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MAIL STOP

Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
W6VIO Calling M/S 264-419  
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TRUSTEE: Jay Holladay W6EJJ  
EMER. COMM: Ralph West N6YM  
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!

Repeater Mtgs: First Thursday of the month at  
12 Noon in 238-543. Everyone is  
welcome - Bring your lunch!

Newsletter: The 7th. day of each month.  
Articles: If the 7th. falls on a weekend,  
the following Monday will be the  
Deadline: the deadline. Your articles, ads,  
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articles you'd like to see  
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**CALLING**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well this month was another success from the point of view of participation, enthusiasm, and money. The hot dog booth at the JPL picnic was a success (and is the major fund raising activity performed by the Club). Bruce Beaudry WD6HEZ acting as Chairman with Rick McKinney KA6DAN as his cohort really planned and delivered a heck of a HOT DOG sale. Ralph West N6YM was chief cook and chef. GOOD JOB GUYS!!! Also much thanks to all the others that donated their time and effort. Not to steal the thunder from the "Hot dog" report later on in this newsletter.

While we are on the subject of thanks, there is someone who deserves the thanks of each and every member, 'cuz without her you wouldn't be reading this. If you have ever edited a newsletter or any publication that operates on a schedule, you know what an incredible pain it is. The long hours to put it all together, all the special touches, and then to try to get turkeys like me to turn in the things they are supposed to, WHEN they are supposed to, just so you can do what you ain't gettin paid to do in the first place. It's frustrating and yet Eileen just keeps giving us this great newsletter. So let's hear it for Eileen!!! Do you suppose N6AVW helps too?? Have a good month. See you at the general meeting

(Carl de Silveira KG6LG)

## DX NEWS

The timing on my most recent edition of the LIDX Bulletin was poor this time, so there is not a long list of DX opportunities listed this month. Based on my infrequent appearances on the HF bands, I conclude that the bands are in fairly poor shape. Many of the items identified below postulate reasonable conditions toward Europe which may not exist. Here comes the news and my best wishes that you encounter the openings.

ALGERIA - 7X2LS is active from 2000Z either on 14,183 or 14,227 kHz.

ANDORRA - C30C operates on 14,008 kHz from 1900Z and 14,192 kHz from 2330Z.

KALININGRADSK - UZ2FWA will operate on 14,228 kHz from 2100Z during the summer months.

KAZAKH - UL8PYL is active most days from 0200Z on 14,180 to 14,185 kHz. I suspect that this should be UL7 vs UL8, but maybe there's been a change.

MACQUARIE ISLAND - VK0SJ can be QSOed on 14,285 kHz from 0300Z.

MINAMI TORISHIMA - 7J1ACH alternates between 14,020-14,030 kHz and 14,200-14,225 kHz daily from 0600Z to 0800Z.

OMAN - A4XOS promises activity during the Arabic Scout Camp from 20 to 31 August. Look for them on 10 - 40 meters if there is any propagation on phone, CW, and RTTY.

Okay team, lets get in there and work all that "good stuff"!

Good DXing,  
Bob, N6ET

## MORSE CODE PRACTICE ON YOUR PC

John Slonski, W6LSH (ex-K/OBQ) has written a program called "MORSE" for the IBM PC that will take any ASCII text file (such as produced by a word processor program), translate it into Morse Code and play it through the computer's speaker. The problem of special ASCII characters embedded in the file is taken care of simply by skipping over any characters that don't have Morse equivalents. Right now, speed is controllable from 4 to 30 wpm, but after discussing this with a high speed CW op, John is looking into how to make it work from 8 to 60 wpm! It runs on BASICA version 2.1: this version is needed to activate the speaker through the "PLAY" function.

While John originally developed the program to avoid the usual memorization of text on standard code practice tapes by allowing access to a much wider variety of material, it is possible that one of our more ingenious members might be able to use it as the foundation of a tool to key a transmitter for relaying ASCII-stored messages on a CW traffic net.

Best of all, John is offering the program to club members at no charge. All you have to do is send him a PC-formatted 5-1/4" disk and he will make you a copy. His address is 233-303. (N6NO)



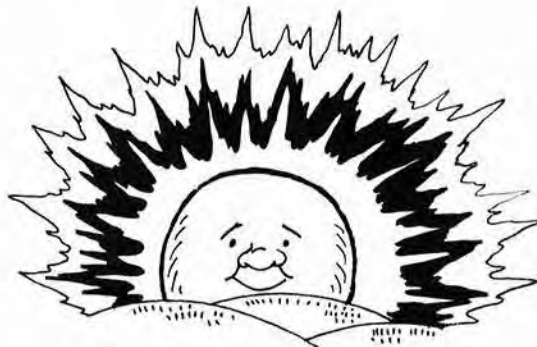
JPL ARC  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
23 JULY 1986

PRESENT: Carl de Silveiria, Walt Mushagian, Sid Johnson, Rick McKinney, Chuck Sarture, Rich Rubin.

OLD BUSINESS: A facilities manager is still needed. Carl de Silveria will continue to search for someone to take over this position. A discussion was held regarding who was authorized to issue keys for the club trailer. Carl will visit Locks and Keys to determine current status.

NEW BUSINESS: Chuck Sarture gave a report on the status of the packet radio station housed in building 171. Currently the station is operable but users will need to bring their own transceiver as none is available on a club basis. The balance, commodore computer, TAPER board, video display, printer and documentation are installed and operable. Some antenna repair or replacement is needed to improve performance. It was suggested that the club owned Icom 21A and synthesizer should be repaired and then made a permanent part of the station. Rick McKinney suggested that the station should be put on the air some day during lunch time and demonstrated to interested members of the club. A tentative date was set for Aug 20, 12:00-1:00. Rick McKinney presented the treasures report indicating that field day expenses totalled \$370.00 or \$70.00 over budget. The overage was approved by the board. Hot dog sales at the JPL picnic totaled 1040 dogs plus 160 chili dogs. Net profit to the club amounted to \$590.00. Walt Mushagian reported field day resulted in a total of 2190 points opposed to 3254 for 1985.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:49; Sid Johnson, WB6VWH



**HONEST INJUN!**

"WB6VWH, WB6VWH, KW6J calling. Are you around Sid?" "KW6J, this is WB6VWH pedestrian mobile. Good evening Brian." The conversation lapsed into normal ham chit chat while I waited for a traffic signal. Suddenly, three construction type people emerge from a building in front of me, stop dead in their tracks when they see me blabbing into my H.T. One of them, sporting a large mustache, decides to find out what's up and stops me. "What's zat" mustache demands "fire, police or what?" "Neither, this is amateur radio." I tell him. "Zat so," says mustache, "how far can you talk on that thing?" "Well right now I am talking to a friend in Corona Del Mar. That's about 50 miles or so." I tell him. "Your kidding, that's hard to believe!" He says, looking impressed.

"Let me show you" I tell him. I key up the rig and tell Brian I am giving a demo to a guy and ask him to come back with a report on conditions at the beach. I unkey, hear the beep, then the squelch tail. Thirty seconds drag by and no Brian. I look at mustache and notice that the impressed look has been replaced by suspicion. Also his eyes are beginning to narrow. "KW6J, KW6J, This is WB6VWH. Where did you go Brian?" I scream into the mike. Again the beep, the squelch tail and the long sound of silence. Mustache's eyes are now mere slits and it seems like smoke is appearing around the ears. Half of my brain is searching for an excuse while the other half is calculating the cost of having a 3AT removed from wherever mustache decides to put it.

Suddenly salvation appears! "WB6VWH, N6NO," my 3AT blasts, as I had unconsciously turned it to max volume in a futile attempt to get Brian to answer. A quick glance at mustache notes that signs of vulcanism are beginning to subside. "N6NO, WB6VWH. Hi Merv." "Hi Sid. I was listening to you and Brian a few minutes ago and just wanted to tell the person you are giving the demo to that you were indeed speaking to a friend in Corona Del Mar." Mustache is developing the impressed look again, so I continue the QSO, the receive audio set 10dB above the threshold of pain so mustache won't miss anything. After a couple of minutes I sign with Merv and mustache is ecstatic. "That's (beeping) incredible. Absolutely fantastic," he bubbles. He asks questions for a minute and then goes on his way.

Five minutes later I'm safe in the home QTH and Brian returns. "WB6VWH, WB6VWH. Are you still there Sid? This is KW6J." Calmly I answer. "KW6J, WHERE IN THE H--- HAVE YOU BEEN!" "Sorry", says Brian "but I got a telephone call. why? What's up?" I explain in detail and turn it back to Brian. I hear the beep, then the squelch tail and then silence. Brian is laughing too hard to answer.

I learned one thing. The next time a guy walks up to me and asks, "what's up with the radio", I'm going to tell him that it's actually a hyper space relay, and that I'm in conference with God as he had called me for advice on some urgent personal matters.

If that doesn't scare the guy off, I sure hope Merv can imitate God's voice. de Sid

**HOT DOGS A HOT SELLER**

Hot dog sales were excellent at the annual JPL Picnic again this year. Our entire stock of 1200 "Foot Long" dogs sold out and we had to turn customers away empty handed (empty stomached?). "Chili" dogs were a new item we tried this year and a big hit accounting for about 15% of total sales.

Our club treasury gained almost \$ 600 net after expenses and some much needed repair and upgrade on the stand. Thanks to Bruce WD6HEZ and Larry KB6JSD for getting the stands painted and ready to "stand up" again this year.

Ralph N6VM did his usual excellent job as chief cook and was ably assisted by Bruce WD6HEZ. Other Volunteers who helped serve the horde of hungry hot dog buyers included: Larry KB6JSD, his son Nathan and friend Ahmad Collier; Patti Heller, a new associate member with her daughters Randy and Laura; Carl KG6LG and his daughter Carla; Dick WA6JBZ; Kerry N6DSG; Leona KA6RHH and Rick KA6DAN with son Patrick. Several wives also dropped by to lend moral support to the crew.

The "Children's Corps" really saved the day. The kids out-did the adults in selling hot dogs and most of them wanted to do it again next year. Now all we need to do is get them to learn code, some rules, a little technical stuff and we'll have a new group of hams. Rick, KA6DAN

*NEWS OF NOTE FROM FELLOW CLUBS - This month our thanks to TRW's excellent publication "Crosstalk" for the following article. George sure saves the rest of us a lot of scanning each month.*

**From the Library****George Lee, W610W**

What's new in the July issues of:

- QST - Adventures in Satellite DXing (Tracking Info)
- A UHF/HF Remote Base Station (want a remote of your own?)
- ALC for a Class AB Amplifier (for max efficiency)
- Product review of Spider HF Mobile Antenna
- HR - A VHF Noise Bridge (+3 ohms @ 146 MHz)
- VHF/- Low noise phase locked UHF VCO, Part 1 (Noise UHF Problems)
- Issue 6 Meter KW Amplifier (GG 3CX1000A7 or 8877)
  - A Broadband Amp-Attenuator (Step Attenuator with Broadband Amplifier)
  - Extending Receiver Coverage for IC-02 & -04 (140-163 MHz and 440-465 MHz)
  - A Tone Burst Generator for European Repeaters (Anyone going to Europe?)
- CQ - Building ideas for a Consolidated Control Console.
  - Packet Radio - How to work it (Part II)
  - 2400 Baud Rate Packet & BER (Twice as fast is coming)
- 73 - Review of Kenwood TH31AT (220 MHz FM HT)
  - Review of Heathkit HD-3030 Interface (RTTY/CW)
  - A RTTY Scope
  - How to build a great Ham Club
  - The Piggy-Bank Patch
  - The USE Radio Direction Finder

Note from Tucson PSR Quarterly (p15, April 86) For HF Packet operation, according to N7CL, for optimal performance of the 2211 demod circuit, changing the 510K resistor in U19 on a TNC-2 to 750K should open the tuning range from approx 10 Hz to 50 Hz making tuning less critical.

Icom Newsletter for June 86 has a review of the IC-28A (138-174 MHz) and the ICAH-2 Antenna Tuner. Trio/Kenwood Newsletter has the final part of their review of the TS-440S and subscribers comment on the same.



Field Day 1986 Pictures by Carl de Silveira KG6LG

