

W6VIO CALLING

JUNE



JUNE 1990 Volume 19 No. 6

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

BOARD

PRESIDENT: MARK SCHAEFER WB6CIA
VICE PRES: BILL MORRIS KB6VGW
SECRETARY: SID JOHNSON WB6VWH
TREASURER: JIM KESTERSON KA6IBF
CLUB TRUSTEE: STAN SANDER N6MP
EMERGENCY COMM COORD: WALT MUSHAGIAN K6DNS
DIRECTOR AT LARGE: JOHN TALLON N6OMB

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

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

Altadena, 6 May 1990

Five JPL ARC members and one "harmonic" provided communication services for The Boston Street Tea Party. The party which provided tours of several Boston Street homes and other activities was arranged by the Altadena Guild of the Huntington Memorial Hospital to raise funds for the Huntington Medical Research Institutes. Eileen McKinney, KA6DGV, John McKinney, N6AVW, second harmonic Matthew, Connie Morris, KA6JAM, George Morris, W6ABW, and Dick Mathison, KG6Y coordinated shuttle bus operation that transported patrons between two parking lots and the party. Simplex mode on 223.4 MHz worked well because the distances were less than one mile and the terrain relatively flat. In spite of the record high temperature there were no emergencies and operations were routine. KA6DGV and Matthew also operated the information booth for most of the day.

Dick Matheson, KG6Y

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

1990 Membership cards have been mailed to all paid up members. Please check your card for accuracy, IF you find any errors or omissions, report it to:
Rick McKinney, M/S 168-327, Ext 4-3968.

Renewal notices have been sent to '89 members that haven't sent in their 1990 dues. PLEASE return your dues as soon as possible. IF you got a notice by mistake, report it to:
Rick McKinney, M/S 168-327, Ext 4-3968.

You have been dropped from the club roster IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE a membership or renewal notice. To get reinstated or correct an error, PLEASE contact: Rick McKinney, M/S 168-327, Ext 4-3968.

We Currently have 160 paid up members for 1990, including 8 new novices.

Rick McKinney KA6DAN

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
by Mark M. Schaefer WB6CIA

If you're reading this you should have received a Field Day package by now. This package tells you everything you need to know. Well almost everything, you'll just have to show up to find out what you won't be missing. There is still time to volunteer for helping out with the cooking or transportation. The JPL Club will need all the help it can muster to use W6VIO for FD otherwise the Beliflower ARA will be using WA6SFM from Mt. Gleason so come support your respective club. The only guarantee is fun for all for whatever reason you come to enjoy this annual outing.

SAREX

At this writing STS-35 Challenger with WA4SIR Ron Parise is due to be launched in August. There are a number of ham radio activities on STS-35 which JPLARC is taking part. The Shuttle Audio is being retransmitted as usual for the entire mission on the W6VIO repeater on 224.04 MHz FM. Up to the minute information on the Shuttle schedule and location will be relayed from W6VIO on or close to 21.280 MHz, 3.840 MHz, 14.290 MHz, 28.325 MHz, and 7.185 MHz, depending on band conditions and availability of operators. We will be beaming Japan and Australia using SSB. The W6VIO packet radio station will be attempting to connect to the WA4SIR-1 packet radio robot for a QSO. If all goes well teachers Owen Robins and David Reeves will be using the WB6IEA autopatch repeater to connect to a phone bridge with Australian Hams making a phonepatch to the Shuttle Astronauts. With this arrangement, school kids in the Los Angeles Area will be using a 220 Hand-held to talk directly to the Shuttle Astronauts. If this all goes well we may even try SSTV and ATV contacts with the Shuttle for STS-37.

REPEATER

As soon as the SAREX operations are complete, our attentions will be focused on getting the new repeater system on the air. Before we can officially open the new repeater for business we have to provide a user guide to every member of the club. A more extensive guide will be given to the Autopatch Members. The First Phase will be to install the New Repeater with the old system as an offline backup. New features will be provided to the general membership as soon as the control operators decide that they are useful features and not bugs. The Repeater coverage will be increased with the installation of a remote voting receiver atop the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Future systems are planned to link the Table Mtn. systems as soon as we locate a site that can reach both Table Mtn and JPL without interfering with co-channelled systems. Linking with Cal-Tech repeaters in any effective manner is unlikely for FY90. So if you get on the club repeaters and your touchtone codes don't seem to work, ask for a control operator, you may be talking on a new box.

NEW HAMS

We have generated a plethora of new hams Thanks to Ted Pfeiffer, Peter McClosky, Walt Mushaglan and others with the Novice Classes at Clark School. Congratulations to one and all. To welcome these new hams into our midst Jerry Hawks and Jon Adams are preparing a guide to help everyone get acquainted with the services of the club. This will deal mainly on how to use all the equipment in the shack. As for the mike fright or key fright that normally accompanies a new licensee any of us will be more than happy to personally come down to the shack and give you the necessary spark or kick in the pants whatever. One of the easiest ways is to show up at one of these many special events and watch the action.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

I would like to thank David Guterrez and Ralph Cooper for the excellent program on the ARES/RACES/DCS organizations. Many

members of the club became interested enough to want to join these groups so they can help out in a disaster. If you would like to be involved with organizations in Los Angeles Area contact Sergeant Larry Bryant of the Temple City Sheriff Station at 213-267-2521. Steve Jenkins has written an excellent guide to help our club know our duties when an emergency occurs here on lab. A copy to all club members will be out soon. This plan will also have a yearly supplement to update the information as changes occur. Remember the life you save may be my own!

FOR SALE - Crank up tilt over 35 ft. Tower with rotator (needs new rotor cable) call George Warner 818-797-2237 evenings.

DX NEWS
By Bob Polansky, N6ET

There is still a reasonable amount of activity on the HF bands, but I fear that the prophets who predicted the peak of the current sunspot cycle to have been last November may have been right. The bands don't appear to me to be as good as they were back then. None the less, there are a few items of interest and a firm ed up operation which may take place prior to your getting this bulletin. Let's hope not! Again, thanks to the "The DX Bulletin", this month's hopefuls follow:

Conway Reef - 3D2AM will operate from this new country between 18 and 27 May. This will be the first operation from here since the Reef was given "country status". OPERATORS ARE ON THE WAY!

Europa - Look for FR5AI/E at 14008 kHz from 1220 to 1420Z. He should be active through early June.

Kerguelen - FT5XA is quite active from 1200 to 1400Z on 14193 kHz. Look for him on the long path just west of south.

Marion Island - ZS8MI has a new operator, ZS5AEN. He should be there for a year. No reports of times and frequencies yet.

Saudi Arabia - HZ1AB has been worked at 14214 kHz at 1405Z. The nicest part is that he has a stateside QSL Manager who returns cards fast.

Seychelles - S79FT who is DL7FT in disguise, is active and has been reported on 21005 kHz at 2315Z. There is no indication of how long he will be there.

Sudan - As usual, there continue to be reports of Sudanese operation with G4WYG/ST2, ST2/WZ6C, and PA0GAM/ST2 leading the list. I'm still looking at the times and frequencies listed and have heard nothing. One day, I'll get lucky!

Walvis Bay - ZS9A has been active on 7002 kHz at 0330Z. This is the first appearance of this country known, at least to me, on cw.

That's enough for May. Best of luck in the pileups.
73,
Bob, N6ET

WANTED
Good Brass Racer or Bencher paddle. Also, any collectable keys, sounders, etc.
Don Bathker, K6BLG, 238-737, X4-3436
