working towards an accounting degree.

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

<http://www.DowneyARC.org>

Club Officers

President

Dave Glenn, N6TEB
Phone: (562) 928-8560
dglenn@connect3.com

First Vice President

Sam Loller, K1SL
Phone: (562) 806-1234
k1sl@arrl.net

VP Programs

Arlene Schwartz, KE6GFI
Phone: (562) 928-1775
kg6gfi@arrl.net

VP Membership

Dick Palmer, WB6JDH
Phone: (562) 947-4556
wb6jdh@verizon.net

VP Service

Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF
Phone: (562) 861-6069
wb6zgf@catisle.net

VP Ways and Means

Kent Savage KG6LEI
Phone: (562) 862-3223
ksavage@waterchemists.net

Director (One Year)

Tom VanBuskirk, K6TV
Phone: (562) 861-3085
tomk6tv@cs.com

Director (Two Year)

Ed Roos, KC6ZHY
Phone: (562) 691-3199
ed.roos@Verizon.net

Secretary

Bill Heather, KB6WKT
Phone: (562) 863-6607
wheather@catalina-inter.net

Treasurer

Frank Hornberger, N6ZDS
Phone (310) 635-2222
n6zds@qsl.net

Trustee, W6TOI

Tom VanBuskirk, K6TV
Phone: (562) 861-3085
k6tv@cs.com

Affiliations

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

Club Frequencies:

Simplex : 145.595 MHz*
440 Repeater: 445.640 (-) PL 156.7 Hz*
* See Calendar for Net Skeds

Q5 Staff

Editor: John Powell, KF6EOJ
jpowell@csulb.edu
Phone: (562) 862-4608
Alt Phone: (562) 985-8610

Associate Editors:

Doug Lyon, N6WZI
Phone: (562) 929-1441
dlyon@catisle.net

Dave Buhler WB6ZGF
Phone: (562) 861-6069
wb6zgf@catisle.net

Publishing:

Dave Glenn, Laura Glenn, Margene
Glenn, Holly Glenn, Emily Glenn

Permission to copy material from the
Q5 is granted provided that credit is
given to the "DARC Q5".

Q5, as in: a signal that is perfectly
readable, hence the name of our
newsletter. We hope you agree.

DARC INFORMATION

DARC Annual Membership

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

Make checks payable to "DARC",
Send to: **DARC Membership**
1400 Masser Place
Montebello, CA 90640

DARC Badges

DARC name badges are available
for \$11.00, payable on order. Give your
name and call sign to **Kent Savage**
KG6LEI.

Previously ordered badges may be
picked up at the Club general meeting.

Do you have an idea for an article
for the Q5? Remember, this is
OUR newsletter, about OUR
hobby. Please submit articles to:

John Powell, KF6EOJ

jpowell@csulb.edu

By the 15th of the Month!

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 2005 is as follows:

June 2005, August 2005

The ARRL/VEC test fee is \$14.00 for all tests. The fee is controlled by the FCC but goes to the ARRL to cover their expenses in providing the tests and handling the applications.

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!



Club Cups, Caps Shirts and Jackets

Item	On Hand?	Price
Caps	Yes	\$8.00
Jackets	Yes	\$35.00
T-shirts	Most Sizes	\$10.00
Polo Shirts	Most Sizes	\$16.00
Coffee Mugs	Yes	\$3.00

Pay when ordering.
Contact **Kent Savage, KG6LEI** at
any meeting

VE Exams continuing

Those planning to take tests are asked to contact:

Steve Grudzinski, AD6HT, at (951) 264-7975, 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.qrz.com/callsign> for new license information. Please do not call the FCC directly.

**ARRL: American Radio Relay League
The National Association for Amateur Radio**

One of the benefits of membership is the QST Magazine

QST, Your Monthly Membership Journal

QST is simply **the source** for news and information on any topic that's part of, or relates to, Amateur Radio. Here's some of what you'll find every month:

- Informative and hard-hitting Product Reviews of the newest radios and accessories from hand-held and mobile FM radios, to home-station transceivers, antennas and even shortwave radios.
- Advertisements. You'll find everything from full-color pages introducing new radios to a large classified ad section.
- Each month's Coming Conventions and Hamfest Calendar columns show you who's getting together every month at hamfests, conventions and swap meets in your area.
- The Public Service column keeps you up to date on the public service efforts hams are providing around the country and shows you how you can join in this satisfying aspect of our hobby.
- Digital Dimension covers news in the Amateur Radio digital world and includes information on useful Web sites.
- The New Ham Companion section is filled with features and how-to information just for beginning hams. There's no jargon-filled "tech talk"--just straightforward, easy-to-understand articles designed to get you on the air doing the things you like best.

Whether you're interested in contesting, DXing, or radios, accessories and antennas you can build at home, *QST* covers them all: New trends and the latest technology, fiction, humor, news, club activities, rules and regulations, special events, packet radio, and much more.

Note new VE exam fee on next page. The fee for the exam has increased from \$12.00 to \$14.00 effective January 1st 2005.

Presidents Message May 2005

Teamwork



This past weekend **Kent Savage**, KG6LEI and I volunteered to do some radio support for the 21st annual Baker to Vegas relay race. This is a foot relay race that starts in Baker, goes north to Pahrump then cuts over to Vegas. The race is over 100 miles long with the relay occurring every 5 miles or so. It is open to law enforcement agencies and we saw teams from as far away as Utah, Canada and Texas and agencies represented included Highway Patrols, police departments, Border Patrol, Secret Service and the FBI. Even Postal inspectors and court officers had teams. Apparently there is a big competition to see which agency or department can out do the other.

We worked at Stage 10 which is pretty much in the middle of the race, relaying messages from the one mile out radio operator to the group of runners in the staging area, warning them to get to the chute as their team member was coming. Our stage got the first runner at 8pm with the last one going through at 3am.

The thing that impressed me the most was to see all the team members friends and family encouraging their team on the run through the desert. Every runner had at least 2 chase vehicles providing them with water, video taping the run and generally encouraging them to get to their finish. I saw hundreds of cars go by our stage with fresh runners heading to the next stages. We were supported by the Good Sams RV club that provided a staging area at each stop for the runners and their support team to prepare for their turn at the race.

Being a Ham gives us a chance to share our expertise with others and in this case helps them to achieve their goal. We often find ourselves running our own race to complete projects, achieve awards, upgrade our license and the continual quest to always doing things better. Don't lose site that part of this race is passing on our experiences and knowledge to others. This is how we grow and build our ranks.

Run the race expecting to win. Pass on to others what you know. A race isn't won by just the runner; it takes a team with everyone doing their part to make it to the finish line. Even if you don't win, enjoy the run. Never stop learning. Participate.

73, N6TEB

Kid's Day Coming on May 14

Each year the City of Downey puts on an event called Kid's Day at Furman Park. It's a day of fun, food, games and displays from various organizations within the City, including the Downey Amateur Radio Club. We put up a booth and equip it with an H.F. station along with the usual VHF and UHF capabilities. It's an excellent way to present amateur radio to young people and others who may not be familiar with it. We have again been asked to participate in this year's event and will need several Club members to meet the public, explain and demonstrate our capabilities, with special emphasis on how we are different from other radio services and our emergency communications capabilities.

This year it will be held on Saturday, May 14. We will begin set up at 8:00 AM and will begin tear down after about 3:00 PM. If you can give us just an hour or two it will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF, at 562/861-6069 or e-mail wb6zgf@catisle.net.

Annual Downey Street Faire

One of the more popular public service events the DARC supports is the Downey Street Faire. The Faire, which draws thousands of people, will be on Saturday **May 7** this year. This will be the 12th annual event and the Club has been there from the beginning supporting the Downey Chamber of Commerce, the Faire's sponsor, with communications.

The Faire's area will be larger this year, accommodating more vendors. For those who have never done this event before, Brookshire Ave. is closed between Firestone Blvd. and Civic Center Drive and booth spaces are provided. The south parking lot of Downey High School will be used for the Car Show, Food Booths and the ever popular Kid's Zone. Those DARC members working the Faire are encouraged to bring family and friends and let them enjoy what it has to offer.

We provide communications for logistics, problem resolution and public safety.

The Chamber allows the Club to have a booth on the street next to theirs at no cost as a net control position and public relations table. This is a great opportunity to meet the public and to explain amateur radio and the Club's role in it.

For more information contact **Dave Buhler**, WB6ZGF, at 562/861-6069 or at wb6zgf@catisle.net

Raffle reminder:

Just a reminder that all tickets for our club raffles throughout the year are put in the bin for the yearly grand prize(s) that will be drawn at the annual November luncheon.

Starting with the December meeting a new feature was added. Each time you attend a meeting make sure to check your name off the roll call sheet, and a ticket for an annual attendance prize worth \$100 will be submitted for you. Remember, all you have to do is attend and check off your name, no purchase is necessary.

Remember, the raffle is totally self-supporting with the proceeds going towards the purchase of items for the next raffle, and so on. The more raffle money, the better the prizes and selection.

Thanks.

John Powell, KF6EOJ



ISS Expedition 10 Crew Passes the Baton to New Two-Ham Team

(Apr 22, 2005) -- International Space Station Expedition 10 crew members Leroy Chiao, KE5BRW, and Salizhan Sharipov have formally handed over command of the station to the Expedition 11 crew of Commander Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, and US Astronaut and ISS Science Officer and Flight Engineer John Phillips, KE5DRY. A formal change-of-command ceremony was held aboard the ISS today.

[from ARRL's Web Site -ed]

The K7RA Solar Update (Apr 22, 2005) -- Little changed in terms of sunspots and solar flux this week, but it was one of those periods where average daily sunspot numbers were up slightly and average daily solar flux was down a little. Average daily sunspot numbers were up more than 10 points to 50.9, and average daily solar flux was down 5 points to 81.9.

[from ARRL's Web Site -ed]

This space for use

From time to time we have extra space in the Q5. The Editor needs short articles from you so we can fill up this space. Maybe something interesting related to Ham Radio, a personal story, 'copy' that would fit in a box this size.

Also, we need more advertisers! If you have a company or know a company that would like to advertise in the Q5 please get in touch with the Board for their approval and in touch with the editor, **John Powell**, KF6EOJ, for input on what would be needed.

We want to make the Q5 interesting not only for members, but for those who happen across a copy of our bulletin. From time to time copies of the Q5 are placed at Ham Radio Outlet in Anaheim, and I've been told by the owner of Net Electronics here in Downey that they have bins just for this purpose.

Thanks from the Editor

Looking for an Elmer?

Here are a few resources that can get you going.

Bill Heather, KB6WKT, 562 863-6607
kb6wkt@arrl.net - Helping Hams, Contesting

Ivan Mikulich, KB6ATT, 562 923-4577
kb6att@att.net - Helping Hams, Field Trips

Glenn Allen, KE6HPZ, 562 928-2080
ke6hpz@ham-radio.com - Microwave

Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF, 562 861-6069 wb6zgf@catisle.net - Net Control, Public Service, Emergency Communications.

Harold 'Buck' Kerns, AE6DT, 562 634-8441 ae6dt@arrl.net - Public Service,



D.A.R.C. General Meeting Minutes – April 7, 2005

Dave Glenn, N6TEB, President, called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM with 28 persons in attendance. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance and explained this would be the first D.A.R.C. Auction Night.

Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF, read a letter of appreciation from Kevin MacDonald, executive director of ARC of Southeast Los Angeles County, thanking the D.A.R.C. for its participation in the recent ARC Walk. The event had over 1700 walkers and made nearly \$70,000 for ARC, which is \$10,000 more than last year. Dave also asked for additional operator sign ups for the upcoming Downey Street Faire.

Dave Glenn explained the procedures for the evening's auction

The group then took a break at 7:45 P.M.

The meeting was called back to order at 8:05 P.M.

Dave conducted the auction of various equipment generously donated by the membership. There were several spirited bidding bouts, but it was all in good fun and to the benefit of the Club.

A later tally showed the auction earned the Club Treasury a total of \$412.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF,
Substitute Secretary

Treasurer's Report—Expenditures

2005	MARCH ACTUAL	YTD ACTUAL	ANNUAL BUDGET	(OVER/ UNDER BUDGET
EXPENDITURES				
Attendance Prizes		\$0.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
Autopatch, Repeater	\$17.54	\$52.66	\$225.00	\$172.34
Club Merchandise		\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Club Bulletin				
Printing	\$67.87	\$135.74	\$1,250.00	\$1,114.26
Supplies		\$21.64	\$30.00	\$8.36
Postage	\$37.00	\$110.26	\$550.00	\$439.74
Committees				
Award		\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
Education/Awareness		\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Membership		\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Publicity & Public Relations		\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Sunshine		\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Equipment/Maintenance		\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Events				
Christmas Party		\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Field Day		\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Luncheon		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Picnic		\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Fund Raisers		\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Other Events		\$0.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
Insurance		\$0.00	\$350.00	\$350.00
Misc. Expenses		\$0.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
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
P.O. Box Rental		\$0.00	\$80.00	\$80.00
Refreshments, Meetings		\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Stationary, Copies		\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
World Radio Listing		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenditures	\$122.41	\$320.30	\$4,000.00	\$3,679.70

MAURITIUS, 3B8. Mart, DL6UAA will be QRV as 3B8MM until May 10. QSL direct to home call.

NORFOLK ISLAND, VK9N. Jim, VK9NS has been QRV using RTTY on 15 meters around 0100z. QSL direct.

THE GAMBIA, C5. Gerben is QRV as C56M and has been active on 30 meters around 2130z. QSL via PG5M.

SAUDI ARABIA, HZ. Thomas, HZ1EX is here until the end of June. He is usually QRV on 40 meters using CW on most days. QSL via SM0BYD.

SOMALIA, T5. Joe, VA6JWT, is QRV as 6O0JT from Galkayo. He has been active on 20 meters around 2015 to 2315z. QSL to home call.

SUDAN, ST. Nader, ST2NH can generally be found on 20 meters around 2200z. QSL via EA7FTR

SUDAN, ST. Dane, S57CQ is QRV as ST2T and will be here until at least June. He will be active primarily during the contests as these are the only times he can get on the air. QSL via S57DX.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6. Ghis, ON5NT is QRV as A6/ON5NT and has been active on 17 meters around 1430z. QSL to home call.

DARC Member DXCC Count

WA6RTA 328 Phone (AM & SSB)

KB6ATT 305 Mixed, 60 CW

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

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

KK6K 250 Phone, 200 CW

N6WZI 198 Phone on 10 Meters

K6TV 185 SSB, 85 QRP, 46 CW

WA6OUD 129 Phone on 10 Meters

W6TOI 102 Mixed

W3QB 100 Mixed, 85 on 20 Meters SSB

KQ6EH 57 on 30 Meters CW

I am interested in receiving DX reports for this column, one contact or many.

e-mail: k6ics@arrl.net or via my website www.catalina-inter.net/mgauthier

DX Notes by Mike Gauthier, K6ICS

May Propagation Outlook

Spring is in full bloom. The sunspots are nearing their cycle low. QRN is building on 160 & 80 meters. 60, 40, & 30 meters should remain fairly good after dark. 20 & 17 meters maybe your best bands. 15, 12, & 10 meters will be spotty. Don't give up, as there is a lot of great DX to be worked, if you are the right place at the right time.

May DX

ANTARCTICA, ZL5. Ed, ZL5KX is QRV from Scott Base on Ross Island. He is usually QRV on 20 meters around 0800 to 0900z. QSL via operator's instructions.

BHUTAN, A5. Look for activity from new club station stations A50E at the Shingkar Primary School in Shingkar, and A50F at the Bardo Primary School in Bardo. QSL via operators' instructions.

BRUNEI, V8. Ambran, V85SS has been QRV on 160 meters around 1000z. He is also active on 80, 40 and 30 meters using CW. QSL via operator's instructions.

COTE d'IVOIRE, TU. Gerard is QRV as TU2OJ and has been active using PSK on 17 meters around 1000z and then around 1700z. QSL via F5IPW.

IRAN, EP. Hamid, EP4HR has been QRV on 17 meters using SSB from around 1430 to 1600z. QSL via I2MQP.

LEBANON, OD. Francis, OD5PL has been QRV using RTTY or PSK31 on 15 meters around 1200z

MACAO, XX9. Hirotada is QRV as XX9TSC and has been active using SSTV on 20 meters just prior to 1230z. QSL via JA0SC.

MALAWI, 7Q. Joe, G3MRC and Janet, M0JMP are now QRV from the lake shore at Nkhotakota as 7Q7BP and 7Q7YL, respectively. Activity is on most HF bands. QSL via operators' instructions.

MARTINIQUE, FM. Berthold, DF5WA and Gunter, DF7GB are QRV as homecalls/FM. Activity is on all HF bands, and possibly 160 meters if the location is suitable, using mostly CW, but also some SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL to home calls.

Treasurer's Report—Income

2005	MARCH AC- TUAL	YEAR-TO- DATE ACTUAL	ANNUAL BUDGET	(OVER)/ UNDER BUDGET
INCOME				
Club Merchandise		\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Dues	\$40.00	\$345.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,455.00
Luncheon Reservations		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc.Income		\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Fund Raisers		\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Total Income	\$40.00	\$345.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,655.00

Treasurer's Report—Summary

**DOWNEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
TREASURER'S REPORT
March 2005**

SUMMARY

CHECKING-WA MUTUAL BALANCE AS OF February 28, 2005	\$3,117.84
INCOME	\$40.00
EXPENDITURES	\$122.41
Raffle (Month)	\$11.35
Raffle (Total Holdings)	\$227.02
CHECKING-WA MUTUAL BALANCE AS OF March 31, 2005	\$3,046.78

May Birthdays

1st, **John Powell**, KF6EOJ
 2nd, **Willie Smith**, KD6QJW
 5th, **Dave Brackett**, KE6OPK
 8th, **Bert McFadden**, W6VPE
 16th, **Dick Palmer**, WB6JDH
 21st, **Glenn Allen**, KE6HPZ
 29th, **Lynn Brackett**, WA6HBS
 30th, **Greg Savage**, KG6EPM

Happy Birthday To All

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
1 May 2005	2	3 DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz	4 Net Control N6TEB ←
8 Mother's Day	9	10 DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz. Board Meeting	11 Net Control AD6AF ←
15	16	17 DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz.	18 Net Control WB6ZGF ←
22	23	24 DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz.	25 Net Control WB6JDH ←
29	30 Memorial Day	31 DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz.	1 Net Control KN6LM ←
5	6	7 DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz.	← Net Control N6TEB

Thu	Fri	Sat
5 DARC MEETING 7:30 PM Sussman Middle School 12500 Birchdale Ave Downey, CA	6	7 Downey Street Faire (see page 5)
12 2-meter net 7:15 pm Club simplex 145.595 Net Control K1SL	13	14 Kid's Day (see page 4)
19 2-meter net 7:15 pm Club simplex 145.595 Net Control AD6AF	20	21
26 2-meter net 7:15 pm Club simplex 145.595 WB6ZGF	27	28
2 DARC MEETING 7:30 PM Sussman Middle School 12500 Birchdale Ave Downey, CA	3	4