

# FEBRUARY

MAIL STOP  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
W6VIO Calling M/S 233-208  
Attn: Eileen McKinney-Editor  
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NEWSLETTER EDITOR: EILEEN McKINNEY KA6DGV

Club Meetings: Second Wednesday of the month at 12 Noon in 238-543. Everyone is welcome - bring your lunch!

Board Meetings: Fourth Wednesday of the month at 12 Noon in 238-543. Everyone is welcome - bring your lunch!

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FEBRUARY 1985 VOLUME 15 NUMBER 2

When was the last time that you attended a Club Meeting?

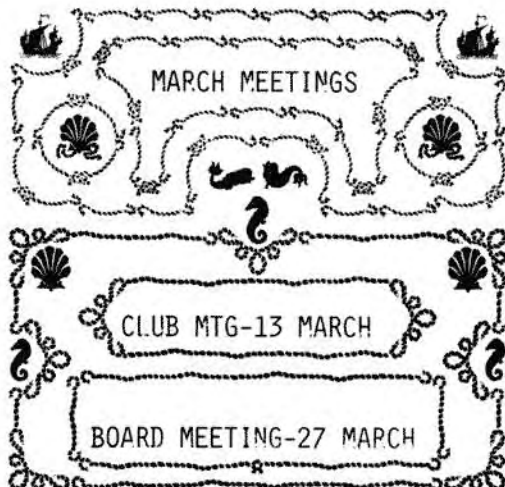
Has it been that long?

Why not try to attend next month's meeting. Mark your calendar now and bring your lunch - put your feet up for awhile - and just enjoy doing nothing.

It'll be nice to see all your old friends again and it'll be a good feeling knowing that you're supporting the efforts of your Club.



IF GEORGE WERE HERE HE'D ASK  
"HAVE YOU HONESTLY TRIED TO  
GET YOUR DUES PAID ALREADY?"





## DX NEWS

My newest issue of the Long Island DX Bulletin has revealed many items of interest to the DXer. First hand experience (I was on the air last night) showed that the bands are in pretty fine shape and that everyone is getting ready for the ARRL DX Contest activity on 16-17 Feb (cw) and 2-3 March (ssb). Now for the news:

BOUVET-3Y4CG's rumored activity may take place for two days in late February when a ship is scheduled to be at that remote spot.

COCOS ISLAND-TI9J is currently active on Cocos through 17 February. He plans both cw and ssb activities from 10-160 meters. He was S9+ on 3787 kHz last night!

DOMINICA-K4LTA/J7 plans activity through 5 March from this Caribbean location.

KERGUELEN ISLAND-FT8XA and FT8XB are both active on 20 meters. Frequencies given are 14,147, 14,183 and 14,190 kHz. 2000Z daily is the time.

MARION ISLAND-ZS2MI should be active any time now. The operator is scheduled to be there for an extended stay.

MOZAMBIQUE-SMODQE/C9 is active on Tuesdays at 1900Z in a list operation on 14,205 kHz.

ST. MARTIN-W2KN/FG or /FS will be active through 21 February including the upcoming CW Contest.

TRINIDADE-PYOTE is active through February. Look for him on 14,236 kHz at 2200Z.

FUTURE OPERATIONS-XF4 in late February or early March. S. Georgia from 7-9 March. Desecheo in the second week of March.

So much for DX this month. With my low bands antenna repaired, N6ET may be in there competing with you this month. Good luck!

Bob, N6ET



*I know it's UNbearABLE but this edition will NOT have The President's Message or the Board Meeting Minutes. After several attempts at contacting the responsible members and failing I decided not to hold up the issue any longer. We'll try to get the Board Meeting Minutes for January and February in next month's edition.*

## NEWS OF NOTE FROM FELLOW CLUBS

This article comes to us from our fellow club up in Anchorage, Alaska. Thanks for Bryce, AL7DL/4's efforts. OVERCHARGE!

"No, this is not an article about credit cards and their abuse! Just a short few lines about the dangers of overcharging NiCad batteries.

A word to the wise is to always follow the manufacturers recommendations for the charging of battery packs. Overcharging NiCad batteries can damage them and shorten their life! Have you noticed that when you take your battery pack off charge (for the recommended time, of course), the pack seems a bit warm? This is normal. They don't want to get too warm though; damage may result.

If you have a hard time remembering to take the pack off charge (especially if you have one of those 15 hour chargers), then I recommend you go out and get one of those "plug-in-the-wall timers which will disconnect power after a set period of time. Your battery pack will thank you and reward you with longer life!



THE CLUB IS MAKING AN EFFORT TO REVAMP THE SYSTEM OF NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION A LITTLE BIT. IF YOU'RE AN OFF-LAB MEMBER AND NOT RECEIVING YOUR MAILING OF W6VIO CALLING OR RECEIVING IT A MONTH LATE, ETC., PLEASE CONTACT US AND WE'LL TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT THE HOLD-UP IS.





LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Eileen

Received a letter from Duane Davis N8FAN/CX (Montevideo, Uruguay). He is looking for a Pasadena ham for a phonepatch. He is on 21.390Mhz Thursdays 20-22:00 GMT.

Duane Davis, N8FAN/CX  
Casilla 20209  
Sayago  
Montevideo  
Uruguay

Can anyone in the Club help?

Thanks 73 Mike Gauthier K6ICS X2126



FOR SALE

(1) 220 Mhz Hand-held FM XCVR. Pace brand with Club xtals for both repeaters and simplex freq's. Touchtone pad and rubber duckie ant. clean and runs good. Uses "AA" Ni-Cads (included) \$100.

(1) Hallicrafters SX-100 Shortwave Rcvr. Recently retubed runs good. Notch and variable b'width filters if shift xtal calibrator and ham bands calib. on bandsread dial \$125-OBO.

(1) Hallicrafters S-38C Shortwave RCVR. "Table Radio" style. Excellent cond. Collectors item. \$100 - OBO.

WANTED - XMTR Tube or Tubes with matching sockets and chimneys for KW+ linear amplifier (home-brew). Currently scrounging parts so nothings definite. Other appropriate parts considered.

(All above ads contact Jason Kovatch N6BCI X3980 or (818) 952-0456.

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If you have an ad that you'd like to place free of charge in W6VIO CALLING, please send it to me (address on front) c/o John. I'll make sure that your ad appears in the next available space in the newsletter. Now's the time for spring cleaning and getting your gear organized. Get rid of the clutter and make yourself some money.  
Eileen



TUNEUP CLINIC RESULTS

Seventeen hardy souls braved the bone-chilling temperature and rain on Saturday morning, February 2, to bring their trusty radios to the club's eighth annual tuneup clinic in Arcadia. As usual, Mike Santana, WB6TEB, provided his garage, professional test equipment and expertise to diagnose and treat the 41 (count 'em -41) radios checked out. To help fight the cold, Elvia, HK4CVV, furnished two pump pots of coffee (as she has done for the past eight years); and, as usual, the club provided plenty of Winchell's donuts.

This year even W6VIO, the JPL ARC, sent its three 220 MHz radios through Merv, N6NO, for a checkup. It owns two Clegg FM-76's and one Midland 13-513 (which is one of the first 220 MHz synthesized rigs.) All, including the 13-513, were found to have drifted and were put on frequency. As happened last year, we generally found the deviation on ICOM radios set too high at the factory; for example, on a brand new IC-37A we were able to correct the touch tone distortion by reducing the gain, which had been set so high it had prevented its owner from being able to reliably use the autopatch.

It was remarked that the tune-up clinics have become kind of a club social event; quite a few of us (and family members in particular) are unable to attend the club's regular meetings, and the clinics give us an additional opportunity to meet in person, share a cup of coffee, and chat.

We were all glad to see the turn-out; we thank Mike for his continuing support, and we thank those that came for being so conscientious about their signals. We were happy to be able to do some good. But an attendance of 17 people seems to be too small a percentage of our autopatch membership. It may be hard to believe, (considering how seldom we seem to use our machines) but our autopatch paid-up membership now totals 82! After a brief discussion with Mike, it was decided that perhaps the months of January and February are too cold to stand around a drafty garage while the surgeon operates, so the next clinic will be scheduled for this fall -possibly September. We hope this will enable a different group of members to attend, such as those who missed the February clinic. Watch these pages for the announcement! (N6NO)



MAKE TRACKS NOW  
Chug on down and pay your dues. Save the Club lots of work.

W6VIO  
**JPL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM**

**JPL ARC USE ONLY**  
 Card No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Category: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_  
 LICENSE CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_ LICENSE EXPIRATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL MEMBER? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 LAB ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ LAB EXTENSION: \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City Zip Code Area Code

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	JPL:	
	RETIRED _____	OFF LAB _____
	EMPLOYEE _____	CALTECH _____
	ON LAB CONTRACTOR _____	OTHER _____
	FAMILY _____	

AMATEUR RADIO INTERESTS	BANDS	160 M _____	80 M _____	40 M _____	20 M _____	15 M _____	10 M _____
		6 M _____	2 M _____	220 MHZ _____	450 MHZ _____	OTHER _____	
	PHONE: _____	AMSAT/OSCAR: _____	DX: _____	ARES: _____			
	CW: _____	CONTESTS: _____	RACES: _____				
	SSTV: _____	COMPUTERS: _____	TRAFFIC: _____				
OTHER: _____							

WHAT CLUB ACTIVITIES CAN YOU SUPPORT?	FIELD DAY: _____	HOT DOG SALES: _____	NEWSLETTER: _____
	VOYAGER COMMEMORATIVE: _____	OPEN HOUSE: _____	STATION UPGRADE: _____
	REPEATER COMMITTEE: _____	WORK PARTIES: _____	GROUP PURCHASES: _____
	EDUCATION: _____	AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC RELATIONS: _____	EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS: _____
	OTHER: _____	QSL CARDS: _____	

WOULD YOU -- CONSIDER -- BECOMING A CLUB OFFICER OR COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN? \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT CHANGES IN CLUB FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES ARE MOST NEEDED?	Comments: _____
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IF YOU WISH TO JOIN THE JPL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM WITH \$3.00 (Three Dollars) DUES TO  
 RICK MCKINNEY - M/S 168-327

Please fill out other side of this form if you have not done so in the past for publication in the newsletter.

## CLUB MEMBER PERSONAL PROFILE QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CALL SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_ FORMER CALL SIGN? \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS A HAM: \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE BORN: \_\_\_\_\_

GREW UP IN: \_\_\_\_\_

MARRIED? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

CHILDREN? \_\_\_\_\_

ANY OTHER HAMS IN THE FAMILY? \_\_\_\_\_

HOBBIES \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FAVORITE FOOD? \_\_\_\_\_

With so many Club members it's hard to get acquainted in person sometimes. This little questionnaire is meant to help us share some of the things we might have in common. It's kind of fun to see if 156 people love pizza and one might like fried clams. Then if we plan a party in the future we know pizza will go over well. Thanks for taking the time to fill it out and return it for W6VIO CALLING. Eileen