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ARRL BULLETIN 14 ARLB014
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT MARCH 27 1989
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

Jet Propulsion Laboratory
W6VIO CALLING M/S 264-419
Attn: Eileen McKinney
4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, California 91109

PRESIDENT: JOHN TALLON N6OMB
VICE PRES: JEFF SKALETSKY N6TJO
SECRETARY: COURTNEY DUNCAN N5BF
TREASURER: JIM KESTERSON KA6IBF
TRUSTEE: STAN SANDER N6MP
EDITOR: EILEEN MCKINNEY KA6DGV

Club Meetings:

Everyone is welcome - Bring your lunch.
12 Noon in 238-543
Second Wednesday of month (Program)
Fourth Wednesday of month (Business)

Newsletter Article Deadline: The 5th. day of each month. If the 5th. falls on a weekend, the following Monday will be the deadline.

Your articles, ads, photos, diagrams, Letters to the Editor, or technical instructions should be submitted to Editor at address above.

EXCHANGE CLUBS PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS ABOVE IS CORRECT ADDRESS FOR EXCHANGING NEWSLETTERS.

Permission is granted to copy enclosed articles providing credit is given to "W6VIO CALLING".

AN AMATEUR RADIO STATION IS SCHEDULED TO FLY ABOARD THE SPACE SHUTTLE IN MARCH 1990. APPROVAL FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE AMATEUR RADIO EXPERIMENT CALLED SAREX ON THE SECONDARY PAYLOAD LIST OF FLIGHT STS 35 HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS. RON PARISE, WA4SIR, A PAYLOAD SPECIALIST FOR THE ASTRO 1 PAYLOAD TO BE CARRIED ON THAT FLIGHT WILL OPERATE THE STATION IN THE ORBITING SHUTTLE. REPRESENTATIVES OF ARRL AND SAREX, COSPONSORS, THE RADIO AMATEUR SATELLITE CORPORATION, AMSAT, STATED THAT THEY LEARNED OF THE APPROVAL AT A MEETING WITH NASA OFFICIALS HELD ON MARCH 14 AT THE LYNDON B JOHNSON SPACE CENTER IN HOUSTON.

WA4SIR WILL COMMUNICATE WITH AMATEUR OPERATORS WORLDWIDE USING VOICE AND VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS AS WELL AS PACKET RADIO. THE ORBIT OF THE SHUTTLE WILL ALLOW AMATEURS LOCATED BETWEEN APPROXIMATELY 46 DEGREES NORTH AND 46 DEGREES SOUTH LATITUDES TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH THE SHUTTLE. THE SAREX TRANSMISSIONS FROM THE SPACE SHUTTLE WILL BE SUCH THAT A STANDARD SCANNER RADIO CAN RECEIVE THEM.

THE APPROVAL FOR SAREX OPERATION IS CONTINGENT ON FINAL APPROVAL BY JOHNSON SPACE CENTER OF THE SAREX HARDWARE AND OPERATIONS PLAN AND ON PRIORITIZATION OF SECONDARY PAYLOADS FOR THE STS 35 FLIGHT.



DX NEWS

The sunspots are doing fantastic things these days. If you've been listening to the HF bands at all recently, you've found that the conditions may be better than they've been for decades. Propagation on 10 through 20 meters has been very good to almost all areas of the world. Even 40 meters has had many surprises. Now for the specifics according to the LIDX Bulletin and the DX Bulletin.

BANABA ISLAND - T33JS plans operation from this possible new country in late April or early May.

IRAN - Look for EP2DL and EP2HZ from 14160 and 14166 kHz from 0200 to 0300Z.

IVORY COAST - Through May, TU4CO operates about 10 kHz up from the bottom of 10, 15, and 20 cw. He is an avid stamp collector and QSLs rapidly.

JAN MAYEN - JX7DFA will be keeping things hopping on cw from the end of April through October 10th. Look for him on 7001, 14010, 21010 and 28010 kHz.

KUWAIT - 9K2MJ operates near 14235 from 0300Z.

MARION ISLAND - ZS8MI will commence operation from here in early April. This should be a good catch, since there have been no operations from Marion Island for some time now.

PAKISTAN - AP2ZR livens things up on 14220 kHz from 0230Z. He will QSY to 14022 kHz for cw contacts, if asked.

REVILLA GIGEDO - XF4L promises activity on both cw and ssb from 11 to 19 April on all bands.

TADZHIK - UJ8MM is a popular station during his daily schedules near 14220 kHz from 0200Z.

Save some of that dx for me now!

Good hunting,
Bob, N6ET

W6VIO VOYAGER NEPTUNE ENCOUNTER

George Morris, W6ABW

In a moment of weakness I agreed to be the W6VIO Voyager Neptune Encounter Chairman. I will need a great deal of help from the Club members to make this a really memorable commemorative.

We are very fortunate to have this special event in August of 1989 because we should be within 12 months of the peak of one of the best sunspot cycles ever. It will be very easy to make contacts around the world on the high frequency bands at any time of the day or night.

We will be organizing publicity on the Encounter to have many amateurs out there wanting to make a contact with W6VIO. We plan to have operator training sessions which will make it possible for any of the Club members to operate the W6VIO station on all the bands and modes which interest them.

We plan to operate most of the bands between 80 meters and 450 MHz and all modes including SSB, FM, CW, slow scan TV (SSTV), fast scan TV (FSTV), OSCAR, and packet.

There will be an opportunity for all the Club members to be involved in this Very Special Event. Mark your calendars now for August 19 through September 3. More information and calls for volunteers will be coming in future months.

Hello Fellow W6VIO Members,

A quick update on the status of the Field Day site. The Mt. Gleason site has been approved by the Forestry Department. This is of course is good news and means that we can now start honing our operation strategies. In the meeting Wednesday, the site layout was determined and the VHF activities were spelled out by Mark Schaefer.

Several members (about 20) have sent in their marked up forms with a commitment to be there and a promise of needed items. Got some commitments from "hot" cw operators, which will definitely come in handy! It looks as if we are off to an excellent start, I am really getting excited, suppose we can top last year's effort? If you haven't filled in your form, now is the time. We still need more equipment, tents and operators. We need someone to volunteer to take the Food and Cooking lead, THIS IS GETTING SERIOUS, I found out that Domino's doesn't deliver to the hill top! Some member must be the relative of the "Galloping Gourmet".

The next JPL W6VIO general meeting will include a good portion of the agenda to the Field Day activity, so I encourage you to attend and get your licks in. A video (Jerry Nelson's) of last years activity is planned to be shown. I will status the Field Day operation in general.

We have a volunteer this year to head our photo activities, Jeff Skaletsky. So if you plan any photos, or video stuff, it would be great to coordinate this with Jeff. A great addition to the VIO scrapbook. Thanks Jeff for the support!

I would like to schedule two FD work parties to ensure that we have all the equipment in tip top shape. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Workparty May 13 1989 Saturday 8:30am at JPL east gate area

Workparty June 3 1989 Saturday 8:30am at JPL east gate area

about 2:00 head to Tujung, and then cool off at pool party at Don and Jan's and pot luck dinner, if any takers...

Special training sessions...as the group wants...

Post Field Day Celebration....True Winners...!

Those of you who want to keep tabs of what's up on the Field Day activity, can get current and fresh data through the JEMS Notice Board, Item #49. If you are eager to reach me please contact me at JPL 354-6305, Home 352-1978, or if you wish, stop by my office, or mail your input, I am located on Lab in building 303, room 210H. Thanks for your continued support!

Don Ritchie, K6PGT

"There is no expedient to which a man will not resort to avoid the real labor of thinking."
...Sir Joshua Reynolds.

The JPL ARC Board and Membership Meeting was held on 22 February 89 at noon in 238-544.

The following club members and board members were present:

Jan Tarsala, WB6VRN
 Jerry Hawkes, W6WXL
 Walt Mushagian, K6DNS, past president
 Sid Johnson, WB6VWH
 Bob Deen, N5DPU, facilities
 Walt Diem, WA6PEA
 Ken Bollinger, KB6VGS
 Jeff Skaletsky, N6TJO, vice president
 Carl De Silveira, KG6LG, past president
 Jim Kesterson, KA6IBF, treasurer
 Rick McKinney, KA6DAN, membership services
 Sam Weaver, WB6EMO
 Courtney Duncan, N5BF, secretary

President John Tallon conducted the meeting.

Field Day chairman, Encounter chairman, and Interference committee chairman positions still need to be filled. Also, the club's 2 meter all mode radio still needs to be replaced.

After discussions, new chairmen were announced.

Ken Bollinger, KB6VGS is the new Emergency Communications Team chairman and emergency net control. George Morris, W6ABW is the Voyager Neptune Encounter chairman. He will not be in charge of QSL activities for the event. Jan Tarsala, WB6VRN is the Repeater Committee chairman.

Chairs remaining open were Field Day, QSL, and interference.

Facilities chair Bob Deen, N5DPU reported that a complete inventory had been taken of the shack and storage trailer. Some cleanup was needed. Courtney Duncan, N5BF and Peter McClosky, N5TGZ had done work on the OSCAR equipment. A work party was to be scheduled soon to prepare facilities for upcoming events.

Shack power amplifiers were discussed. Walt Mushagian stated that two more 220 volt circuits would be needed in the shack to simultaneously power all of the amplifiers we now have. He recommended that Stan Sander be contacted about this.

John Tallon has definitely secured the Mt. Gleason site for this year's Field Day. The permit is on the way.

Jan Tarsala, WB6VRN reported on recent repeater committee meetings. The 900 MHz link equipment has been taken to the QTH of Gil Yanow, K6TOS. Gil also has a Comshack 64 system that might be made available for use by club members via the link. Additional remote receiver sites were discussed.

Rick McKinney, KA6DAN reported that 155 membership applications had been processed including 75 autopatch members and 5 new members.

John Tallon officially re-appointed Stan Sander, N6MP, trustee of W6VIO and Walt Diem trustee of WB6IEA, the autopatch repeater. He asked for someone to write a new member information flier. Jan Ritchie was suggested. Detailed instructions (beyond those prepared previously by Larry Ruple, N6QZI) for club autopatch operation were also thought to be needed.

An actual proposal from the Emergency Communications Team for an emergency communications shack is needed.

Rick McKinney has not been able to locate a receipt for the four channel voter to be used in the repeater's remote receiver. John Tallon stated that it had never been purchased, the check written for it was never used.

Vice President Jeff Skaletsky, N6TJO reported on his research of comments on the recently submitted membership forms. The board was to go over them the following Tuesday at the informal lunch meeting. Particularly, they will pull applications from those available for work party and committee chair positions.

Secretary Courtney Duncan submitted a draft of a letter from the club in support of the 220 Spectrum Management Association for board approvals and signatures. Walt Diem wanted to have Jay Holladay and Merv MacMedan review the text before releasing it. The deadline for this input to the 220 SMA has been extended and is about a month away.

Ken Bollinger reported informally that the imaging team has detected clouds on Neptune from Voyager navigation pictures. Images from the Neptune Encounter are likely to be very interesting!

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtney Duncan, Secretary



The JPL ARC Board and Membership Meeting was held on 22 March 89 at noon in 238-543.

The following club members and board members were present:

Courtney Duncan, N5BF, secretary
 John Tallon, N6OMB, president
 Don Ritchie, W6PGT, Field Day chair
 Jan Ritchie, KC6BFB
 Jerry Hawkes, W6WXL
 Jim Kesterson, KA6IBF, treasurer
 Jeff Skaletsky, N6TJO, vice president
 Stan Sander, N6MP, trustee
 Jan Tarsala, WB6VRN, repeater chair
 Mark Schaefer, WB6CIA, education chair
 Bob Deen, N5DPU, facilities

President John Tallon conducted the meeting.

Don Ritchie, W6PGT, Field Day chairman reported that the site approval had been received. There would be an organizational meeting next week on Wednesday, 29 March. He will need advance money since the "porta potty" and groceries need to be prepaid. The JPL bike club is interested in visiting us at the site on Field Day Saturday. A work party will be held Saturday June 3 from 10 to 3 to get W6VIO equipment ready.

Bob Deen, N5DPU, facilities chairman reported that a work party was scheduled for this Saturday (25 March). Three or four have confirmed that they will attend so far. Methods of measuring the quality of the four hard lines and other cables going up the mesa from the shack were discussed.

Stan Sander, N6MP, club trustee made the recommendation that the club purchase an ICOM IC-275H for the satellite / VHF position. The Kenwood TS-711 was also considered. With the CW filter and shipping, the total cost is expected to be about \$1200. We would like to have this unit in place and operators trained before the Neptune Encounter. The club's financial situation and near term obligations (Field Day) were discussed. Other avenues of financing the purchase were discussed. No action was taken.

Jan Tarsala, WB6VRN, repeater chairman is working on a quote from TPL for a Bipolar, 100 watt, repeater grade (continuous duty cycle), 220 MHz amplifier for the repeater. Currently, we have a modified mobile Lunar amplifier which is not rated for continuous duty.

The next club program meeting will be on April 12 and the next membership - business - board meeting will be on April 26. Both meetings will be held in 238-543.

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtney Duncan, Secretary

SILENT KEY
 KA6QWR
 Michael "WOODY" Purcell
 1951 - 1989

Woody was a friend of mine who recently passed away. I met Woody in summer school twenty years ago. We were both Novices taking Radio Broadcasting to stay out of our parents hair for the summer. I went all through grade school with his younger sister Pat and we all went to the same church. Woody contracted Polio at an early age. He wore braces so he could walk, he had a good right hand and a good left arm and between them he could do anything you or I could do. At night he needed a respirator to aid his breathing while he slept. During high school all the kids in the neighborhood would hang out at Woody's house. We had a lot of good times there because he was interested in so many things, sports, cars, rc- planes, and ham radio to name a few. It was uplifting for the rest of us to see someone of his condition with such a positive attitude.

About ten years ago between prop 13 and other budget cuts, he no longer had a job working on research with artificial limbs. Some of his government assistance was eliminated, and many hospitals no longer could give him medical assistance. It was hard to find Corporations that would hire him for insurance reasons. He could get around town in an electric buggy, but he would get hit by normal drivers with bigger handicaps. His mother passed away in Oregon not too long ago, but now their ashes are together spread over the family land. His first Novice license expired from back in the days when novices were XTAL controlled 75 watts for two years. So I was proud to give him the Novice exam which he easily passed. He was the first person I gave an exam to and that started me off on the enjoyment of giving many an exam here on lab. He used an HW16 for a while till that bit the dust. Since I live in an apartment, I let him use my HF rig. He was an excellent CW operator, he could send and receive about 15 wpm on an old hand key and he kept a meticulous logbook. He kept up sending QSL's and was very close to WAS. From reading the card he received, he made a lot of friends over the air. Everyone from the old neighborhood is going to miss him. Many of us moved out of the neighborhood, yet I would visit him sometimes in the middle of the day in the middle of the week and people we used to hang out with would be there, people I hadn't seen in months. He could have moved somewhere with professional medical care but Woody wanted to stay at the house he grew up in and was always cared for by friends he grew up with. One night he had trouble from the flu, that was going around, and was scheduled to go to the doctor the next day, he fell asleep in his wheelchair with respirator, TV, and transceiver going as always, except he never woke up. I'll miss him, but I know he's traded in his wheel chair for a pair of wings and is operating one hell of a ham station on some CW band.

by Mark M. Schaefer WB6CIA