

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

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".

Neptune Encounter QSL Update

Everything is moving forward smoothly in preparation for sending out the Neptune Encounter QSL cards.

Jan N6USE reports that the QSL card art work has been finished by graphics and submitted to the printer. Delivery of the finished QSL cards was quoted on Oct 1 as six weeks to three months. Thanks to Jan for getting this important task done.

All contacts from the Encounter have either been logged into the computer data base or are in process (I Hope, see note below). Thanks to Jeff N6TJO, Skip W6PAJ, Mark WB6CIA, Gerry KB6OOC, Jim WA6MY, Kent WA6JKM and Nancy KBIGN for helping get those contacts logged.

NOTE: My memory is going bad. In my hurry to get all those log books out for logging of contacts, I LOST (or misplaced) the 40 Meter SSB Log Book. If anyone has it or knows where it is, please let me know.

All QSL requests received have been opened and marked with call sign. They are now in the process of being sorted by call sign. Thanks to Leona KA6RHH, Patti KB6VPO and Larry N6QZI for helping sort these QSL requests.

No word on the status of the picture sets we have been promised for inclusion with QSL card. There will be a lot of envelope stuffing when they arrive.

73, Rick KA6DAN

1989 JDF 10K Walk Report

Many thanks to the Hams that helped on the 1989 Juvenile Diabetes Foundation 10 K walk on Sun Oct 8th. It was held at Griffith Park and things went as smooth as possible but we still had some shortages on cups and water. More than a 1000 walkers turned out.

Thanks again too all— WA6SQF Don, KA6JEX Betty, KA6RHH Leona and her son Patrick, N6QZI Larry, KB6VPO Patty, N6IRZ Bruce, KB6ZMY Jeff, N6MTI Bob.

73s Dick Wetzel WA6JBZ.

DX NEWS

The JPL Amateur Radio Club has subscribed to The DX Bulletin. It is my intent to post copies of this weekly publication on or near the door in our Club Station trailer for all to use. For the next year, my W6VIO Calling article will be based primarily on the contents of this publication. The band conditions at this time are excellent with stations available for QSO's that haven't been heard for 5 to 10 years. Here's what you can look forward to during the next few months:

Juan Fernandez Is. - CE0OGZ frequently appears on 7001 kHz at 0400Z and 1130Z. When I found him, he was calling CQ with no takers!

Laos - XW8PP expects to be active starting 15 October for an undisclosed period of time, probably 2 to 3 weeks.

East Malaysia - 9M6BS will operate here from 16 to 23 November. From here they will move to Brunei from 24 to 27 November, and Hong Kong/Macao from 28 November to 2 December. This group is headed by N200 from the South Jersey DX Association. Also, look for 9M8AX from 30 October to 7 November. Frequencies specified are 3505, 7005, 14025, 21025 and 28028 kHz.

Rotuma Is. - 3D2XV will make his presence known on SSB, all bands, from 14 October to 14 December. This is an already approved new country.

South Shetland Is. - LU1ZA can be worked on the low end of 20 CW from 0100Z. I've heard him at 14017 kHz at that time.

Sudan - ST2/PA0GAM operates on 10, 15, and 20 CW from 1900Z to 2300Z following propagation. He operates 25 kHz up from the low band edge on all those bands.

See you all in the CQ WW SSB Contest on 28/29 October GMT.

Good DX,
Bob, N6ET

HELLO W6VIO CALLING...

Well it is time for an update to the 1989 Field Day activity. I reflect on the FD weekend as one of the highlights of my 1989 ham radio activities. The most important was the addition of a new technician ham in the family, my wife Jan; her call is N6USE. Back to FD, I called Bill Lundt, Contest, at the ARRL HQ the other day and found out where we placed in the 1989 FD standings. Not as well as I had predicted, but a very respectable showing. The details are to be published in the November issue of QST. Our placement was in the 3A category, and we were number 15. I didn't get the detail numbers associated with number one, but our submittal did have a nice growth from the previous year. However, the fact that we actually slid back in placement one or two positions demonstrates the tough competition we were in. We all did an outstanding job and each of us can take pride that we did it, can be proud of the contributions we have made, and be fortunate that the emergency skills that we have demonstrated have not been called upon. I am sure there are many fellow FD amateurs whose emergency radio operating skills are being challenged with the event of hurricane Hugo.

Each year the Radio Club participates in the FD event and it struggles with the difficult choice of "have a good time" and "place", or go for number one. Now that I have vast years of experience, I would encourage the group to maintain the relaxed environment of the event and focus the activity on team work and honing of emergency skills. I passed out an article regarding FD that appeared in World Radio, and it pointed out the extreme need for discipline, training and the dedication it takes to go for that number one position, I am not sure any of us have a home or work environment that permits such dedication. However the thrill of that number one spot entices us all. Maybe there is a bold volunteer to take the leadership of the FD, and set a goal for that number one slot in 1990. Now is the time to activate the process if such an undertaking is to happen. Where are you shining Knight?

For the person who steps forward and volunteers for the FD chairman for the 1990 activity, I have some comments, suggestions, and sympathy to offer.

A list might include:

- Mt. Gleason is a nice place, but the wind is formidable. Find a locale that is convenient, can be used to hype the public, is a good radio location, and allows overnight camping. (Mini JPL open house, radio's and antennas on the mall?) (Sleep(?) at home, more brownie points for a "public" place) (Camp in Oak Grove Park, or at the Oak Grove Forestry?)
- Train operators to use logs and dup sheets, get them to use these "under the gun", or get/develop a LAN/Packet for logging.
- There are over 250 JPL ARC members on the roster list. Guess how many stayed home; guess how many took time to contact the W6VIO stations on each band. (Wow another potential 1000 contacts!) A plan needs to be established to tap these important contacts.
- Shift class of operation to a different class, one with less competition (4a). (Wimpy?)
- It would be nice to get earlier commitments from our members to aid in the conduct of the operation. Last minute is OK, but it would sure be nice to have major assignments filled at least three months prior to the FD.
- Make sure each operator has used the equipment he will operate, or make sure training has happened before FD.
- Coffee available 24hrs, and of course soft drinks!
- Establish a novice and technician CW operation!
- Get modern HF equipment with narrow filters that can operate without intermod!

FD Chairman of FD Past

Don Ritchie, K6PGT

The JPL ARC Membership and Board Meeting was held on 27 September 89 at 12:16 p.m. in 238-543.

The following club members and board members (*) were present:

Jeff Skaletsky, N6TJO, Vice President (*)
 Walt Mushagian, K6DNS, Past President (*)
 Rick McKinney, KA6DAN, Membership
 Stan Sander, N6MP, W6VIO Trustee (*)
 Jim Kesterson, KA6IBF, Treasurer (*)
 Courtney Duncan, N5BF, Secretary (*)
 Steve Jenkins, N6UNI
 John Repar, WA6LWD
 Jim Marr

Vice President Jeff Skaletsky conducted the meeting.

1) Jeff Skaletsky appointed a nominating committee consisting of Jerry Hawkes, Sid Johnson, and Mark Schaefer to prepare a slate of club officers for next year in time for presentation at the November program meeting.

2) Steve Jenkins was appointed secretary for the remainder of the calendar year to complete the term of Courtney Duncan who is resigning at the end of the week. Courtney will assist Steve in the transfer of records, materials, etc.

3) Rick McKinney reported that club membership is around 200. There are 95 club members who are ARRL members. Unless we can get a few more, we will lose our ARRL affiliation 31 October. They require 50% of members be ARRL members for affiliation.

The club has been recognized for official participation in HamCom held during the last weekend in August this year.

Dave Ingram, K4TWJ, Associate Editor of CQ Magazine is planning a series of articles about clubs. The JPL ARC will be one of the clubs featured.

Peter McClosky, N6TGZ, has arranged for 5000 sets of 16 Voyager related pictures to be made available to ship out with the encounter QSLs, along with the necessary larger envelopes and stamps. This will change the QSL processing procedure somewhat.

Rick McKinney solicited assistance in entering the encounter log data into computers for label printing.

Phil Smith is working on editing together a video tape of flyby highlights.

Mark Schaefer is preparing an audio tape of SSTV pictures transmitted during the encounter.

4) Repeater chairman Jan Tarsala, WB6VRN, is asking for \$500 - \$600 for a pass can and FET preamp for the 224.04 repeater. This had been discussed at the noontime repeater meeting yesterday. Rick McKinney pointed out that the repeater was going to be reassembled as before until the new parts arrived so it would not be off the air waiting. Since questions have been raised recently about methods of funding repeater expenses from various club accounts or line items which have not been completely resolved and since Jan was not present at the meeting to make the request in detail, this item was tabled until the next meeting.

5) Last month's action to raise autopatch dues was discussed. As had been discussed then, an increase would only be necessary and effective if the club started having to pay rent on the present repeater site or some other site. Since all club members are able to use the 224.08 repeater, it was decided that any increase in dues would probably effect both membership and autopatch fees. No action was taken.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Courtney Duncan, Secretary

ANGELES CREST CENTURY REPORT Bob Deen, N5DPU

Once again this year, W6VIO club members supported the Angeles Crest Century bike ride on Saturday, September 16. It is really amazing what these riders do - 100 miles through the mountains, and 10,000 feet of total elevation gain.

This year was a little different than most, because it was cold and rainy. Usually, most of the radio traffic is "who has the water". This time, the traffic was more like "who has the trash bags"! Because of the weather, the ride organizers were giving trash bags to most of the riders to wear to keep them from getting hypothermia on the way down. Unfortunately, they didn't know the weather was going to be so cold ahead of time. It was quite a scramble trying to find enough bags!

Other than that, things went pretty smoothly. There were surprisingly few accidents with the wet roads. One guy was airlifted out, but that was mainly just a precautionary measure.

It's quite a challenge maintaining radio communications in the mountains. Of the five checkpoints, most could talk to only one or two other checkpoints, so relaying of messages was quite important. The station at the top of the course was able to hear three of the four other stations, so that helped considerably. With Dick Wetzel's beam pointed down the valley most of the day, we were able to maintain coverage for most of the course.

Thanks go to Rick McKinney KA6DAN, Jim Kesterson KA6IBF, Jim Longthorne WA6KPW, Greg DeWit WA6JAD, Dick Wetzel WA6JBZ, JaMi Smith KC6ETJ, and Bob Deen N5DPU for their great help in making this ride a success. It's a great chance to get away from it all for a day and just hang out up in the mountains. I hope to see everyone back next year!

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From: Slava Prokudin
Box 19
Vulkaneshty, 278810
USSR

To: W6V10 JPL ARC
J HOLLADAY, 4800 OAK GROVE RD.
PASADENA, CA 91103, USA
also to: W5RRR JSC ARC
W5ORE Tony England
W5LFL Owen L. Garriot

Dear Friends!

I'm, Slava Prokudin RO5OC, and my friend Igor Ustimenko UO5OAS - professional amateurs. We mean, that both are engineers and professional education in the field of communication.

Having friends in the USA we read and heard a lot about you. We know that you have the amateur radio licences, we would like to propose you to celebrate one modest event altogether. You know, that the first cosmonaut on the Earth Yuri Gagarin in 12 apr. 1961 flight into Space. He has been launched into Space from the Baykonur cosmodrome. As you see, we want to celebrate that outstanding and remarkable date in the human history altogether with you in 1991. It would be tremendous, if you can all come to over here to the USSR and to work on the air with the special callsign with us from the Baykonur cosmodrome. It can happen a noneasy business.

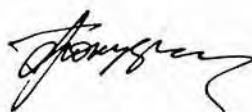
We wrote to Mussa Manarov, who has worked with U2MIR callsign a few month ago, with the question if he can help us. Now we are waiting for his answer.

If you agree in general, please answer us, and we will try to solve this problem together. We would like to meet you and to speak as amateurs. Certainly we wish to give the whole world an opportunity to feel once again the great meaning of the first man flight into outer space.

Waiting for your reply. Sincerely yours: RO5OC and UO5OAS

30.09.89

GL: 73;



VIA RICK KALDAN

CLASSIFIED ADS

Hallicrafter Receiver Call Bob Frazer 4-303.

WANTED: Copy of the Manual for the Yaesu
YO-100 Monitor Scope. Call Jerome Hawkes,
W6WXL X42542 or (818) 286-2464.

W6VIO

Thanks for the great QSOs and the super pictures from Voyager's flyby of Neptune! I shot 20 pictures off the screen, and will be including them in one of my upcoming CQ Magazine "World of Ideas" columns featuring SSTV today. You did a tremendous job. An absolute blowout success!

As you may remember, I have been with W6VIO and the Voyager mission ever since it left Earth...on every planet's flyby and have assured you received due recognition every time. This will be no different. Anxious to see your QSL and photos!

73,

Dave K4TWJ

Dave Ingram, K4TWJ
2028 Brandywine Ct.
Birmingham, AL 35216

Asso. Ed, CQ mag.