



W6VIO CALLING



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

BOARD

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DIRECTOR AT LARGE: WALT MUSHAGIAN K6DNS

CLOSED REPEATER TRUSTEE: WALT DIEM WA6PEA
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.

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DX NEWS

There is lots of exciting DX news this month. We're near or at the top of the sunspot cycle and the bands are singing like I haven't heard them for many years. 10 meters is open from sun-up to sun-down to many rare and exotic places. Even 80 meters has had its share of surprises. Listen, communicate, and enjoy! Again, this news is primarily obtained from "The DX Bulletin".

Belau - This is the new name for West Carolines. KC6MX and KC6IF plan operations from 22 November to 3 December. Watch for them either 3 or 25 kHz up from the low band edge on CW.



East Malaysia - Just a reminder, 9M6OO will operate here from 16 to 23 November. They will then move to Brunei from 24 to 27 November, and Hong Kong/Macao from 28 November to 2 December. This group is headed by N2OO from the South Jersey DX Association. Frequencies specified are 3505, 7005, 14025, 21025 and 28028 kHz.

Indonesia - YE0AX is active on 3795 kHz from 1200Z. He's very workable on the west coast.

Niger - 5U7QL is on from this rare location as I type. Don't know how long they'll be there, but XT is rumored to be next! I caught up with them on 28010 kHz at 1540Z. They had few takers.

Papua/New Guinea - Look for P29VPY and P29VCR from 3 to 7 December and 11 to 16 December. They will concentrate on CW and low-band operations.

Saudi Arabia - HZ1AB has been reported on the low ends of 10 through 40 CW. He is very active. The station is installing big antennas for 75/80 meters and should be workable on that band also on the west coast this winter.

South Shetland Is. - LU1ZA has been reported on many bands from 1800 to 0200Z. Specific frequencies were 28003, 28040, 14034, 21018, 21005, and 14015 kHz. He seems to prefer the low ends of the CW bands. Good luck!

Sudan - WZ6C/ST4 will commence operations from here shortly for two years. Look for him on the high bands, 17 through 10 meters.

Don't forget the exciting CQ WW CW Contest from 25 to 26 November GMT.

Good DX,
Bob, N6ET

JPL Amateur Radio Club
Board Meeting 10/25/89

The JPL ARC membership and board meeting was convened at 12:05 in 238-543. The following board members were present:

John Tallon, N6OMB, President
Stan Sander, N6MP, Trustee, W6VIO
Steve Jenkins, N6UNI, Acting Secretary
Walt Diem, WA6PEA, Trustee, WB6IEA
Walt Mushagian, K6DNS, Past President

The meeting was conducted by John Tallon.

John began by announcing that some previous board actions regarding purchase of an amplifier with autopatch funds and possibly raising autopatch dues were unauthorized by Club bylaws. The action concerning autopatch dues is rescinded.

Rick McKinney proposed that a vote be taken to authorize expenditure of autopatch funds for the amplifier. John Tallon requested a motion and Steve Jenkins moved for a vote. No second was given and the motion was retracted.

Stan Sander and Walt Diem noted that the bylaws do not allow expenditure of autopatch funds on non-autopatch hardware, and that any expenditure exceeding 15% of a yearly budget must be put to the general membership for a vote.

A general discussion ensued over what legal alternatives exist. Jim Marr pointed out that the relevant parts of the repeater rules are Section VI, Parts C and D. Skip Reymann agreed to look into the possibilities.

Stan Sander suggested that the alternatives are for the autopatch members to donate the amplifier to the club, or for the club to reimburse autopatch for the expenses. After further discussion, Stan moved that the club reimburse autopatch. Walt Mushagian seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Walt explained that the amplifier was originally bought on short notice because Jan Tarsala had volunteered to install it to bring the system up to coordinated power.

A vote will be held in the general meeting November 8 to resolve the question of autopatch donating the amplifier to the club. The meeting will be in 238-543 at 12:00.

Other agenda items for the general meeting:

[John Tallon]

Revision of club and autopatch dues structure, possibly including higher fees for off-lab members.

[Don Ritchie]

Long-range plans for finances and improved HF equipment in the shack. [Jan Tarsala]
Procurements (up to \$600) for the installation of the new repeater.

[Rick McKinney]

3700 QSL cards ready to be sent out.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.

General Meeting 11/8/89

The JPL ARC membership and board meeting was convened at 12:05 in 238-543 by President John Tallon. John announced that the votes on autopatch expenditures will be held at the general meeting December 13.

Walt Mushagian presented the repeater committee report for Jan Tarsala. Jan's wishlist is as follows:

Intermod control panel for WB6IEA/R (\$375).

Bandpass cavity for W6VIO/R (\$175).

GaAsFET preamp for VIO.

Telecom controller for VIO (\$2000).

Remote receiver for IEA (\$600).

Pass cans and GaAsFET preamp for IEA.

Pair of TS-940's for the shack (\$5000).

AMSAT REPORT

The AMSAT Annual Meeting and Space Symposium was held in Des Moines, Iowa over the weekend of 3 - 5 November 89. Over one hundred amateurs from all over the world (New Zealand, United Kingdom, Brazil, Mexico, and of course, the U. S.) participated.

Presentations covered a wide variety of amateur radio in space interests from the construction and launch of the new Microsats through Microsat ground operations, other satellite ground operations, Phase IV (amateur geo-synchronous transponder project), distributed engineering efforts and lessons, and advanced concepts. In the coming years, AMSAT may be involved in the World Space Foundation Solar Sail Project, various Lunar Polar Orbiter proposals, and a tethered satellite experiments package (from Marshall Spaceflight Center) along with more transponders and amateur communications payloads. Bill Brown, WB8ELK, also presented videos of recent amateur radio balloon flights.

AMSAT now has a professional General Manager, Doug Loughmiller, KO5I, who continues to serve as AMSAT-NA President in a volunteer capacity. Two of the more important of Doug's many duties will be to reinvigorate fund raising efforts (much of which may occur outside of amateur radio) and make more effective use of the AMSAT base of talented volunteers with an eye toward decreasing the burnout rate.

At the Board of Directors meeting held on Sunday, an extremely serious issue was brought up. A World Administrative Radio Conference is going to be held in 1992 during which there will be a unified effort (mostly from Region 1) to re-allocate all frequencies from 100 MHz to 3 GHz on a worldwide basis. This would result in the complete loss of six amateur bands, most of which contain amateur satellite allocations (currently the most important ones). The danger has to do with the way that voting is conducted and the way that the various member countries, particularly the block in Europe, are organized to vote together. AMSAT and the ARRL are both working to prepare for this event. A frank discussion of the issue was held with attendees from Regions 1 and 3 who are also very concerned.

Although we have many internal spectrum allocation and regulation problems within amateur radio, the entire group of amateurs worldwide unified in this battle might not be enough to preserve any of the threatened frequencies. It is certainly time to redirect our attention from internal squabbles to the external danger. Amateur radio must be perceived by the administrations of the world as intrinsically valuable and indispensable in terms of education, operator training, public service, and the other purposes for which our privileges exist, not just a preserve for spectrum waiting to be allocated to profitable services or a place for people who have passed a Morse Code test to call CQ DX. Without this recognition, spectrum may be allocated on a bottom line dollar basis and if that happens amateurs will lose outright.

We must each strive to actually make amateur radio valuable in each of these areas. AMSAT is one of the big leaders in this.

Candidates for the 1990 AMSAT Symposium are Ogden, Utah; Denver, Colorado; Houston, Texas; and L. A. If the L. A. group gets the nod, perhaps we can arrange for tours or other facilities here at the Lab.

There was much talk about upcoming manned space activities. Flights STS-35 and STS-37 next year have amateur radio operator crew members and SAREX (Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment) equipment manifested. STS-35, now scheduled for late April will feature FM voice and packet. STS-37 will also have ATV and SSTV modes. W6VIO may be called upon to relay signals or data to and from classrooms from the Shuttle for each of these missions. Contact Stan Sander, N6MP, for more info.

W6VIO is also participating in the Launch Information Network for the Ariane V-36 Microsat/SPOT 2 launch now scheduled for 19 January 90. Contact Mark Schaefer, WB6CIA, to participate.

73, Courtney, N5BF
AMSAT-NA V.P. Operations
JPL M/S 238-600

Walt Diem pointed out that the priorities might be rearranged to speed completion of the distributed repeater system under development for some time. There was some discussion of moving an isolator from VIO to IEA, with the penalty of requiring lower power on VIO. Jim Kesterson suggested that we actually need two isolators, as VIO's has a problem. Walt Mushagian pointed out that we need lightning protection

Mark Schaefer gave the education committee report, noting that the question pools for some license classes are now changed under the new Part 97 rules.

John Tallon announced (again) that the election committee is Mark Schaefer, Sid Johnson, and Jerry Hawkes. The committee is to present a slate of candidates for each office at the December 13 meeting. If only one candidate stands for an office, election will take place at the meeting. Otherwise, the election will be by mailed ballot.

Other announcements:

[Mark Schaefer]
Upcoming contests: ARRL Sweepstakes Nov. 18-19, ARRL 10m Contest Dec. 9-10 .

[Phil Smith]
The upcoming STS-37 shuttle flight will be piloted by a ham. JPL has been chosen as one of a few uplink sites for fast-scan amateur TV. We may also be a downlink site. This is a good opportunity for favorable exposure of amateur radio in education. Interested volunteers should contact Phil. Peter McClosky suggested involving Educational Outreach.

[Don Ritchie]
Harry WB6UHR/XE2GHT is operating DX from Baja California. Contact Don for schedule details.

[Peter McClosky]
Volunteers are needed for educational programs in which lab personnel are interviewed via amateur radio.

[Rick McKinney]
We are awaiting delivery of QSL cards. QSL operations are now off-lab so non-JPL personnel can assist. A QSL party will be held in a couple of weeks. There will be a door prize for the first twenty volunteers.

[Walt Diem]
Volunteer operators are needed for the Tournament of Roses parade. There will be three shifts beginning December 31.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55.

Steve Jenkins N6UNI
Acting Secretary

Traditions of Christmas mean many things to different people. To me it means no DIET so I will share some of my favorite recipes.

SNICKERDOODLES

A favorite of young and old, fun to say, to sniff and to eat!

Mix together thoroughly...
1 cup soft shortening
1 1/2 cups sugar
2 eggs

Sift together and stir in...
2 3/4 cups sifted flour
2 tsp. cream of tartar
1 tsp. soda
1/2 tsp. salt

Chill dough. Roll into balls the size of small walnuts. Roll in mixture of 2 tbsp. sugar and 2 tsp. cinnamon (colored sugar is fun too) Place about 2" apart on ungreased baking sheet. Bake until lightly brown but still soft. Temp. 400 degrees, time 8 to 10 min. Makes about 5 doz. 2 inch cookies. EAT and ENJOY!!

Here is a different kind of pumpkin pie!

CRUSTLESS PUMPKIN PIE—recipe make 2-9inch pies
Crust-butter pie plate; pour in some cornmeal, tip plate around until it is well coated with cornmeal. Dump out the excess.

Filling—		2 cups pumpkin (canned)
		2 eggs
Mix		2 Tbsp. flour
Thoroughly		1 cup sugar
		3/4 tsp. sat
		2 tsp cinnamon
		1 1/2 cup evaporated milk (straight from can)

Add 1/2 c. water

Mix well and pour in pie pan. Bake at 400 degrees for approximately 30-40 minutes or until custard test done.

EGGNOG BANANA BREAD: A Gift for those who have everything.

1/2 c. butter, softened
3/4 c. sugar
1 egg
2 tsp. pure vanilla extract
2 c. flour
1/2 c. vacuum packed wheat germ, regular
3 tsp. baking powder
3/4 tsp. salt
1 c. dairy eggnog
1 c. finely mashed bananas

Beat together butter and sugar until fluffy. Beat in egg and vanilla. Mix flour, wheat germ, baking powder and salt. Stir into batter mixture alternately with eggnog. Fold in bananas. Turn into greased and floured 8 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 2 1/2 -inch glass loaf pan. Bake in 350 degree oven 1 hour 10 minutes or until pick inserted into center comes out dry. Cool 10 minutes in pan then remove from pan to cool on rack. Makes 1 loaf.

HEAVENLY HAMBURGER—A heavenly casserole.

1 lb. ground beef
1 sm. onion (diced)— 1 clove garlic (minced)
1 tsp. salt— 1 tsp. sugar
2 cans (8 oz.) tomato sauce
1 pkg. (3 oz.) cream cheese
1 c. sour cream— 1 cup grated cheddar cheese
Egg noodles (small pkg.)
chives

Break up meat and brown diced onion, add garlic, salt, sugar and tomato sauce. Cook slowly 15 min. Cook noodles and drain. Chop chives and mix with sour cream and cream cheese. Layer in casserole: noodles, meat sauce, sour cream mixture and top with grated cheese. Bake at 350 degrees until mixture bubbles (approx. 25 min.).

A POEM FOR THE HOLIDAYS—

BLESSED CHRISTMAS SEASON

By Ben Burroughs

Holly wreaths and sprigs of pine...dot each windowpane...carols echo on the wind...each a sweet refrain...stores aglow with gifts for all...children hope and dream...warm and treasured memories...drift along life's stream...tender smiles are everywhere...this is a blessed time.. and it is a thrill to hear...happy church bell chime...Christ was born in Bethlehem...years and years ago... and we pay Him homage...with the joy we sow...wondrous season of good will...when the world seems gay...then the great fulfillment...that comes with Christmas Day.

Dear Eileen: Bless your heart and happy holidays to you and your family. You have done a beautiful job as Editor and I send my praise and thanks. As you can see I have sent along a few Christmas goodies to share.

I Think you have created your own traditions with this newsletter. CONGRATULATIONS!

Love to you and thank you!
Fae Lumsden XYL WA6MYJ

That's all folks!!!

Happy T-day.

Dear KA6DGV (Eileen),

Could you possibly publish this in one of your(our) VIO CALLING~ to make fellow club members aware of the status of "NA3XT".

The NASA Emergency station in the basement of Building 171, from my understanding this station has been defunct for quite some time. I went down to eyeball this station and see what it was all about. Seeing that it was Collins Equipment I naturally felt right at home with the equipment, having run a Collins S-line while in the Marine Corps back in '69 thru '71 on Okinawa. After having looked thru all the stations records and finding the schedules used to be the first Wednesday of the month @ 1900Z(Noon)on 6.982.5 and 14.455MHZ, I thought I'd give-it-a-try. So back on the 7th of December 1988 I came up on 6.982.5MHZ. Having heard absolutely nothing I went over to 14.455MHZ and called QRZ DE NASA Emergency station on SKED, having been answered by a station with the call sign of NNNØBBXT- who was Brent in Wyoming representing a Navy/Marine Corp Mars station in emergency operations schedule. Brent checked his records and had told me that the NASA Frequency listed per his records was 14.456MHZ. But no indications of any time or dates. So I thanked him very much and having heard no other stations I signed and went back to work on my job. Shortly thereafter I received a call in my office Via FTS from a Claude West-AC6N from Ames-Moffit Field. Claude told me he had heard of me checking and inquiring about the NASA net. He then had also told me that it has been defunct for years--and that he also was going to try and resurrect it. So as it stands to date, he calls me via FTS every month on the day of the sked. to remind me to check in at noon. Now we've only been able to meet on the air once--on 5th of April, 1989. I tried on the 3rd of May with no response than again on the 7th of June with no response; either propagation is not permitting our contacting or he's not showing up for some reason(on both frequencies). Ames Research Center, NASA is NA3XG, JPL's is NA3XT.

Until next month--thats the current situation.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Fesler, KA6TCL