

# SCOPE

A newsletter by and for the Palomar Amateur Radio Club of San Diego, California.

See SCOPE in **color** on our website at [www.palomararc.org](http://www.palomararc.org)!

## Annual Auction Location Has Changed

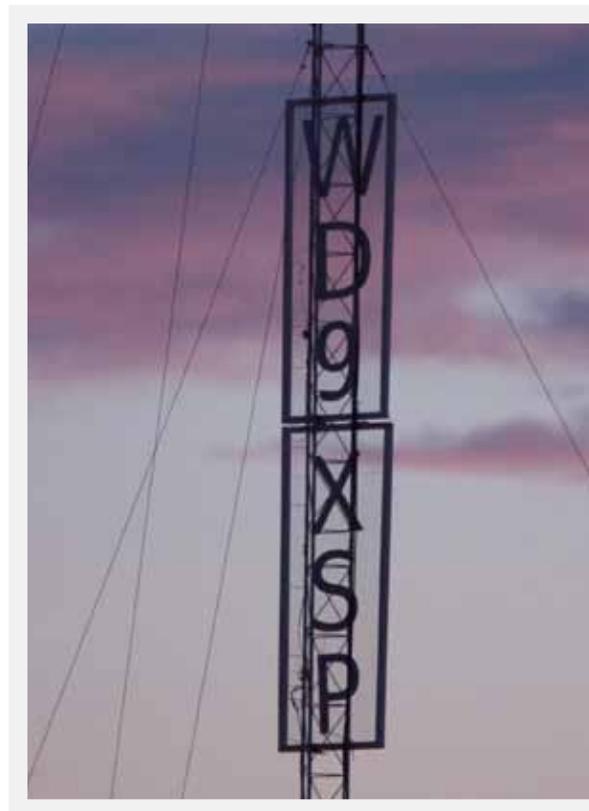
**Please note that the location for the PARC auction has changed since last issue of the Scope.**

The location for the October 7, 2009 auction will be at 3096 Harding Street, Carlsbad, CA 92008.

from I-5 Get off at Carlsbad Village Drive. Go west 1 block to Harding street (Jack in the Box on corner). Turn left (South) 2 blocks.

The room is a fair size with lots of tables and chairs. There is a PA with wireless hand mike or lapel mike. Parking is on the street, across the street. Nearby church parking is available.

On the side street there is a door in addition to the front double door. They will provide a projection screen for us to use. Room set up starts at 5:30 PM when the karate class is finished. Sellers are allowed in at 6:00pm, buyers allowed in at 6:30pm. Auction begins at 7:00pm.



*Quiz: Why isn't this call sign in the photograph above in QRZ? Where would you find information about the license holder? Where do you think this photograph was taken? Send answers to [scope@palomararc.org](mailto:scope@palomararc.org). Photo by W5NYV.*



## Save the Date

### Club Meeting 7 October 2009

Annual Auction  
3096 Harding Street,  
Carlsbad, CA 92008  
Buyers in at 6:30pm

### Board Meeting 14 October 2009

Palomar Amateur Radio  
Club board meeting at  
7:00pm at W6GNI QTH

### Shake Out Drill 15 October 2009

SATERN will be using  
the 147.075 repeater  
for check-ins during this  
communications drill.

# Annual Statement of Ownership

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (From PS Form 3526)

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 (Mailed Sept. 2009)

Signed: A.L. Donlevy Publisher  
 09/30/2009

## For Sale

MFJ-949e 300 Watt Tuner. Like new (used twice).  
 New \$179.95...sale price \$125.00.

Two 75/40 Meter SWAN traps for \$20.00. And one book free with each purchase, "Fundamentals of Radio" by Gordon Hathaway 6th printing 1953 and Radio Handbook, Sixteenth Edition by William Orr, W6SAI, 1962.

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CORRECTION: It was erroneously reported in the caption of the above photo in the September 2009 issue of the SCOPE that "Steve Venner W6TAN and Dennis Baca KD6TUIJ celebrate the completion of the redesign of PARC QSL card with an exchange of original art work."

The correct caption should read "Dennis Bacca, KD6TUIJ receives a certificate of appreciation from Steve Venner, W6TAN for his generous help at the FARC auction in April." Scope editorial staff apologize for the incorrect caption previously printed.

# October Auction Site and Schedule

by Michelle W5NYV

It's almost October, and that means it's auction time. Come to the General Meeting on October 7th and join the fun! Any radio item new or used, working or not (boat-anchors included) will be tagged with the seller's information. Both buyers and sellers will register prior to the meeting. Please plan on arriving early to get a look at the auction items. Hams interested in bidding on items will be given a numbered card to hold up on items they would like to place a bid on. Any further questions can be directed to: [board@palomararc.org](mailto:board@palomararc.org)

A suggestion heard at the September 2005 meeting: put those address labels you get in the mail to good use by bringing them to the auction. Instead of writing your name over and over, use the stickers instead.

The auction will be held in a different place this year. Instead of our usual location in the Carlsbad Safety Center, the auction will be held 3096 Harding Street, Carlsbad, CA 92008.

From I-5 Get off at Carlsbad Village Drive Go west 1 block to Harding street. Turn left onto Harding. The building is right after Jack In The Box.

If you have a wagon or other wheeled cart, please consider bringing it in order to transport items more easily into the building. The club will provide one wheeled cart for transporting equipment in and out of the building.

Art KC6UQH will be the auctioneer for the evening. Start planning now for the treasures you'll want to bring and the treasures you'll be sure to find.

Room set-up starts at 5:30pm. As soon as the room is set up, sellers sign in and tag equipment.

Bring your stuff early! 6:30 to 7:00pm buyers are registered (required!) and may view the offered equipment.

If you have questions about an item, this is the time to ask it. Inspect equipment before the auction so you know what you are bidding on (write its auction number down!) Auction begins at 7:00pm.

## PARC Auction Schedule

Room Setup	5:30pm
Sellers Allowed In	6:00pm
Buyers Allowed In	6:30pm
Auction Starts	7:00pm
Auction Ends	9:00pm

PARC receives 10% of the sale price and there is no other fee for buyers and sellers. Donations to PARC are accepted. All monies are paid to PARC. Seller(s) may set a written minimum bid on their items. Seller is responsible for removing any item(s) not sold. PARC does not guarantee the condition of any item sold.

You don't have to be a PARC member to participate in the auction, so invite your friends to join in on the fun. Sellers will not be paid their money until all monies have been collected that evening, so bring a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope if you want the check mailed to you the next day, or pick it up at the next club meet-



ing.

Pictured above is Loren AD6ZJ bidding on a treasure at the 2008 PARC Auction.

In previous years, the auction has been held outdoors (in a surprise move due to a conflict in room reservation), in the smaller EOC meeting room, and in the larger EOC meeting room.

Come on out to the auction this year and see what the new building looks like and what notable items are bought and sold!

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# Help Wanted

## High-Wattage Power Supply Designer

by Edward Kearey KC6VXY  
August 22, 2009

I have recently talked with the Owner of Mesa Power Systems, Ed Bohorquez of Escondido (Full address listed below) regarding his need for some part time help in the design of high power DC power supplies. Ed is the Marketing guy and the deceased brother Bill was the design guy of the company products.

Owner Ed and his brother have owned the Mesa Power Systems company in Escondido for over 20 years. At one point in time they employed as many as 80 people. With the downturn in the economy and the death of the technical brains (Ed's brother) the company has run on to hard times. They are now running on a skeleton crew.

The immediate need for the designer is to correct some RF noise riding on the output of a DC power supply (800 watt) sold to a large corporation of San Diego. The San Diego company has returned 8 of the power supplies with the noise. Since the deceased brother did the power supply design, Ed needs someone to design the noise fix. The job could be by that job only or based on part time work to include other design work.

I am a member of both the Escondido and Palomar Amateur Radio Clubs so I know we have the needed talent in our clubs to design the needed filter. Hopefully you will provide this information to those you think may be interested in tackling this task. Listed below is the company information.

Mesa Power Systems – Ed Bohorquez, President  
2250 Micro Place,  
Escondido, CA 92029  
Tel: 760-489-8162  
Fax: 760-489-5718  
Email edb@mesapower.com  
Web site: <http://www.mesapower.com>

Thanks for any help you can provide.  
Ed Kearey San Marcos, KC6VXY  
760-744-8327

# Club Reports

## Membership Report

Here is the list of members receiving the SCOPE on the web, that "expired" in the last month or so. Please check this list, and get your renewal checks in the mail!

Pretty Please! N6WXD, K7MOA, K7WCC, KI6QDP, W6CDU, K6BZZ, KI6SAT, KD6FKN.

**7 out of 8 of these are listed for the second time.**

The club does need your support!

Al  
W6GNI

## Fold and Staple

W6GNI Al & Kathy  
KB6NMK Jo  
WA5ACE Sonny  
KB6YHZ Art

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See catalog at [www.Palomar-Engineers.com](http://www.Palomar-Engineers.com)  
Please check our complete ads in **QST**, **CQ**, and **World Radio** magazines.

# Friday Lunch Bunch Invites You To Attend



Above, Friday Lunch Bunch participants eat at the Spices Thai in Carmel Valley in early September 2009. Below, the Lunch Bunch meets at the Super Buffet in Miramar in late September 2009. Photos by W5NYV.



I recently made my way down to the Texas BBQ on Mira Mar Road on a Friday to join what as been dubbed the Lunch Bunch. Every Friday for over 11 years an informal group of hams have been meeting in and around the UTC area to chat about the newest rig or antenna project.

"It all started with just me Tom W0NI, Harv K6QK and who ever could join us" said Ted Storke KD6AKT. "I would talk it up on the 146.730 machine and some times we'd have 5 or 6 hams join us. Soon I would get the question where is lunch this Friday?"

"We realized a lot more folks would join us if they had some notice where we'd be meeting", said Tom Ellett W0NI.

"So, about 7 years ago I put the lunch bunch online on my web site KA6K.com and now www.W0NI.com. You can just submit your call sign and you'll be added to the list (no user IDs or password needed). Then every Wednesday you'll get an email from me as to where the Friday lunch will be this week. We rotate around to 8 different restaurants within a 5 mile radius of Sorrento Valley, where many of the hams work. Now, with Ted talking it up on the air and the email reminder we often have 10+ join us. Where else can you sit down and have lunch with 10 experts on your favorite subject? Somebody in the group will have the answer to whatever problem you're trying to solve or get you some good advice on which rig to go for. So, if you meet someone new to San Diego tell them about the lunch bunch and direct them to w0ni.com."

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Tom KM6K  
Jose XE2SJB  
Jerry N5MCJ

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O

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# Opinion: HR 2160

by Paul KB5MU

If you follow ham radio news at all, you will have already seen articles encouraging you to write your Congressman in support of HR 2160, "The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009". What is this all about? Read the bill for yourself! It's only six pages, double-spaced, and you can readily find it on the web by searching for "HR2160". It's written in plain English, more or less.

Once you get past all the descriptive text, which is extremely positive about amateur radio's contributions in public service, disaster relief, and emergency communications, the substance of the bill is rather modest. It calls for a study to be made and reported to Congress. That's all. No actual changes to any law or regulation are in this bill.

The study is to be made by Homeland Security, "on the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief". The study is supposed to come up with recommendations in two main areas, one rather general and one quite specific.

The more general study topic is to find "enhancements in the voluntary deployment" of hams and "improved integration" of hams "in planning and in furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives". This gives DHS a rather broad charter to come up with ways to bring ham radio volunteers out of the woodwork and under their aegis. If you like the idea that ham radio volunteers are getting more and more organized under various public agencies, with formal training and credentials and drills and, often, burdensome time commitments, then you'll probably be in full agreement with the goals of this study topic. If you think, as I do, that ham radio's strength lies in its diversity, flexibility, technical abilities, and numbers as well as in its discipline and training, you might find this study topic a bit insidious.

The more specific study topic, and doubtless the real meat of the bill, is to look at "unreasonable or unnecessary impediments ... such as the effects of private land use

regulations on residential antenna installations." That is, the CC&Rs that effectively prohibit antennas in most newer neighborhoods. The bill calls for an examination of the law that exempts small TV satellite dishes from such restrictions, and specifically whether that exemption should be extended to cover ham radio antennas. Sounds promising, right? Where the existing PRB-1 helps us overcome undue government regulation of antennas, such an exemption could help us overcome restrictions we agreed to in our home purchase contracts, despite whatever our neighbors might prefer. That would improve our legal ability to put up antennas, no doubt, if we don't mind the government unilaterally changing all those private contracts.

In the (unlikely) event that HR 2160 is passed by the House (where it presently has only 7 sponsors out of 435) and also by the Senate and becomes law, a 180-day study period begins. DHS is required by the bill to "utilize the expertise" of the ARRL, and to "seek information from private and public sectors". This probably means that there would be a public comment period, during which you'd be able to submit your ideas and beliefs to the study group for their consideration. They will write a report. Then, the whole process begins anew. The recommendations in the report will have no effect by themselves, except to serve as a starting point for drafting a new bill to enact the recommended changes. Or some other set of changes.

This is how our government works. If you can't pass a bill to do what you want, you write a bill to do a study on what you want, and you try to  
*continued on page 9*

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# What I Did For My Summer Vacation

by Loren AD6ZJ

As some of you may know, I am a member of the 3905 Century Club (a worked all states and DX awards net). This net meets on or about 7.178MHz and 3.902MHz nightly and has members in all US states, Canadian provinces and many other countries.

More information about the club can be found at [www.3905ccn.com](http://www.3905ccn.com)

Once a year the club gets together for an "eyeball" meeting and it's in a different state each year. For the 2009 Eyeball I signed up to be the host and after 10 months of planning it went off without a hitch (ok it didn't go perfectly but it did exceed my expectations). We held the Eyeball at the Vista Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum and we had 68 in attendance for the weekend. Attendees were from just around the corner clear to the East Coast including one club member who had just returned from a tour in Iraq. Everyone who attended had a great time and many commented on what a truly rich and unique experience the museum grounds offer.

Hosting such an event takes lots of planning and coordination but most of all it takes support from local hams and businesses. This event was no exception. Event sponsors included HRO San Diego, Nifty Ham Accessories, Ham4Less, HiQ Antennas, MFJ Enterprises, Yeasu and Icom. The sponsors provided door prizes, hats, handouts and bag stuffers. It was great to get local outfits involved and I really appreciate their support. The event also had the support from PARC in the form of a few antennas, the PA system and various other borrowed bits and pieces.



It seems as though for events like this to happen you need most of all help from friends and family. I had a good crew of help during the event weekend and I must say I could not have pulled it off without them. Wild Bill WB6BFG and Lon K0WJ and others helped early in the week with antenna installation. We put up a Four-Square on 40m and 2 elements in phase on 80m. Wednesday evening

when the 40m antenna was ready to test Lon provided his mobile rig running 100 watts. During the course of the evening he worked Finland on 40m SSB at about 7:15pm in full sunlight proving that the antenna was working.

Over the weekend I had a raft of local support including Wild Bill WB6BFG, who was main cook for the Saturday evening banquet and the Sunday breakfast and he was also part of the program by providing his DXpedition presentation. Conrad KG6JEI served as IT support and event photographer. Tom KG6RCW was cook's assistant and all around help. Ellen N6UWW was cook's assistant. My XYL and a few harmonics

*continued on page 8*



Above, the 40m Four-Square antenna at the 3905 Century Club annual meeting. Below is the 80m in-phase antenna. Photos provided by Loren AD6ZJ.



*continued from page 7*

Melody, Joy and Mary provided banquet setup, serving and cleanup. And, there were others who stepped in to lend a hand to make the event a real success.

This was likely the most memorable vacations I ever experienced, but I needed to get back to my day job to get some R&R.



73 AD6ZJ, Loren

*continued from page 6*

enlist the support of influential organizations (like DHS) who might be on your side if they knew about the issue. Read the bill below. If you think it's a step forward, albeit a baby step, then go visit the ARRL's HR2160 web page and follow their recommendations on writing your Congressman.



HR 2160

111th CONGRESS

1st Session

H. R. 2160

To promote and encourage the valuable public service, disaster relief, and emergency communications provided on a volunteer basis by licensees of the Federal Communications Commission in the Amateur Radio Service, by undertaking a study of the uses of amateur radio for emergency and disaster relief communications, by identifying unnecessary or unreasonable impediments to the deployment of Amateur Radio emergency and disaster relief communications, and by making recommendations for relief of such unreasonable restrictions so as to expand the uses of amateur radio communications in Homeland Security planning and response.

#### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 29, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas (for herself, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Ms. KILROY, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

#### A BILL

To promote and encourage the valuable public service, disaster relief, and emergency communications provided on a volunteer basis by licensees of the Federal Communications Commission in the Amateur Radio Service, by undertaking a study of the uses of amateur radio for emergency and disaster relief communications, by identifying unnecessary or unreasonable impediments to the deployment of Amateur Radio emergency and disaster relief communications, and by making recommendations for relief of such unreasonable restrictions so as to expand

the uses of amateur radio communications in Homeland Security planning and response.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009'.

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Nearly 700,000 amateurs radio operators in the United States are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission in the Amateur Radio Service.

(2) Amateur Radio operators provide, on a volunteer basis, a valuable public service to their communities, their States, and to the Nation, especially in the area of national and international disaster communications.

(3) Emergency and disaster relief communications services by volunteer Amateur Radio operators have consistently and reliably been provided before, during, and after floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, forest fires, earthquakes, blizzards, train accidents, chemical spills, and other disasters. These communications services include services in connection with significant examples, such as hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Hugo, and Andrew; the relief effort at the World Trade Center, and the Pentagon following the 2001 terrorist attacks; and the Oklahoma City bombing in April 1995.

(4) Amateur Radio has formal agreements for the provision of volunteer emergency communications activities with the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the National Weather Service, the National Communications System, and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, as well as with disaster relief agencies, including the American National Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

(5) The Congress passed Public Law 103-408 which was signed by the President on October 22, 1994. This included in Section 1 the following finding of Congress: 'Reasonable accommodation should be made for the effective operation of amateur radio from residences, private vehicles

*continued on page 10*

*continued from page 9*

and public areas, and the regulation at all levels of government should facilitate and encourage amateur radio operation as a public benefit.'

(6) The Congress passed Public Law 109-295 which was signed by the President on October 4, 2006. This included a provision in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations legislation for fiscal year 2007 that directed the Department's Regional Emergency Communications Coordinating Working Group to coordinate their activities with 'ham and amateur radio operators' among the eleven other emergency organizations such as ambulance services, law enforcement, and others.

(7) Amateur Radio, at no cost to taxpayers, provides a fertile ground for technical self-training in modern telecommunications, electronic technology, and emergency communications techniques and protocols.

(8) There is a strong Federal interest in the effective performance of Amateur Radio stations, and that performance must be given support at all levels of government and given protection against unreasonable regulation and impediments to the provision of these valuable communications.

### SEC. 3. STUDY OF ENHANCED USES OF AMATEUR RADIO IN EMERGENCY AND DISASTER RELIEF COMMUNICATION, AND FOR RELIEF OF RESTRICTIONS.

(a) Authority- The Secretary of Homeland Security--

(1) shall undertake a study on the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief; and

(2) shall report its findings to Congress not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) Scope of the Study- The study required by this section shall--

(1) include recommendations--

(A) for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio licensees in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts; and

(B) for improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in planning and in furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives;

(2)(A) identify unreasonable or unnecessary impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio communications, such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installations; and

(B) make recommendations regarding such impediments; and

(3)(A) include an evaluation of section 207 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996)); and

(B) make a recommendation whether that section should be modified to prevent unreasonable private land use restrictions that impair the ability of an amateur radio operator licensed by the Federal Communications Commission to conduct, or prepare to conduct, emergency communications by means of effective outdoor antennas and support structures at reasonable heights and dimensions for the purpose, in residential areas.

(c) Use of Expertise and Information- In conducting the study required by this section, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall--

(1) utilize the expertise of the American Radio Relay League, representing the National Amateur Radio community; and

(2) seek information from private and public sectors for the study.

# San Diego Microwave Group

## Update From the August Meeting

by Michelle W5NYV

Kerry N6IZW hosted the August meeting of the San Diego Microwave Group at 7:00pm on 17 August 2009. One of the first orders of business was to adjust the test equipment. Here below is Kerry gently adjusting a highly fragile and sensitive analyzer with an inertial containment device.



Below, Kerry tunes as Paul KB5MU looks on. The analyzer is put through its paces in order to determine whether or not there is a problem with the front-end.



Below, Lee KD0IF receives an "award" for achievement in meritorious compass rose accomplishment. Congratulations Lee!

The San Diego Microwave Group meets every Monday on the 146.730 repeater at 9:00pm, except for the third Monday of the month, when they meet at Kerry's QTH. After gathering and working in the garage for the first part of the meeting, the group then moves to either indoor or outdoor seating for an in-person round-table meeting.

One of the devices under test in the garage at the August meeting was a Tektronix 492 spectrum analyzer.



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Editor: Michelle Thompson W5NYV

Submissions: [scope@palomararc.org](mailto:scope@palomararc.org)

Questions? Ideas? Comments? [W6NWG@amsat.org](mailto:W6NWG@amsat.org)

## Featured Program:

Art KC6UQH will be the auctioneer at our annual club auction on 7 October 2009 at 7:00pm at 3096 Harding Street, Carlsbad, CA 92008.