

# 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

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**OHMS LAW**

# Q5

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

Volume XXV #4      Our 55th Year      April 2006

**SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS - ANOTHER ASPECT OF HAM RADIO**

**Rick Norwood**, KD6KHJ, and **Frank Myllo**, KC6YPV, will share with the club their enthusiasm for working Special Event stations. Their presentation will include examples of the certificates and special QSL cards they have received over the years. Many of us have worked the Queen Mary station, W6RO, but have you tried to work a station commemorating the Super Bowl or a presidential inauguration? Special events stations are organized by a group or individuals to commemorate an anniversary of a historical event or a specific activity.

On some weekends there may be a series of special event stations. For example the National Weather Service hosts an event. There can be events held to honor the museum ships or lighthouses. Disneyland has hosted special event stations.

It's simply yet another way to paper chase in the wonderful world of Ham Radio. One can dabble for a few minutes on a weekend. This activity could eventually lead to an extremely interesting collection of memorabilia and some interesting QSO's with the operators hosting the event.

Club members who have worked such stations are invited to bring a favorite certificate or QSL card to share with the club after Rick and Frank's presentation.

Rick and Frank both hold an Extra Class license. They are neighbors in Lakewood, CA. They are active with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's DCS program and will have just worked the previous weekend on the

*Cont ,bottom of page 7*

**Change for April meeting:** The April meeting will be on **Friday 4/7** because of a school function on the 6th.

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

<http://www.downeyarc.org>

## Club Officers

### President

Position open

### First Vice President

Sam Loller, K1SL

Phone: (562) 806-1234

k1sl@arrl.net

### VP Programs

Arlene Schwartz, KE6GFI

Phone: (562) 928-1775

ke6gfi@arrl.net

### VP Membership

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Phone: (562) 947-4556

wb6jdh@verizon.net

### VP Service

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wb6zgf@verizon.net

### VP Ways and Means

Paul Metzger, KQ6EH

Phone: (562) 928-4332

kq6eh@mac.com

### 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

Position open

### 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:

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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  
3600 Platt Ave  
Lynwood, CA 90262  
Include Call sign

## DARC Badges

DARC name badges are available for \$11.00, payable on order. Give your name and call sign to **Paul Metzger**KQ6EH.

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

Due 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 2006 is as follows:

**April 2006, June 2006**

Contact **Steve Grudzinski**, AD6HT at 951-674-4699 prior to the session.

## 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 **Paul Metzger**, KQ6EH at any meeting

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

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.

**DX NOTES by Mike Gauthier, K6ICS**

The N7RA Propagation Report states that a new computer model of solar dynamics produced by scientists at the National Center for Atmospheric Research predicts the next solar cycle to begin a bit later than had been thought, but to rise much higher,--perhaps by as much as 30 to 50 percent--than the current solar cycle just ending. The model claims to predict cycles 16-23 with 97 percent accuracy using earlier data. For those yearning for another Cycle 19 of the 1950s 50 percent higher would just about get us there!

**April DX**

**ANTARCTICA, KC4.** Dmitry, UR8UC is QRV as EM1UC until February 2007 from the Ak Vernadsky station. He is using CW, SSB and some digital modes.

**BONAIRE, PJ4.** W8R XR, Jeff, will be going to Bonaire (SA-006) April 9-23. He will be on 20 meters, CW only, when time permits. Jeff will be signing PJ4/W8R XR. QSL via W8R XR.

**CROATIA, 9A..** Members of the Jan Hus radio club are QRV as 9A35Y until the end of 2006 to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the club. Activity is on 160 to 2 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via 9A5CY.

**ICELAND, TF.** In celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Icelandic Radio Amateurs, all TF amateurs are allowed to use the special prefix TF60 throughout 2006.

**JERSEY, GJ.** M0DOL, Chris, to be QRV from Jersey (EU-013) as MJ0DOL/p April 26th to May 4th.

**LORD HOWE ISLAND, VK9L.** N6NO, Merv, will be celebrating 55 years of hamming and his 70th birthday from Lord Howe Island. Look for him to be QRV as VK9LNO from May 5th to 13th. He'll be 10 through 80 meters mostly CW running 100 watts and wire antennas. QSL via N6NO.

**MALAWI, 7Q.** Les, 7Q7LA and Harry, 7Q7HB are QRV using mainly digital modes and SSTV. Their length of stay is unknown. QSL both calls via G0IAS.

**NEPAL, 9N.** Stig, LA7JO is QRV as 9N7JO until April.

**OGASAWARA, JD1.** JM1LJS, Hide, is also planning to be active from Ogasawara as JD1BLK and JM1LJS/JD1. He will be QRV from both Chichijima and Hahajima Islands. Watch for him on 6 through 80 meters on CW, SSB, and FM from April 30th to May 6th. QSL both calls via JM1LJS.

Thank you to: ARRL & 425DXnews.

DARC Member DXCC Count  
WA6RTA 328 Phone (AM & SSB)  
KB6ATT 305 Mixed, 60 CW  
K6ICS 295 Mixed, 288 Phone (AM & SSB), 164 Mixed on 40 Meters  
N6WZI 198 Phone on 10 Meters  
K6TV 192 SSB, 108 QRP, 68 CW  
WA6OUD 129 Phone on 10 Meters  
W6TOI 121 Mixed  
KQ6EH 57 on 30 Meters CW

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

#### **Minutes of the D.A.R.C. Board of Directors meeting – March 7, 2006**

Sam Lollar, K1SL, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President called the meeting to order at 7:33 P.M. in the Emergency Operations Center at Downey Fire Station #1. Other Board members present were Arlene Schwartz, KE6GFI, VP-Programs; Dick Palmer, WB6JDH, VP-Membership; Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF, VP-Service; Paul Metzger, KQ6EH, VP-Ways and Means; Frank Hornberger, N6ZDS, Treasurer; Ed Roos, KC6ZHY, Director Two-Years and Tom VanBuskirk, K6TV, Director One-year.

#### **Officers Reports:**

President: Vacant.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Sam had no report.

VP – Programs: Arlene reported she has been looking for a Luncheon speaker, but has not found one yet, but she is still searching.

VP – Membership: Dick reported he has had problems accessing the

#### **Preparedness Expo is Coming**

The Emergency Preparedness Committee of the City of Downey will be hosting a preparedness expo on **April 29**, from 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. in the area between All American Home Center and The Home Depot in the 7100-7200 block of Firestone Blvd, Downey.

The event is free and will have vendors and organizations to help you get ready for “The Big One”. The Downey Fire Department will be conducting demonstrations throughout the day and will have some of their latest equipment there for your inspection. Bring the kids too, as there will be something for them as well as meeting real, live firefighters. This event just might save you or your family from injury or worse in the next disaster. Remember, it’s not of question of if, it’s a question of when.

See you at the Expo.

#### **Upcoming Service Events:**

**Tour de Sewer, Saturday April 8th.** Volunteers are still needed to work this event. **Contact Larry Vaughn, KD6NZW.** Time is short on this one so take action soon. This is practically an all day event so enough volunteers for two shifts would be ideal.

**Downey Street Faire, Saturday May 6th.** Dave Buhler sends an early reminder of this upcoming event. Again this is an all day event from “Oh-DARC-30!” until late afternoon.

#### **Yard Sale Is SOON!**

DARC’s only fund raiser is scheduled for **April 22**. Please gather together any clean, saleable items for the Club’s benefit. It will be held at the home of **Bill Heather, KB6WKT** at 14538 Crossdale Ave. in Norwalk.

Bill wants to remind those that donate, that items not sold will be disposed of at the next trash pick up. Usual yard sale times, from just about 7 AM to 3 PM.

Contact **Paul Metzger, KQ6EH**, VP Ways & Means for further information. Ph 562-928-4332, email kq6eh@mac.com. (Paul is also on the Club repeater from time to time in the morning or late afternoon –ed)

### Raffle Information

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.

**Larry Tinkler**, K6LXT, has been spinning the ticket drum for us. Look for Larry to be bringing some interesting items for the next raffle drawings. From time to time there may even be some special prize drawings.

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.

**John Powell**, KF6EOJ

### 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@verizon.net - Net Control, Public Service, Emergency Communications.

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



ARRL's web site to find recent new hams. He will pursue different methods.

VP – Service: Dave deferred his report to Old Business.

VP – Ways & Means: Paul had no report.

Secretary: Vacant.

Treasurer: Frank distributed copies of the Treasurers Report noting nothing unusual.

Director, Two Years: Tom has been working to get a printable copy of the Club logo for the new QSL cards.

Director, One Year: Ed reported he had contacted Jim Weaver, KB6YEM, and he has been dealing with several health issues but appreciated the concern. He also reported he had sent a get-well card to Sue Lyon, wife of Doug Lyon, N6WZI, who recently had a minor stroke.

The Treasurer's report and minutes of the last Board meeting were approved.

### Planning Calendar:

**Yard Sale:** It will be held at Bill Heathers, KB6WKT, on April 22. An article will be placed in the Q5 encouraging members to assemble items for sale.

**ARC Walk:** It will be on March 25.

We are still planning a 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary station at Downey Landing in conjunction with Kids Day.

### Old Business:

**Shed inventory:** This will take place later in the year, after the rainy season.

**Field Day:** The Board noted there seems to be no enthusiasm for a Club Field Day. Sam will write an article for the Q5 asking the membership for its input.

**Spare Repeater:** Paul reported he has secured a site on Palos Verdes for this. He described the various pieces of equipment he will need and some technical parameters.

Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs (LAACARC): It appears the Club is presently not a member of this organization as we have been in the past. Sam will make contact and have documentation sent to Frank so he can write a check.

Raffle Prizes: The Board feels the number of prizes each month is excessive and takes more time than it should. Dick will contact Larry Tinkler, K6LXT, and convey the Board's concern.

ARRL Night: The Board discussed what form it should take this year. It was decided that, instead of having a League representative speak, we will have a "home brew" night with our members discussing ARRL programs and how they have participated.

Tour de Sewer: Larry Vaughn, KD6NZW, is managing this project but the status is unknown. Dave will check with Larry on progress.

**New Business:**

Special Service Club status: The Board needs an update on this.

Club Brochures: Sam distributed samples that John Powell, KF6EOJ, had made. It appears we can print these "in house" by one of our members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 P.M.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF,  
Substitute Secretary

**D.A.R.C. General Meeting Minutes – March 2, 2006**

Sam Lollar, K1SL, First Vice President called the meeting to order at 7:40 P.M. with 31 people in attendance. He then led the pledge of allegiance.

Arlene Schwartz, KE6GFI, V.P Programs introduced our speaker for the evening, Martin LaRocque, N6NTH, who discussed the DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) Grand Challenge. He explained the Challenge is to develop autonomous (driverless) vehicle technology to allow military supply trucks to operate over long distances and high speeds. This is an advanced research project of the federal government. Showing slides of the many prototypes, Martin explained the high technology required to

Thu	Fri	Sat
		1
6 2-meter net 7:15 pm Club simplex 145.595 <b>Net Control K1SL</b>	7 <b>DARC MEETING 7:30 PM Sussman Middle School 12500 Birchdale Ave Downey, CA</b>	8 <b>Tour de Sewer</b>
13 2-meter net 7:15 pm Club simplex 145.595 <b>Net Control AD6AF</b>	14	15
22 2-meter net 7:15 pm Club simplex 145.595 <b>Net Control WB6ZGF</b>	21	22 <b>YARD SALE</b>
27 2-meter net 7:15 pm Club simplex 145.595 <b>Net Control K1SL</b>	28	29 <b>Emergency Preparedness Expo</b>  (see page 13)
4 <b>DARC MEETING 7:30 PM Sussman Middle School 12500 Birchdale Ave Downey, CA</b>		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
<h1>April 2006</h1>			
<b>2</b> Daylight Savings Begins Spring Forward	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz.	<b>5</b> <b>Net Control K6WCI</b> ←
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz.	<b>12</b> <b>Net Control WB6JDH</b> ←
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz.	<b>19</b> <b>Net Control AD6AF</b> ←
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz.	<b>26</b> <b>Net Control N6TEB</b> ←
<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> DARC 440 net 7:00 pm on Club 440 repeater. 445.640(-) pl 156.7 Hz.	<b>3</b> <b>Net Control KN6LM</b> ←

build these vehicles including the various methods used to identify nearby objects and keep the vehicle aware of its location at all times. This annual event awards a prize of \$2 million to the winner of the final Challenge after winning a place through previous qualifying runs. A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF, V.P. Service, requested assistance for the upcoming ARC Walk since he has since lost two previous volunteers. The Walk will be on March 25.

Sam announced the DARC yard sale would be at Bill Heather's, KB6WKT, on April 22.

The minutes of the last General Meeting and the Treasurers report as they appeared in the Q5 were approved.

The group took a break from 8:27 PM to 8:41 P.M.

Larry Tinkler, K6LXT, conducted the raffle with the following winners: Joe Francis, WB6SZK, a Skill tool set; Martin LaRocque, N6NTH, a neon hand light; Chuck Anna, KE6TBC, a Skill power driver; Tom VanBuskirk, K6TV, a large tool bag; Frank Myers, N6ATU, a small tool bag; John Schroeder, N6QQ, a 2006 repeater guide; Ken Carlson, N6SWO, an ARRL repeater directory; Ray Olesen, AD6AF, an MFJ speaker; Sam Lollar, K1SL, a multimeter and John Johnson, W6QMI, a hammer set.

Bert McFadden, W6VPE, won the three-month drawing for the Alinco DJ-160 H.T.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF,  
Substitute Secretary

*From page 1*

Baker to Vegas Race.

The meeting will be held at 7:30 pm, **Friday April 7, 2006** at the Sussman Middle School Cafetorium. Refreshments and a raffle will follow the presentation.

Arlene Schwartz, KE6GFI

Treasurer's Report—Expenditures

2006	FEBRU- ARY ACTUAL	YTD ACTUAL	ANNUAL BUDGET	(OVER)/ UNDER BUDGET
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>Attendance Prizes</b>		\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
<b>Autopatch, Repeater</b>		\$34.94	\$225.00	\$190.06
<b>Club Merchandise</b>		\$37.08	\$400.00	\$362.92
<b>Club Bulletin</b>				
Printing	\$64.95	\$144.51	\$1,250.00	\$1,105.49
Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Postage	\$22.28	\$59.28	\$550.00	\$490.72
<b>Committees</b>				
Award	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
Education/Awareness	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Membership	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Publicity & Public Relations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Sunshine	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
<b>Equipment/Maintenance</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
<b>Events</b>				
Christmas Party	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Field Day	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Luncheon	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Picnic	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Fund Raisers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Other Events	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
<b>Insurance</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$350.00
<b>Misc. Expenses</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
<b>Officers' Expenses</b>				
President	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Treasurer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
<b>Other Organizations</b>				
Dues	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
<b>P.O. Box Rental</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$80.00
<b>Refreshments, Meetings</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
<b>Stationary, Copies</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
<b>World Radio Listing</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$87.23</b>	<b>\$375.81</b>	<b>\$4,045.00</b>	<b>\$3,669.19</b>

Treasurer's Report—Income

2006	FEBRU- ARY ACTUAL	YTD ACTUAL	ANNUAL BUDGET	(OVER)/ UNDER BUDGET
<b>INCOME</b>				
Club Merchandise		\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Dues	\$100.00	\$195.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,405.00
Raffle		\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Misc. Income		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fund Raisers		\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
		\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$195.00</b>	<b>\$4,800.00</b>	<b>\$4,605.00</b>

Treasurer's Report—Summary

**DOWNEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
Feb-06**

**SUMMARY**

CHECKING-WA MUTUAL	\$2,707.64
BALANCE AS OF January 31, 2006	
<b>INCOME</b>	\$100.00
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	\$87.23
Raffle (Month)	(\$39.35)
Raffle (Total Holdings)	\$281.52
Brunch (Month)	\$0.00
Brunch (Total Holdings)	\$0.00
CHECKING-WA MUTUAL	
BALANCE AS OF February, 2006	\$2,681.06

**April Birthdays**

**Edward Jones, K6YWU, 14th**  
**Chuck Davis, KB6ISK, 20th**

Happy Birthday To All!