

ORCA NewsLetter

Oakland Radio Communication Association
Oakland, California

November 4, 2006

The next meeting will be the Annual Simulated Emergency Test on the first Saturday, November 4. Around 8:45 AM a QST on the WB6NDJ Repeater, 146.88 minus PL 77, will open the exercise.

Special points of interest:

- Holiday Party Date and Location
- SET Information

Net Control:

- Nov 9: Adele KE6HKY
- Nov 16: Dave AE6PX
- Nov 23: Thanksgiving
- Nov 30: Adele KE6HKY
- Dec 7: Tom KG6MAC
- Dec 14: Adele KE6HKY
- Dec 21: David WB6NER
- Dec 28: Karen KG6ADB

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Practice your radio skills on the weekly nets—see page 4.

President's Corner

Spring forward and Fall back, or is it Fall back and Spring forward? Hey, wait a minute! Those are the same things! By the time we read this, we will have reset all our clocks, recorders, timers, wristwatches and ovens. Our internal clock is a little tougher to adjust, as we well know! One night you may be outside enjoying a beautiful autumn sunset and the next night, at the very same time, it is pitch dark. One morning you stumble out of bed in darkness and the next morning the rays of the sun roust you out of your slumber. I understand that next year Daylight Saving Time will be extended from mid-March through the first week of November. There is a reason for this extension, yet despite all the tweaking and twiddling of human time-keeping de-



vices, the tilt of the earth and the angle of the sun will always ensure the amount of daylight we receive will vary with the months.

The changing of the clocks is also a great time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and do a test run. And, if you do not have a smoke detector, it is a good time to get one.

They are inexpensive, easy to maintain, and invaluable in case of a fire. The shriek they emit will get your attention no matter what time of day, or planetary position!

While we are attending to our smoke detectors, don't forget another item that may be sitting on your shelf gathering dust—your Go Bag!!!

We all took great care in assembling our emergency kits and, fortunately, most of us have never had the need to use them. It is a good idea to take a peek inside your bag and do an inventory check. Any food items or water bottles you may have included have expiration dates and now is a good time to replace and replenish. Perhaps there is an item you may want to add or

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ORCA Calendar

Annual SET November 4. This will be in place of the usual meeting at the EOC. Resource Net opens at 8:45 AM on 146.88, minus, pl 77 (see page 2).

ICS Radio Operator (RADO) Training by Chief Kilmartin at our December 2 meeting (tentative).

ORCA Holiday Party, Wednesday, December 13, the *new* Pier 29 (see page 2).

Congratulations to the three Board members elected at the October Annual Meeting: Paul, KA6GEM, Karen, KG6ADB, and Art, W6THD.

President's Corner

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delete. Make sure the batteries in your flashlight are still good and not corroding. Add a throwaway film camera or an inexpensive digital one. These chores can easily be done during those "uncertain" hours of the time change when you are wondering where the heck the sun went!!!

Don't forget our SET (Simulated Emergency Test) that will take place on Saturday, November 4. Monitor our repeater (146.880 pl-77) starting at 8:45 am for the resource net. This exercise is being designed to maximize radio time for all participants. And, after the test is complete, we will have a "hot wash" at OES, complete with buffet lunch, courtesy of Coleen Bell.

The waning daylight hours do not mean the end of activity for ORCA. There are many new and exciting developments on the horizon. Keep tuned to the weekly net, read our monthly newsletter, and, most importantly, come to our monthly meeting on the first Saturday of each month at Fire Station #1 in Oakland! See you out there, and on the air!

73, Dave AE6PX

Prepare for the Set Saturday, November 4

Planning for the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is well underway. As noted in the President's column, the goal this year is more time on the radio. The SET will begin with a QST around 0845 that Saturday morning and should end by 1230 (after lunch and a debriefing critique at the EOC).

You should monitor 146.88, have your Go Bag at the ready, with pencil and paper and extra batteries for your radio, and be prepared to be deployed to an exercise location. To maximize radio time, we will try to minimize unnecessary travel time. To enhance your learning experience, we suggest you review your radio's operational manual ahead of time, and practice some of the more common features, like changing frequencies and moving seamlessly to simplex.

Designed to both test and practice our emergency communications response, this event dovetails with the Amateur Radio Relay League's (ARRL) annual focus on ARES, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

We urge you to check out the ARRL web page related to the SET for relevant background information. Like most volunteer activities, what you put into this event will be a major factor in determining how much you get out of it. The ARRL Web page related to the SET can be found at: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/setguide.html>.

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Holiday Dinner Wednesday, December 13

Pier 29, 1148 Ballena Blvd
Alameda (Ballena Bay)

(510) 865-5088

No-host cocktails 6 pm—Dinner 7 pm

\$30—choice of three+ entrees

This is it, the ORCA social event of the season, a chance to review the past year and think about the next, while enjoying the present, by the water and with your fellow hams.

A \$30 *prix fixe* gets you a choice of three entrees (or a vegetarian alternative): prime rib, chicken marsala or salmon in lemon butter caper sauce. There are always good laughs, a fun raffle, short speeches (as in 'not very long') and a chance to kick back and catch up with your ORCA friends and their significant others, many of whom are hams as well. Not to be missed.

Cut off the convenient reply coupon at the bottom of this page and send your check payable to ORCA, noting your entrée choice(s), to ORCA, P.O. Box 21305, Oakland CA 94620-1305. **Please RSVP by Friday, December 8th.**

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From the (guest) editor:

Pacificon was well attended by ORCA members this year, and most had a great time, learned a lot and didn't spend their entire holiday present budget. Look for more news on this year's Pacificon in next issue, when the regular editor, KG6DER, returns to relieve KE6IUE.

FEMA
Emergency Management
Institute
Independent Study Program
FREE online courses in assorted
emergency topics.
<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS>

YES, please sign me up for the ORCA social event of the season: Name/call _____
Number attending _____ Entrée choices: _____prime rib _____chicken _____salmon _____vegetarian

Send your check payable to ORCA (\$30/person) to: ORCA, PO Box 21305, Oakland, CA 94620-1305



Oakland Radio Communication Association

Club: WW6OR, N6ORC
Repeater: WB6NDJ

New Membership and Renewal Form

New Member Renewal

Family membership—number of additional Hams: _____

Name _____

Call _____ License: E__ A__ G__ T+__ T__ N__

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Email _____

Newsletters will be emailed only to members who specifically request them. All others will receive them by mail. Email?

Best Phone (____) _____ Alternate Phone (____) _____

Best is a: cell work home Alternate is a: cell work home

Are you an ARRL Member? Yes No

Family Hams name/call sign/license class:

Please remit a photocopy of your FCC license (and any Family Ham licenses) with a check payable to "ORCA" to

ORCA
P.O. Box 21305
Oakland, CA 94620-1305

New Members for 2006: \$7.50 for remainder of 2006
All Members for 2007: \$30.00 due by February 28, 2007

2007 Due Prorated Quarterly for New Members

Additional Family Hams: \$5 each other Family Ham (not prorated)
2008 dues will be accepted: \$30, plus \$5 each other Family Ham

Final acceptance of this application and membership in ORCA with repeater privileges is subject to review and/or approval by the ORCA Board.

I agree, for myself and for any Family members included in this application, to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in the ORCA Bylaws and the applicable repeater operating procedures.

Date: _____ Signature: _____



November Meeting: Annual SET

Monthly events

1st Saturday ORCA Monthly Meeting - Oakland OES 9:00
2nd Friday East Bay Amateur Radio Club
2nd Saturday Electronics Flea Market in Sunnyvale
3rd Friday Hayward Radio Club
3rd Friday Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club
4th Friday Amateur Radio Club of Alameda

Amateur Radio Club of Alameda meets 7:00 PM at Building 522
West Midway on Alameda Point.

East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 PM at the
Salvation Army, 4600 Appian Way, El Sobrante.

Hayward Radio Club meets at 7:30 PM 1401 West Winton Ave.
in Hayward behind Hayward Fire Station 6, next to the
Hayward Air National Guard Base.

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 PM
at Our Savior Lutheran Church,
1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette.

If you have amateur radio-related items suitable
for the annual dinner raffle, please get in touch
with David, WB6NER, Rafflemaster.

ORCA on the web:

ww6or.com

Weekly Nets

Thursdays Oakland ARES/RACES Net
7:30 PM 146.88 MHz minus PL 77
Mondays Digital Modes Net
7:30 PM 442.4 MHz Plus PL 77
Thursdays Alameda Emergency Preparedness
7:00 PM 146.88 MHz minus PL 77
Thursdays NALCO ARES/RACES
7:15 PM 440.9 MHz plus PL 131.8
Mondays Hayward RACES
7:30 PM 145.130 MHz minus PL 127.3

ORCA Officers and Board

President: Dave Clemes AE6PX
Vice Pres.: Michael Hole KG6DER
Treasurer: Robert Firehock KE6IUE
Secretary: Tom Tazelaar KG6MAC

Director: Paul Bailey-Gates KA6GEM
Director: Bill Hardy KF6VOG
Director: Karen Harris KG6ADB
Director: Art McLaughlin W6THD
Director: David Otey WB6NER

Ex-Officio Directors:

ARES Liaison: Mark Violet N6RCG
Repeater Trustee: David Otey WB6NER
RACES RO: Jim Tiemstra K6JAT
WW6OR trustee: Jim Tiemstra K6JAT
N6ORC trustee: Michael Hole KG6DER

The ORCA NewsLetter is published monthly.
Any articles can be used with attribution.
Articles, news and photos submitted make for a more interesting newslet-
ter; thank you!

Please submit materials for the next issue by
November 23 to Michael **KG6DER** kg6der@arrl.net or
fax to 707 215-6124. Thanks again!