

SCOPE

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



Do you have a mobile installation? Do you want to have a mobile installation, and need some motivation?

We're looking for a few good mobile installations - whether they're completed, on the drawing board, or half-way done and tripping you and your passengers every time you get in and out of the vehicle - to be featured in the Scope. We'd love to show your installation. Tips, narratives, explanations, techniques, problems encountered and solved (or encountered and evaded) are what we're looking for. Send them in!

scope@palomararc.org



On this page: Wild Bill's mobile installation. Photographed at Operating Day, 10th April 2011. Were you there? Did you take any photos? If so, please consider sharing your photographs on the club gallery page.

Save the Date

Club Meeting
4 May 2011

Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ
will talk about his
experiences at the
Dayton Hamvention.

Board Meeting
11 May 2011

Palomar Amateur Radio
Club board meeting at
7:00pm

Dayton Hamvention
20-22 May 2011

www.hamvention.org/
Several club members
will be going.

Club Membership for May Edition

New Members Joining PARC: KG6HOU, AE6HF, KD6KXH, and KJ6MZA. Fortunately we had a number of renewals, and one member renewed for 4 years (\$100). Please welcome the new members, on the air, and in person.

We now have about 78 members that have decided to receive their news letter, the SCOPE, on line, saving the club the cost of printing and mailing. Unfortunately, without the colored label on the snail mail edition, it's easy to forget when one's membership has run out. I send e-mails for reminders - but only when I have a "good" e-mail address.

So, as mentioned previously we print calls of those that have "expired" recently.

The NEW list: KC6VXY, W6ALF, and W3LFR. (These 3 ran out in February 2011) Please Renew!!

AI
W6GNI

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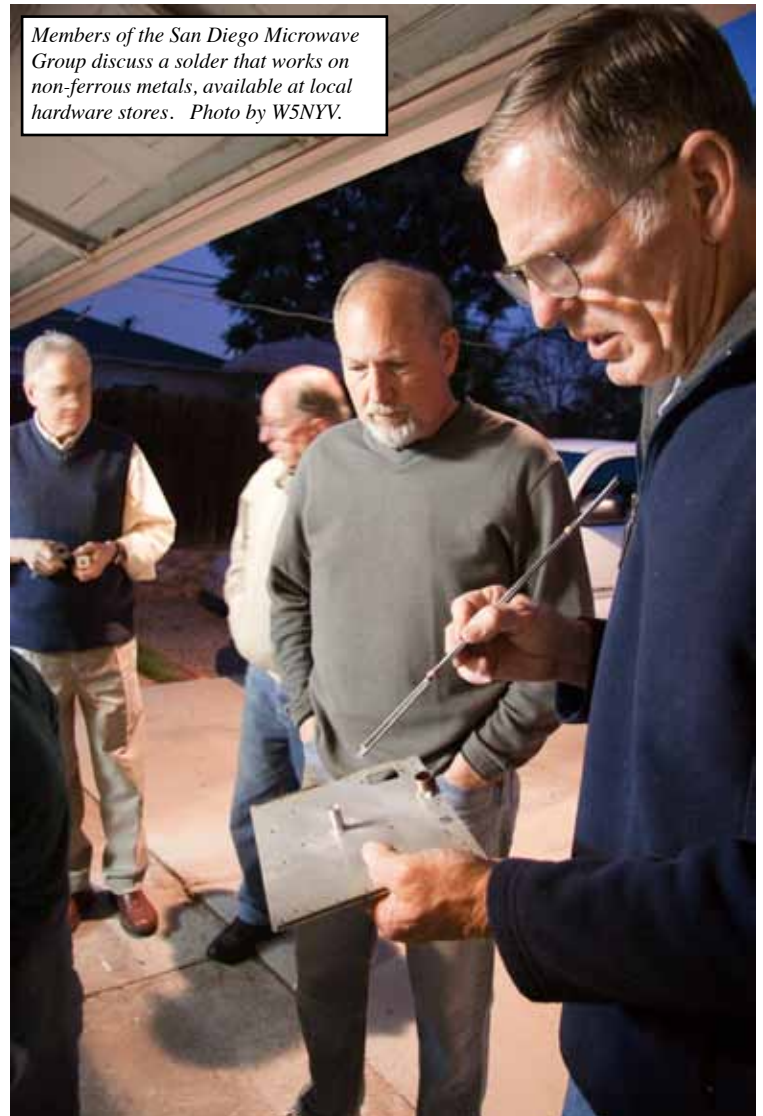
Please check our complete ads in **QST**, **CQ**, and **WorldRadio** magazines.

April SCOPE Fold & Staple Crew
W6GNI AI & Kathy
KB6NMK Jo, KI6LLC Roni,
WD6FWE Don KB6YHZ Art &
Janet (Great Turnout!!)

Members of the San Diego Microwave Group discuss a solder that works on non-ferrous metals, available at local hardware stores. Photo by W5NYV.



Here's a view of Wild Bill's mobile installation from the point of view of the brake pedal. Photo by W5NYV.



Advertisements are free for members

Have items that need to find a new home? Advertise here! Send your ads to scope@palomararc.org

For Sale

Collins 136B-2 Noise Blanker for KWM-1,KWM-2,KWM-2A, with Manual. Never Used.

Price \$200.00

Contact: Pete,K6JQE,(858) 755-4838

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w6hph@yahoo.es

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<http://www.pskreporter.info/pskmap.html>

Portable Work in a Tool Kit

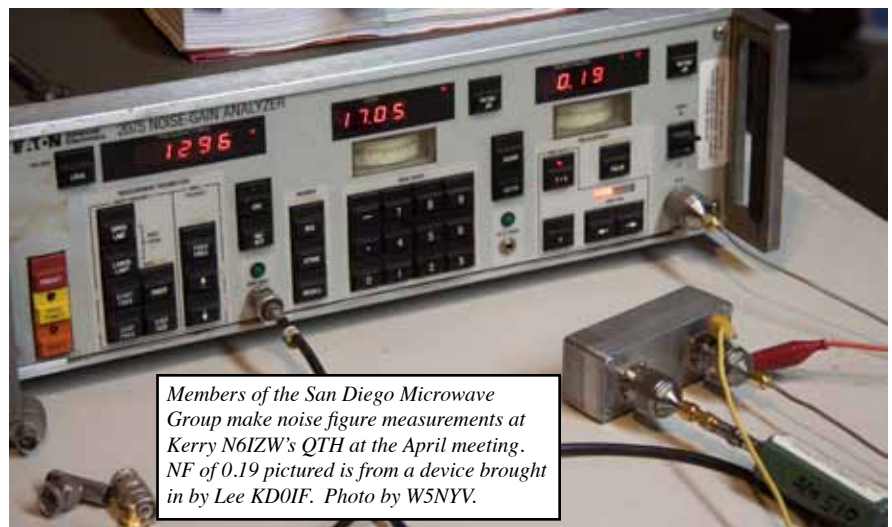
<http://www.elecraft.com/XG3/xg3.htm>

DX Packet Spots

<http://www.dxscope.com/ushfcw.html>

Periodic Table of Sports Cars

http://www.caranddriver.com/features/10q4/the_periodic_table_of_sports_cars-feature



Repeater Work Party Report

by Dennis KD6TUJ

On Sunday April 17 a work party was conducted by several members to check on the 147.075 and 147.130 machines. Convair/220 came up also to change their power to the 48 VDC string. John WB6IQS rode up with Art KC6UQH to work on the voice machines. Conrad KG6JEI , Greg KI6RXX Dennis KD6TUJ also came up.

Bill K1CT and Mert AF6HF from the 220 club checked out their club repeater that Palomar hosts. Their machine is on 224.900 and is available to all club members. They found in their checks some loose connections and an unexpected low output to the antenna. A lot of twisting and tuning to clean and tighten connections help a little. Plans will be made to further check the output.

The main project they came up for was the switchover of power source from 115 VAC line source to the battery bank 48 VDC string. Their club purchased a converter (the same that we use) for the switch.

Bill Smith KB6MCU built this very clean and arranged repeater about 1994. John went to work on the 147.075 GE repeater. After twisting and turning coils along the receive path, he found a coil with a big reaction. Some more twisting helped by "Blue Stuff" and the coil seems to act normal by passing signals through.

On the 147.130 machine, Art changed the power amplifier brick and had to do some minor modifications due to the lower drive requirements of the new PA. A lot of time was used with great results.

Greg had a tour of the site. Conrad and Dennis became gofers and helped where needed.

Future projects include mounting the 147.075 converter, bringing back the 6m repeater, replacing the 6m antenna, switching the power on packet, and building a controller to selectively turn on and off the repeaters as needed during limited power situations.

A work site party is needed to maintain the grounds. There are tree limbs that need to be cut up and general site care-taking performed.



Ham Radio Swap Meet



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more information

Sat. May 14, 2011
8:00 am – 2:00pm

Minutes

Palomar Amateur Radio Club

Board of Directors Meeting

March 9, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Ron Pollack K2RP at 7:22pm at the home of Al Donlevy W6GNI. In attendance were:

Vice President Ron Pollack K2RP

Secretary Paul Williamson, KB5MU

Director #1 Don Johnson, WD6FWE

Membership Chairman Al Donlevy W6GNI

SCOPE Editor Michelle Thompson W5NYV

Repeater Technical Chairman Conrad Lara KG6JEI

Field Day Chairman Greg Gibbs KI6RXX

Guest Fred Atchley AE6IC

Secretary's Report

No minutes were available.

Treasurer's Report

K2RP distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report, extensively annotated by Treasurer Georgia Smith KI6LAV. Motion by Paul Williamson KB5MU to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Seconded by Don Johnson WD6FWE. Motion passed.

Upcoming General Meeting

K2RP reported that David Doan KC6YSO is scheduled to speak at the April meeting on NVIS. Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ is scheduled to speak at the May meeting on his trip to the Dayton Hamvention. Greg Gibbs KI6RXX is scheduled to lead a program at the June meeting in preparation for Field Day.

Repeater Technical Report

Repeater Technical Chairman Conrad Lara KG6JEI reported that he, Ted, and Dennis Baca KD6TUI plan to work at the repeater site on Sunday, March 13. They will reset the 145.05 MHz packet TNC, install a 48V switching power supply for the 447 MHz repeater, and swap out the duplexer for 447 MHz with one salvaged from the KGB repeater.

There is presently nothing preventing the batteries from being discharged below safe levels during an extended power outage. Art McBride KC6UQH has identified a suitable power relay (\$163.75 plus tax and shipping from Mouser) and he and KG6JEI will build up the circuit to control it remotely using a spare repeater controller board. Motion by WD6FWE to approve up to \$250 to purchase the relay and materials to install a power cutoff circuit. Seconded by KB5MU. Motion passed unanimously.

Last month one of the SD-350 C-12 DC to DC power converters was overloaded due to an error in interpreting its specifications. We currently have two spare converters. One is slated to run the 447 MHz repeater and other is to be kept at the repeater site as a spare. Three more are needed, one for each of the packet systems at the repeater site. What are the current requirements of these systems? Action deferred until they can be measured. The power output problem of the 52.68 MHz repeater was isolated to the exciter. Joe Acevedo N6SIX has donated a Motorola Micor mobile transceiver to use as a backup for this repeater. It will need a new crystal to work on our frequency. The cost to re-crystal the element is \$52.35, or about \$100 for a temperature-compensated element.

Internet Relay Request

Michelle Thompson W5NYV relayed a request via Facebook from Jim Davidson on behalf of the Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department. They would like to place a data relay at our site for the purpose of providing Internet access for the Fire Station and the secondary command post at the Chief's home. Do the needed lines of sight exist between these locations? W5NYV will check using Radio Mobile.

Field Day

KI6RXX reported on Field Day preparations. McAuliffe Elementary has been our proposed site, but Oceanside Councilman Jerry Kern has suggested using Buddy Todd Park instead. Both places have good elevation. Buddy Todd Park is not very flat, so K2RP recommended asking John Kuivinen WB6IQS to do a site evaluation to determine if the portable towers could be erected safely. Al Donlevy W6GNI pointed out that Buddy Todd Park is very busy on weekends and parking can be a problem, with belligerent neighbors preventing nearby parking.

McAuliffe Elementary will be expensive if we don't get a special deal, because they charge by the hour and require a staff member be present.

Some but not all station captains have been identified.

KB5MU agreed to add KI6RXX to the Board mailing list.

K2RP suggested that advance sign-ups to bring rigs to Field Day might help prevent unpleasantness with last-minute volunteers.

Requests for Repeater Usage

San Marcos CERT has requested use of the 146.73 MHz repeater from 6:45pm to 7:00pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays for their emergency preparedness net. Southwestern REACT has requested use of the 147.075 MHz repeater from 5:30am to 11:00am on Sunday, March 13, for the Safari Park Half Marathon. Motion by WD6FWE to approve both requests. Seconded by W6GNI. Motion passed unanimously.

Operating Day Park Rental

KD6TUJ teleconferenced into the meeting. The fee to rent Rancho Del Oro Park for Operating Day (with less than 60 days notice) is in the \$300 range. KD6TUJ believes we will be able to get a fee reduction with help from Councilman Kern, but we must first commit to pay the regular fee. Motion by WD6FWE to go ahead with Operating Day even with the \$300 fee. Seconded by W5NYV. Motion passed with three ayes, one nay, and one abstention. The conference call was then disconnected.

Recognition for Councilman Kern

Fred Atchley AE6IC stated that he believes the relatively favorable outcome in Oceanside would not have been possible without the help of Councilman Jerry Kern. AE6IC proposed that the club present Kern with a plaque in appreciation. K2RP had a concern about ethics rules regarding gifts. AE6IC agreed to check with the city attorney.

GOTA Station Scheduling at Field Day

AE6IC mentioned problems with mutual interference experienced at recent Field Days between the GOTA station and other stations operating on the same band. He asked that we consider some sort of operating schedule to permit the GOTA station to operate in certain windows without getting complaints from the other stations. K2RP stated that he should get with the Field Day Chairman and that it would be up to him. KI6RXX indicated that he'd be open to discussing it with AE6IC.

Involvement of CERT, Salvation Army, Etc. at Field Day

AE6IC asked if we wanted to involve CERT, the Salvation Army, etc. at Field Day. K2RP stated that this would be up to the Field Day Chairman, but that we've done so in the past and, generally, "the more the merrier".

Appointment of Director #2

KG6JEI relayed that Eric Hutchins K7ELH has volunteered to take up the vacated Director #2 position on the Board, and the President has appointed him to that position. Motion by WD6FWE to approve the appointment. Seconded by W6GNI. Motion passed unanimously.

Next Board Meeting Location

It was agreed that the next Board meeting would be held at the home of K2RP at 7pm on April 13, 2011.

Membership Report

Membership chairman Al Donlevy W6GNI reported that Club membership is 280.

Articles Needed for the SCOPE

W5NYV stated that articles are needed for the SCOPE, by this weekend (earlier than usual).

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Williamson KB5MU
Secretary



Above and below, Dennis KD6TUJ on the left presents our raffle winner, Brian Kramer KJ6HOU with a new Yaesu 2m handheld. Along with the 2m radio, Brian received a Nifty radio programming guide. The Nifty series is written by Bernie N6FN.



HAM RADIO OUTLET

Jose XE2SJB
Jerry N5MCJ
Joe N6SIX

H
R
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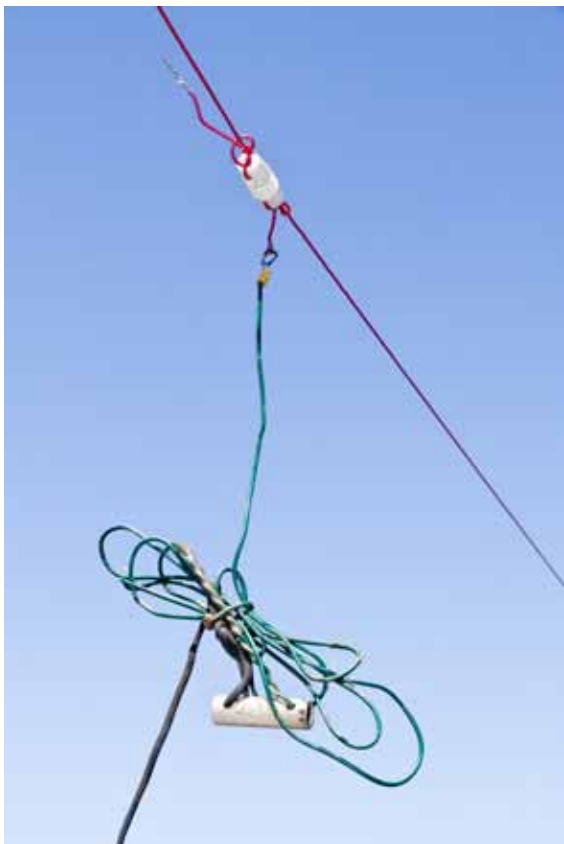
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Operating Day photographs from Paul KB5MU. See article next page for a summary of this very fun club event.



Operating Day in Oceanside

by Dennis KD6TUI

An Operating Day was conducted on April 10 in Oceanside at the Joe and Mary Mottino Family YMCA. Participants started to arrive at 8:00 AM. David KC6YSO brought the NVIS antenna and set it up in about 15 minutes, and with his “go kit radio set” he was on the air less than 10 minutes after that. Conrad KG6JEI pulled the trailer and helped Dennis KD6TUI put it together. Tom KG6RCW brought his HF radio to use. PAPA members came and set up their canopy and radios, then checked into the PAPA system. The new item for this demonstration was a display of radio services available for public use. It includes FRS, MURS, combo FRS/GMRS, GMRS, and Amateur Radio. Oceanside Councilman Jerry Kern arrived at 10:00 AM, viewed the display and asked some good questions about the tower and antennas. He stayed about 15-20 minutes and was demonstrated HF by Tom and David. David had two great contacts in diverse areas with solid contact. One Northeast of Los Angeles and the other east of San Diego. After a while David changed bands to 40m. An SWR check showed he was missing about 3 feet of wire. After scrounging around, a tuning wad was found and put in line bringing the SWR back to good service. Tom made contact with Georgia (US), Montana, and Aruba. Eric K7ELH did a contact to Montana in a quick try. Dennis made a contact to Quito, Ecuador. Ron K2RP made some CW contacts. 15m was playing well. A great day was had by all with beautiful warm sunny weather.



DAVID KC6YSO ADJUSTING THE TUNING WAD



GO RADIO OF DAVID KC6YSO



OPERATING DAY PARTICIPANTS IN ACTION



GUEST, WILD BILL WB6BFG, AND RON K2RP



TOM KG6RCW AT CONTROLS



ELLEN AND RUSTY AND FRANKIE, THE WONDERDOG!



RADIO SERVICES FOR PUBLIC USE



PAPA SET UP



Photos by Dennis KD6TUJ, Michelle W5NYV, and Paul KB5MU.



Operating Day photographs from Paul KB5MU.
See article on page 10 for a summary of this very fun club event.



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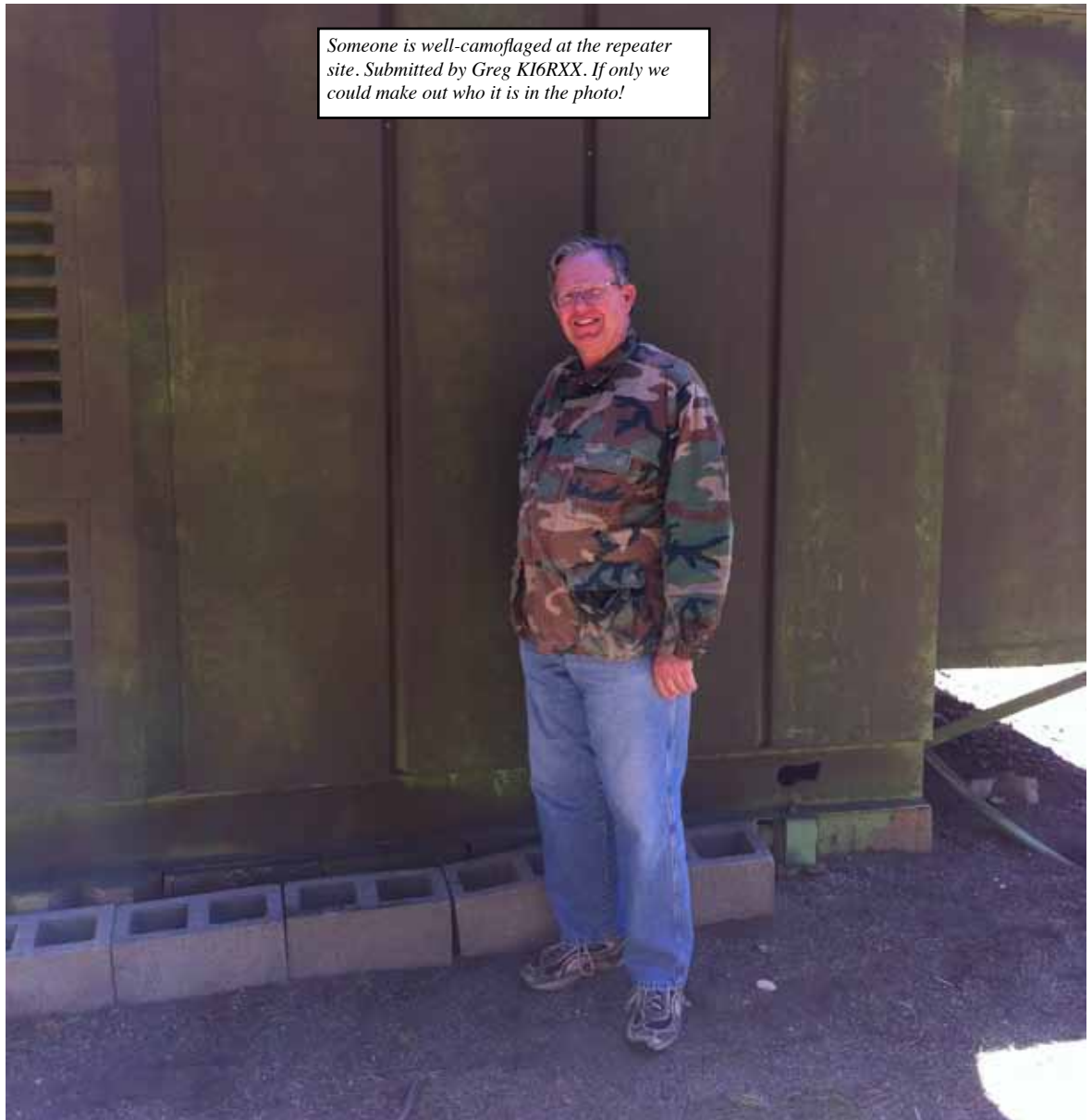
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Someone is well-camouflaged at the repeater site. Submitted by Greg K16RXX. If only we could make out who it is in the photo!



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Photographs from Oceanside

Submitted by Dennis KD6TUJ



Amateurs in Oceanside are to be thanked for their participation of calls, letters, emails, and showing up for the Council meetings. More thanks are to be sent to the community who supported us with the same support of the city residents. More thanks to those who assisted through emails, including some legal comments and suggesting the Costa Mesa Ordinance. I do believe this helped a lot to see another city that has Amateur Radio as a friend and recognizes their needs.
Dennis KD6TUJ

by Greg KI6RXX

Field Day is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to local elected community leaders, key individuals with the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

This year we are working on one of two sites, both located on the top of nice hills in Oceanside.



The first is Palisades Park and adjacent Christa McAuliffe Elementary School. The other possible site is Rancho Del Oro Park located on the corner of College and Mesa, the same site that we used for Operating Day. Both sites will be large enough to accommodate our operating class of 3A and possibly larger.



Many thanks go out to the very generous people volunteering as Band Captains this year to help me in this large task. Those people currently include: Preston, Don, The Handy Hams per KI6IET, and Charlie NN3V. Howard KY6LA has also generously offered to bring his Flex 5000. If you wish to get involved or help in any way, please contact me. This year we will have the best of the old and the new.

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Editor: Michelle Thompson W5NYV

Submissions: scope@palomararc.org

Questions? Ideas? Comments? W6NWG@amsat.org

Featured Program:

At 7:30pm on the 4th of May 2011, Palomar Amateur Radio Club will have a program presented by Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ. He will talk about his experiences at the Dayton Hamvention.

Arrive at 7:00pm to socialize. We look forward to seeing you at the Carlsbad Safety Center, 2560 Orion Way, Carlsbad, CA.