

Palomar Amateur Radio Club

Volume XXXII No. VIII

August 2005

August Meeting
Wednesday, August 3,
7:30pm
Transmitter Hunting

Note New Location

Foothill Oak Elementary School,
 1370 Oak Drive (corner of Oak and Foothill) in Vista.
 Talk-in will be on the 146.730 MHz repeater.

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President's Message

This August, we find ourselves in the middle of the Fire Season. We have done our best to prepare our Public Service members for community service with the Red Cross, ARES, RACES, etc.

The latest installment was a very good program on the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, presented by Jerry Kostro, AK6QJ. Jerry presented an EmComm (Emergency Communications) Primer for those new to public service. If you missed this program, but have a chance to hear Jerry give it again, take that chance.

Now it is time for some fun. The August 3rd program will be on Transmitter Hunting, and will be presented by Stan Rohrer, W9FQN. T-Hunting was chosen to help prepare us for the T-Hunt at the Annual

PARC Picnic on August 28th, at San Dieguito County Park, 1628, Lomas Santa Fe Drive, in Del Mar. T-Hunting is both an art and a science.

The art comes into play with the skills and techniques used by individuals to get the most out of their T-Hunting equipment, whether a basic hand-held, or an elaborated automatic direction finder.

Science comes into play on both the technique, and the equipment (what makes it work that way???). T-hunting is a useful skill for all HAM's, whether for recreation, like at the picnic, trying to find that peski stray noise in your ham shack, or locating that microphone with a stuck key (no, that has never hap-



pened to mee....). Anyway, this program is a chance to learn how to do something both fun and useful.

Looking down the road... PARC annual Picnic, on August 28th, at San Dieguito County Park. Program on Microwave/ Amateur TV in September, by Art McBride. The Annual PARC auction in October (get you treasures/boat anchors ready).

(Continued on page 4)

Work Party Update

August 6th Work Party. Meet at 9am at Mother's Kitchen for breakfast, socializing, and pre-planning session.

What: Repeater Site Maintenance

When: Each Saturday following the general club meeting from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon.

Where: Meet at Mother's Kitchen restaurant. Bring water, sunscreen, bug spray, and whatever else you think you will need. There is no running water or toilet facility at the repeater site.

How: Work may include raking, shoveling, organizing, trouble-shooting, planning, pounding nails, hauling stuff away, thinking, pondering, talking, lifting, pushing, pulling, and other organized chaos. Work may be inside one of the buildings or outside on the site, but generally work parties will concentrate on one or the other as to not get in each other's way.

(Continued on page 2)

(Work Party Continued from page 1)

Why: Volunteering for a work party is worth two participation points to the club. Volunteering your time to help maintain the repeater site is greatly appreciated as it makes a huge difference to the vitality and effectiveness of our local amateur radio community.

Contact Michelle w5nyv@amsat.org for more information.

P.A.R.C. Inc (2005 Board)

Pres: Steve Early AD6VI

VP: Dennis Baca KD6TUJ
760.722.0251 KD6TUJ@amsat.org

Sec: Paul Williamson KB5MU

Treas: Jo Ashley KB6NMK
760.741.2560 KB6NMK@amsat.org

Dir#1: Tom Martin KG6RCW

Dir#2: Mark Raptis KF6WTN

Repeater Site:
Michelle Thompson **W5NYV**
858.229.3399 W5NYV@amsat.org

Membership:
Al Donlevy **W6GNI**
760.630.3096 W6GNI@amsat.org

New Member:
John Earnest **KG6EQU.**
858.484.8579 KG6EQU@amsat.org

Repeater Technical:
Mike Doyle **AB6QT**
760.742.1573 AB6QT@amsat.org

Contest Coral

Aug 6 TARA Grid Dip Shindig
Aug 6 Ten-Ten Summer Contest, SSB
Aug 6 Nat'l Lighthouse Weekend
Aug 6 European HF Championship
Aug 6 ARRL UHF Contest
Aug 6 North American QSO Party, CW
Aug 7 RSGB RopoCo 2
Aug 7 SARL HF Phone Contest
Aug 12 NCCC Thursday Sprint
Aug 13 WAE DX Contest, CW
Aug 13 Maryland-DX QSO Party
Aug 20 NCCC Thursday Sprint
Aug 20 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
Aug 20 Keyman's Club of Japan Contest
Aug 20 North American QSO Party, SSB
Aug 20 New Jersey QSO Party
Aug 26 NCCC Thursday Sprint
Aug 27 ALARA Contest
Aug 27 Hawaii QSO Party
Aug 27 SCC RTTY Championship
Aug 27 Romania DX HF Contest
Aug 27 Ohio QSO Party
Aug 28 SARL HF CW Contest
Aug 28 Kentucky QSO Party
Now, there's a list of contests for you! Something for everyone: CW, SSB, Digital, UHF and up plus a few state QSO parties thrown in for good measure. Rule are available in QST, CW, NCJ, and Worldradio. Good luck in the Contest.

73, Harry/W6YOO

PALOMAR ENGINEERS

Box 462222, Escondido, CA 92046

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Our RFI Tip Sheet is free on request.
Our RFI kit keeps RF out of your telephones, TVs, stereo, etc. **Model RFI-4 \$25 + tax + \$6 to ship.**

BALUN KITS

Ferrites slip over coax. Shrink tubing holds them in place. Works from 3.5-60 MHz (Use two kits for 160 m).

Model BA-58 (for RG58, RG8X & similar cables up to 1/4" dia. \$7.50 + tax + \$6 S&H/order

Model BA-8 (for RG-8, RG-213, 9913 and similar cables up to 1/2" diameter. \$15.00 + tax + \$6 S&H/order

TUNER-TUNER

Tune your tuner without transmitting. Save that rig! Just listen to the Tuner-Tuner's noise with your receiver. Adjust your tuner for a null and presto! You have a 1:1 SWR.

Model PT-340 \$99.95 + tax + \$6 S&H

See catalog at www.Palomar-Engineers.com
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760-744-0700

An address to remember:

www.rfparts.com

e-mail: rfp@rfparts.com

Send for your FREE 2004 Catalog or visit our website.

PARC Repeaters

Palomar Mt. Repeaters (W6NWX)

PARC Trustee: AB6QT

*52.680- W6NWX, -0.5 MHz

Autopatches:

146.730-, 147.075+

*147.130+, *447.000-

PKT:

145.050s (PALOMAR/W6NWX -1)

146.700- (Duplex Pkt) PALBBS/EMG

use

145.070/146.7- (W6NWX-3/PALBBS)

ATV"IN":

915 wbfm, 2441.25 wbfm

ATV "Output"

1241.25 MHz am

Intercom:

146.415 PL 79.7 nbfm

Affiliated:

*224.38- & *224.94 KK6KD (HARS)

*447.05- & *145.26 KK6KD (HARS)

*146.175+ N6FQ(Fallbrook ARC)

Linked to

*445.600 MHz (-)

*224.90- WD6HFR (Corvair/220 ARC)

446.14- WB6FMT (123.0) Vista

• = 107.2 Hz PL Tone

Questions

Questions about club policy or for more information can be addresses to:
Email: W6NWX@amsat.org

Committee Chairpersons

ARES Info

ARES Net

Attendance

ATV

Auction

Badges New

Batteries

BBS Monitor

Billing:Ads/etc

Contest Info

Control Ops

Del Mar Fair

Emergency Com Centers

Harry

Dennis V

Field Day

Field Day Tech

Inventory

New Members

Nets

Newsletter

Patch Info

Patch Etronics

Picnic

Power AC/DC

Programs

Publicity

QSL Cards

RACES Info

RED Flag

Repeater Site

SANDARC

Seller Table

Asst.SW Div Dir TBD

Tech Site

Testing VE

Training

Trustee W6NWX

Web

Tony

Dennis S

Al

Art

Tom M

Al

David

Bill B

Lyell

Dennis V

filled

W6YOO

N6KI

TBD

John K

Dennis B

John E

Michelle

Stan R

Jerry H

Mark R

Mike P

Dennis B

Jo A

Steve

Michelle T

Jin /Steve

John K

Mike D

Rusty Massie AA6OM dunedancer@cox.net

Mike D

Paul W

KC6YSP

K7DCG@amsat.org

W6GNI@amsat.org

KC6UQH@amsat.org

KG6RGW@amsat.org

W6GNI@amsat.org

KD6EBYDAT@Gerry.Palomar.

caltech.edu

N6FMK@amsat.org

K6GVM@arrl.net

N6KI@amsat.org

W6NWX@amsat.org

W6YOO@amsat.org

N6KI@amsat.org

WB6IQS@amsat.org

KD6TUJ@amsat.org

KG6EQU@amsat.org

Board Function

W6MYP@amsat.org

W9FQN@amsat.org

WB6FMT@amsat.org

KF6WTN@amsat.org

K6MRP@amsat.org

KD6TUJ@amsat.org

Need Replacement for Merle KR6BT

KB6NMK@amsat.org

AD6VI@amsat.org

W5NYV@amsat.org

NE6O/AD6VI

WB6IQS@amsat.org

AB6QT@amsat.org

W6NWX@amsat.org

AB6QT@amsat.org

www.Palomararc.org

Net Managers

ARES Sun	Dennis	K7DCG
Ham Help Net	David D	KC6YSO@amsat.org
Hiking	Ed	KF6DXX@juno.com
	Glenn P	KE6ZLY@juno.com
MARA	Glenn Jones	KG6JDF@amsat.org
Microwave	Kerry B	
Off Road	Jerry A	jwak6pfp@cts.com
	Dick W	KA7AYTrwillimek@home.com
Sailors	Paul	NN6X@amsat.org
	Rod	AC6V@amsat.org
Traffic SDCTN	Charles	N6TEP cmiele@juno.com
Red Cross Net	Ted	tthompson@s darc.org

(President's Message Continued from page 1)

Other things to be considering: We, as a club, need to look to the future and develop programs to advance the Amateur Radio Art. A club of our size should have an on going effort to improve the skills and knowledge of our members by offering participation in projects and programs that will stretch our imaginations and abilities. It was suggested to me, that we establish a few long-term project that will benefit both the club and that amateur community. Please bring your ideas for projects and programs to my attention.

I had the opportunity to visit the repeater site with Michelle Thompson (W5NYV), our Repeater Site Chairperson. A couple of major projects have been accomplished. The new Storage Container/Workspace has been delivered and a major site clean-up campaign has been conducted. The site appears to be in pretty good shape. Michelle reports, though, that there continue to be projects and opportunities for Club Service at the Site.

Projects include a new roof for one building (possibly two buildings), a power management upgrade, and Tower/Antenna maintenance.

Please see Michelle, W5NYV, for the details on these opportunities.

Finally, I hope to see you all on Wednesday, August 3rd, at our temporary meeting location, **Foothill Oak Elementary School, 1370 Oak Drive (corner of Oak and Foothill) in Vista. Talk-in will be on 146.730.**

Steve Early
AD6VI



Annual PARC Picnic

on August 28th,
San Dieguito County Park,
1628, Lomas Santa Fe Drive, in
Del Mar.

End of 6m Net

After over ten years of operation, the number of checkins to the 6 meter Emergency Net on the PARC repeater has dwindled to the point that it is no longer worth while to operate the Net. I will call the Net through the remainder of July. July 30 will be the last meeting of this Net.

Please make the appropriate changes to:

- List of Nets in the "Scope"
- List of Net Managers in the "Scope"
- Preambles of other Nets

I have enjoyed being Net Manager and Net control for the 6m Emergency Net all these years, but now it is time to move on.
-73
-Dave
-kc6yso

HAM RADIO OUTLET

H
R
O

Tom KM6K
Ron N6OMW
Jose XE2SJB
Bob KA6EKT

KENWOOD
rf CONCEPTS
DIAMOND
US TOWERS
KANTRONICS
YAESU
MFJ, ICOM
BENCHER, Inc.
HUSTLER
COMET
AMERITRON

Astron,
AEA,
OUTBACKER
Larsen Antenas
TEN-TEC
hy-gain, Tri-EX,
cushcraft
and
others too
numerous to
mention!

Drop in to see our display of working equipment.
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Monday thru Saturday
858 560-4900 or toll free **1-800-854-6046**

Dec98

Directions: On 163, take **Clairemont Mesa Blvd.** off ramp to East. Stay in right-hand lane. Turn right at stop light. As you are turning right you can see our beams in the shopping center. Travel 100 yds. on Kearny Villa Rd. and U-turn back to shopping area and **HRO** sign. Be sure to see our equipment in action on **real** antennas.

AUGUST 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Club Meeting	4	5	6 Work Party 10-12
7	8	9	10 Board Meeting	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Picnic	29	30	31			

If you would like to include information for the calendar, please send an email to: **SCOPE@palomararc.org** by the 18th of the month

August 5th-7th Brickyard 400 NASCAR Race Special Event Station
 August 6th-7th ARRL UHF Contest
 August 6th-7th NAQP CW Contest
 August 9th 10am-12pm Work Party
 August 13th-14th Navajo Code Talkers Day Special Event
 August 20th-21st ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
 August 20th-21st NAQP SSB Contest
 August 27th Ohio QSO Party
 August 28th CQC 2005 Summer VHF/UHF QSO Party
 August 29th-Sept 4th Burning Man Special Event Station, <http://burninghams.org/>

PARC NETS

- Sunday** 0830 146.730 ARES
- Sunday** 2045 146.075 MARA Emergency Services
- Monday** 1915 146.730 RACES Sub-Net
- Monday** 2100 146.730 Microwave Net
- Tuesday** 1900 147.130 Red Cross Net
- Tuesday** 2100 146.730 Off-Road Net
- 2nd Wednesday** 2100 146.730 PARC Board Net
- Thursday** 1930 147.075 Young Hams Net
- Thursday** 2100 146.730 Ham Help Net
- Friday** 2100 146.730 Hiker's Net
- Tue/Thu/Sat** 2000 146.730 NTS Traffic Net (SDCTN)

Goodie Givers



KG6RCW Tom
 KD6TR Tom

Club Membership

New Members Joining PARC:
 KG6ZBB, AB4OL, and K5RQ who joined and paid 5 years first off!
 Several reinstatements!

If you are reading this on the web site because you didn't get a SCOPE in the mail - how about joining, or rejoining PARC. The club needs the support of many hams to keep Palomar Mountain repeating back what goes up there! Our membership is still dropping. Bring a friend, and let's sign them up. Maybe too much internet/cell phone competition? But, there are many aspects to ham radio, new ones every year. The digital modes are really neat! How many other hobbies can brag about having their own satellites up?

As a reminder, in accordance with the by-laws, the year for participation points is August 1 through July 31. So, the points for attending the August 4th, 2004 club meeting will be starting points for year 2006. The fold and staple crew will get their points added in 2005, since this newsletter was prepared and mailed July 27th.

Al
 W6GNI

Last Month's Fold & Staple Crew



KR6BT Merle
 KB6NMK Jo & Toby
 KB6YHZ Art KE6DUG
 Rich
 W6GNI Al & Kathy
 W6YOO Harry
 N6UZH Terry & Tyler & Matthew

For Sale

(7.17) FORSALE GENERATOR, \$100 COLEMAN POWERMATE, PULSE-PLUS-1750 ED, W6ABE 760-722-5155

(7.17) (1) Hy-Gain Dynamic Microphone Model # 610. \$30.00 OBO. (1) Realistic Stereo AMP. Model # SA-10. \$15.00 OBO. (1) Frequency-Counter Model # 711 115 VAC or 12VDC \$35.00 OBO.. Please Call Bayard K6GAO 858-755-5507. Thank You.

(7.15) Wanted: CQ Magazine for May 1959. Beg, Borrow, or Buy. Would consider entire year of 59 and possible older issues. Bob Byrnes k6mtt "rbyrnes@pacbell.net"

(6.27) Antique Teleplex Code Machine, Circa 1930/40's, W/paper tapes. Make Offer. Packard Bell Table Top Radio, Circa 1930/40's, uses 6SK7, 6SQ7, 6X5 tubes, \$30.00, 300 Laser Movies, email for a list, first come first sold, \$7.00/each. Contact: Dennis K7DCG, 858-748-9046 or email K7DCG@AOL.com

(6.25) FOR SALE (1) UNIDEN BEAR-CAT SCANNER RADIO BASE Model # BC 890 XLT With antenna and Power supply for AC use. Asking \$100.00 or OBO. FOR SALE (1) UNIDEN BEAR-CAT SCANNER RADIO Model # BC 760 XLT Mobil With antenna and 12VDC Power Cord. Asking \$65.00 or OBO. Please Contact Bayard K6GAO at 858-755-5507.

(6.20) Test equipment including H/P 141 T Spectrum Analyzer, Parts including large spacing variable capacitors, Antennas, Antenna rotators, Tools and more from the Ham Shack of Jim, K6ML. Contact Art, KC6UQH for appointment to see. 760-758-6062 Evenings and week-ends

Personal equipment ads** are free to members and could be "bumped" after 3 mo. Make up your ad like the ones below and send to the email address below **before the 18th of each month.

***Commercial Ads** in big boxes: \$2/col. inch/mo. We will "squash" your copy to the number of inches bought.*

SCOPE@palomararc.org

(6.20) Tempo 2020 with matching VFO and Speaker, includes owners / service manual and other related parts and cables. Asking \$275.00. Alf Pettersen WB6TAW 760.941-2428 or 760.519-9193 - apetter@sbcglobal.net

(6.25) TOWER CRANK UP SELF SUPPORT 54', 4 ELEM 4 BAND BEAM, ROTATOR W/CABLE, K0KOA HAGAR...619-698-7874

Mg HD w/ac adaptor (ideal for portable Packet) \$20.00. Panasonic DT-680 Ci-Amp Music Center w/wireless remote control \$40.00. Panasonic (New-unopened) ST-C30 Super VHS Compact Video Tape \$2.00/ea. VHS (New-unopened) Compact Adaptors to Regular VHS, \$10.00. Yaesu FT-230R Two Meter mobile transceiver w/SS32PL \$50.00, Epson C60 Ink Jet Printer (New - unopened) \$60.00, Avenger 4000 Commercial Alarm System, 2 Sirens, Keypad, 8 PIR's, 1 sonic, \$100.00 OBO, 13 inch Sony Industrial color monitor Model PVM-1390 \$40.00, International Audio/Video Studio Processor for Duplicating \$50.00, Powertrac Bionix 3/4 Hp Treadmill \$40.00, Celestron C-8 Catadioptric Telescope w/heavy duty Tripod, numerous eyepieces including X2 Barlow Lens with planetary clock drive \$800.00. Contact Dennis K7DCG, 858-748-9046 or email K7DCG@AOL.COM

(4.20) I have a TS 940S that needs a good home. Has the CW filter and comes with a Shure 444D mic for \$500.00. Original box and manual and has been in storage for the last 11 years. Also have a 2 meter handy talkie, IC2AT with drop in charger for \$50.00. Nice deal for someone that needs them. Paul Wood , KA5STX , 619-445-7933

(3.20) For Sale. HP 5105A Freq. Synthesizer w/5110B Driver. Output from 100 KHz to 500 MHz in 0.1 Hz steps w/manual \$395. Richard- W6RLC 619-224-9900

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20585 Camino Del Sol Unit B (909)653-8868
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www.niclady.com email: niclady@niclady.com

(5.20) For sale: Palomar Engineers LA-1 Loop Amplifier with Omega (10khz-40khz), LF (150khz-500khz), and BCB (500khz-1600khz) loops. \$200.00. (Other loops are available from Palomar Engineers) Bob, KY6P, 619-318-2217.

(5.20) Tempo S-2 (220 Mhz) Handheld with SS-32 PL & DTMF built in. With Charger \$50.00. Galaxy Electronics PR550 Phone Patch \$20.00. Panasonic KX-F155 Combo FAX/Answering Machine \$30.00. Texas Instrument TI-2000 AT Slim Line Laptop w/3.5 disc drive 20

Help Wanted

My father is house bound on oxygen due to emphysema and his only connection with the world is through his computer and ham radio. He hasn't had his antenna up for over 4 years because we were living in a condo and they did not allow it. We recently moved to a single story house located in Oceanside near Camp Pendleton so finally he can have his antenna. Now he is just too weak to put it up and I don't think I can do it by myself. Is there any one out there who can help us get this antenna up? We would truly appreciate it if a couple strong volunteers.

Thank you

AA7RE,s Daughter

Lori

Call my cell 949-400-6053 or my dad's

phone 760-722-8424

1416 San Simeon Street

Oceanside CA 92054

Web Pages

PARC's Home Page -

<http://www.palomararc.org>

Rod's - AC6V

<http://www.ac6v.com>

ARES Alert Publication

<http://sanarrrl.org/alert.htm>

Tom's Hiker's - KF6PAZ

<http://www.fanciful.org/san-diego-hiker>

Echolink

<http://www.echolonk.org>

IRLP

<http://www.irlp.net>

The Friday "Lunch Bunch" de KA6K

www.KA6K.com

Handy URLs for HFers

HF Beacons from around the world (on the same frequency for each band)

<http://www.ncdxf.org/Beacon/intro.html>

Current Solar Reports

<http://www.wm7d.net/hamradio/solar/index.shtml>

<http://www.wn6k.cts.com/>

DX Packet Cluster Spots via telnet (N70D in Hemet is a good one)

<http://www.cpcug.org/user/wfedit/Misc/cluster.html>

World wide DX Spots

<http://oh2aq.kolumbus.com/dxs/>

Latest DX Operations

<http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Contest Calendar and Rules, required reports, etc

<http://home.online.no/~janalme/hammain.html>

Six Meter Beacons Map

<http://www.qsl.net/k9mu/map.html>

Much more on HF and DXing - Nets, Maritime Mobile, DX Nets, Prefixes, Distance and beam headings

<http://ac6v.com/dx.htm>

Rod, AC6V

Treasurer \$\$\$

Jo Ashley KB6NMK@amsat.org

June 30, 2005

Checking	\$521.62
CD	\$2,739.17
CD	\$3,458.48
CD	\$2,893.61
CD	\$2,893.44
Post Office	\$98.51
Total	\$12,604.98
Pre-paid Dues	\$6,962.00
Property Ins.	\$2,400.00
Total	\$9,362.00
Equity	\$3,242.98
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$12,604.98

PARC Testing

Carlsbad - 2nd. Saturday at 9:30 am in the Fire Station @ the Carlsbad Safety center.

Contact - Rusty Massie

AA6OM

760-747-5872

dunedancer@cox.net

EARS Testing

Escondido - LAST Saturday at

9:00 am Fire Station #1

Escondido Fire Department

310 North Quince Street

Escondido, CA 92025

Contact Harry **W6YOO**

760-743-4212 or

W6YOO@amsat.org

Register 5-7 days in advance for tests.

10 Meter Net

Monday - Friday

8:00 pm Local time

28.340

WA9MTP Dennie in Vista is net

-People Helping People -

July 17, 2005

It did not take a catastrophic event for Amateur Radio to make a difference in my day.

Let me give you a bit of background before I launch in to my happily ever after story. My name is Christy and I am married to Tom aka KG6RCW (an avid Ham). For about the last year I have been dragging my feet about getting my Technicians Licenses. That is about to all change. The Amateur Radio Operators and the RED EYE NET -146.985, on July 15, 2005 @11pm have no idea that this occurred. Here is my story.

After spending a week in Denver, Colorado with my longtime friend and her eight week old colicky baby all I wanted was to see my husband and sleep in my own bed. As I drove the seemingly endless miles I would occasionally spin the "icom" dial for conversations I could listen to. It was pretty slim pickin's most of the trip but somewhere between Las Vegas and Barstow I was able to get the 146.985 machine. This turned out to be the best thing since sliced bread that night.

At eleven o'clock pm, The Red Eye Net came on. Anne (N6BOP) was leading the group. The net was a buzz about the heat wave blanketing the area and the breaking news of a Hi-Jacked Semi truck in the Los Angeles area. As the net continued the participants gave updates of the truck and the law enforcements attempts to stop the vehicle. Listening intently as the saga unfolded through the radio, I realized that the truck was no longer in the Los Angeles area. The truck was headed East on the 10 highway. Not a major concern to my travels at that point but I did flash on the fact that they were closing large portions of the roads to lessen the traffic flow in certain areas.

As I continued south on I-15 listening to the net I contemplated my options. My first option was I-15 Straight through to San Diego, 2nd option was the 60/215 connector with all the construction and delays. After driving nine hours at that point the I-15 was my logical choice. As luck would have it 4 miles north of the 15/215 split an update came across the net that the truck was now leaving the 10 highway and headed south on I-15. So much for option #1. Quickly realizing that the 15/215 split was rapidly approaching, I made one stealth like move (hard to do in a vehicle the size of a bus) changed lanes and made the 215. I was destined to sleep in my own bed that night.

I tell this story with humor not trying to make light of a life threatening tragedy that was unfolding on the

Highway but to point out that as we go through our day to day lives seldom are we aware that we are

making a positive difference in peoples lives. The Red Eye Net made a difference that night.

I'll wrap this up by saying I have a new vigor in studying for my license. The shear frustration of not

being able to pick up the microphone and tell Anne and the rest of the net thank you, has stoked my "Amateur Radio" fire. Thank you and keep up the great work!

73 & 88

Christy Martin

Flying Samaritans

Flying Samaritans organization, who run free Health and Eye clinics in Mexico, is looking for computers.

If your company or anyone you know is upgrading and has Pentium III or equivalent/better computers and want to donate them to a good cause (you will get a letter for tax write off), please let me know.

Working monitors, keyboards, mouse, printers with the computer also appreciated.

73, Dennis Vernacchia N6KI

Amateur to Civilian Radio Communications - No. 001

By Kurt Barnhart, N6MD@arrl.net

From time to time, especially during public events, emergencies and disasters, it's useful for ham radio operators to communicate with unlicensed civilians over the air. During the 70's and 80's (although we hated to admit it) some of us did this on 11 meters. Today, the 27 MHz CB craze is long gone and there are now better ways to stay in touch with non-hams.

This article is the first in a series where we'll discuss how amateurs can communicate over the radio waves with friends, family members, co-workers and neighbors who don't have the time or temperament to study theory and/or code for an amateur radio technician, general or extra class license. The following is an introduction to the topics we'll discuss in more detail in the future. Please send your comments and questions about these subjects to N6MD@arrl.net and we'll respond to you in a future article.

FRS (Family Radio Service) -- Many people don't realize that those little \$20 radios that you buy in bubble packs at Costco, Target, Walmart and elsewhere are actually part of the Citizens Band Radio Services, authorized under FCC Parts 95.191 through 95.194. FRS was created in 1996 and operates on 14 prescribed UHF channels between 462.5625 MHz and 467.7125 MHz with an ERP of one-half watt or less using frequency modulation (F3E with filtering),

FRS is intended for use by family, friends and associates to communicate within neighborhoods and on group outings over a range of less than a mile. No license is required to transmit a half watt or less on the FRS channels 1 through 14 (unless you are a representative of a foreign government). FRS radios may not be connected to external antennas of any kind, power amplifiers or other apparatus or the public switched telephone network. Repeaters are not permitted on FRS channels. The history of FRS is an interesting story that we'll share in a later article.

GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service) -- Starting about two years ago, the FRS bubble pack radios on the shelves in the warehouse clubs and discount stores were slowly replaced by combination FRS/GMRS radios with more channels and a little more power on channels 1 through 7 and 15 through 22 (up to five watts permitted on an HT). What most buyers didn't realize

is that if they used any of the channels above channel 14, they were required to pay the FCC an \$80 fee for a five-year license, so there are now literally millions of people operating unlicensed GMRS radios in violation of FCC rules. This development was very unpopular with the GMRS community that had been conducting licensed operations for many years, because many foul-mouthed adolescents now began using GMRS frequencies without a license.

Authorized under FCC Part 95.1 through 95.181, GMRS permits the use of duplex operation and repeaters on eight specific channel pairs. It also allows external gain antennas (mobile or base) and a power output of up to 50 watts in a mobile or base station on the eight GMRS-only channels on 462.550 MHz through 462.725 (channels 15-22 on most combo radios). Licensed GMRS operators may also transmit 5 watts on the shared FRS/GMRS channels (1 through 7 on most FRS and combo radios).

Essentially, GMRS FM phone works and propagates just like FM phone on the 70cm (440MHz) amateur band, but generally has more restrictions than amateur radio, except that family business communications are permitted on GMRS. If you own a 70cm (UHF) ham repeater, it's often possible to retune it to work on GMRS (UHF) and vice versa.

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be on the 146.730 MHz repeater.

