

ORCA NewsLetter February 2, 2002

Meetings are normally held on the first Saturday of each month at **9:00 AM** at the media room of **Oakland Fire Station 1**; 1605 Martin Luther King at 17th St. Exceptions are when it falls on a holiday, or if a Friday video night is planned. The next meeting will be 9 AM, February 2, 2002 at Oakland Fire Station 1.

The Guest Speaker is **Joe Lee, W6DOB**, East Bay Section Traffic Manager to talk about message passing and the NTS. And, Section Manager **Andy Opal, KF6RCO**, will also attend.

President's Corner

By David Otey, WB6NER



David Otey, WB6NER

Well, we're on a good roll for the start of 2002! A super turnout for the January meeting where the dialog covered the whole gamut of Amateur Radio opportunities.

The broad scope of member interests emerged during the energized dialog of January's meeting. Still very gratifying, is ORCA's strong interest (and legacy) for providing emergency communication services to the City and the Community. But importantly, the communication skills, both technical and operating, are developed from a keen interest in traditional "hobbyist" aspects of Amateur Radio; upgrading licenses for entry into the short-wave/worldwide communications arena, and "contesting" (including ARRL's Field Day) to develop good verbal (and code) techniques, including how to "pass" message "traffic." Of course, I suspect that most of us just can't get enough technology in our hands (batteries included) to satiate completely. But technology aside, just discovering who's communicating over the next hill (community) or continent is fascinating too.

I believe that ORCA should provide members with the launching pad for Amateur Radio exploration, discovery and diversity of experience. In the upcoming months we need to keep our eye on developing the ORCA Master Calendar, and be vigilant to assure that all voices and ideas for activities are heard and have an opportunity for gaining a place on the calendar.

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ORCA Master Calendar for 2002

By David Otey, WB6NER

Board work by Mark, N6RCG

JAN	Gone already!
FEB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on 2nd @ OES – Guest Joe Lee, W6DOB Subject: focus on messaging and NTS. • OES RACES ID Cards! •
MAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on 2nd – @ OES • ARRL SSB DX Contest • Start locking up Field Day site. •
APR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on 6th – @ OES • CA Earthquake Month Activities • OES annual EOC exercise: _____ •
MAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on 4th – @ Guest Speaker _____ • Bay to Breakers Foot Race in SF
JUN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on 1st – @ Field Day site? • ORCA arrival at FD site Fri PM Jun 21 • Field Day commences! Sat Jun 22-23
JUL [in Jun]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on June 22nd @ ARRL Field Day • ORCA Field Day starts Friday evening! • Field Day Location? _____ • July 4th Hills Fire Patrol Demonstration •
AUG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on 3rd – Annual Picnic! • •
SEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on 7th – @ 911 Call Center • Develop/approve Sim Emrg Test [SET] •
OCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on 5th – @ OES Conduct SET • 10th Anniversary of Oakland Hills Fire • ARRL Pacificon Weekend
NOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on 2nd – @ OES – Guest Speaker • •
DEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtg on 6th – Friday evening video night • Annual Holiday Dinner •

February Guest Speaker

Joe Lee, East Bay Section Traffic Manager, recommends that ORCA members attending the training session at the February meeting bring the name, address and phone number of 3-4 people they want to send messages to. Birthday greetings, hi this is the world of ham radio, testing emergency communications, etc. You can then fill out the messages at the meeting and Joe can put them in the system with a reply service message requested. That way, you will be able to see first hand how the system works!

Wanted, For Sale or Swap

Send your list of desired or surplus gear to the ORCA Newsletter editor at dpm24@cornell.edu to get included in this column.

Also, there are many on-air swap nets according to Brian **W6LL**. He says that there are, "More than I could possibly list. Saturday and Sunday, at approximately 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. on 7240 KHz (40 meters) is the big one. If you can receive 145.21 MHz in Stockton, every Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. there is a very large, wide-area Northern California -Nevada 2 meter swap. A lot of VHF and UHF gear is listed there. Very friendly. Runs til about 9:00 or 9:30pm.

Unfortunately, the Thursday 2 meter net doesn't generally receive in the East Bay from Albany to Hayward. Do we want to ask VHF Repeaters, Inc to link to this swap meet?

Hark! It's ARC

Alameda Radio Club Although there once was a club for amateur radio operators in Alameda, it long ago disbanded. Now, in cooperation with the ARRL, with the support of the City of Alameda, the Alameda Office of the American Red Cross and Alameda hams and others interested in amateur radio, the Alameda Radio Club is reborn. Activities will include emergency communications in the City of Alameda, Field Day activities, communications support for the July 4 Mayor's Parade, license preparation classes, contesting, and special activities for young people.

Meetings are held the 4th Friday of the month at 522 West Midway on Alameda Point. For further information please call Al (KG6HM) or Fran (KF6UVB) at 510 864-1865.

Operators Wanted

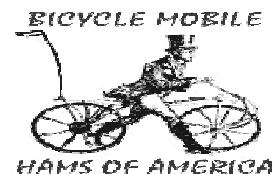
Baker-to-Vegas

BTV refers to the Challenge Cup Relay, this year held April 20-21. It is a 120 mile foot relay race in 20 stages. In 1999, Bay Area hams provided tactical and support communications for Fremont P.D., Roseville P.D. and the Alameda County Sheriff's Team. The SF Bay Area Communications Team will hold their first organizational meeting Sunday, Feb. 10 from 1030-1200 at Jim Wood's home 42640 Palm Ave., Fremont. Talk-in is on 147.015.

Richard Gabor is a regular at BTV and Jim Ploss is enthused about the challenge of maintaining equipment and contact in a mobile situation. For more information, check the website at www.baker-to-vegas.org.

MS Walkathon

Sunday, April 7th from 0800 to 1200 headquartered at Alameda's Crown Memorial Beach this 10k walk will be held. Hams are needed for net control at the beach, two rest stops and a sag wagon. It would be terrific to have bicycle-mobile hams following the walkers. Start putting together your bicycle-mobile rig!



<http://www.lafetra.com/bmha/>

Sequoia Century

This 100 mile bike ride needs lots of hams for this event held on the streets but mainly through the redwood forests in San Mateo. Phil Spiegel **W6PGO** is coordinating communications Ckspiegel@aol.com.

Bay-to-Breakers

May 19th, hams are needed to support this exciting footrace. Sign-up with the Red Cross or at www.baytobreakers.com.

ORCA Meeting of January 5, 2002

	ORCA	Attendance	Jan. 5, 2001
1	Adele	Bertaud	KE6HKY
2	Herbert	Bowen	WA6CUY
3	Mike	Cassidy	W6UAB
4	Dave	Clemes	KG6GTR
5	Doug	Faunt, Jr.	N6TQS
6	Robin	Goodfellow	KD6OAG
7	Bill	Hardy	KF6VOG
8	Karen	Harris	KG6ADB
9	Bob	Mayes	KE6DVT
10	Art	Mc Laughlin	W6THD
11	John	Melville	N6JRF
12	David	Otey	WB6NER
13	Dave	Palmer	KG6ECM
14	Michael	Pompa	KB6MP
15	Tim	Roberts	KF6BYG
16	Margery	Service	KF6GTT
17	Donald	Street	K6EHQ
18	Allen	Sweet	KG6HM
19	Fran	Sweet	KF6UVB
20	Alexander	Taylor	KG6DFU
21	Chelsea	Taylor	KF6YRA
22	Jay	Taylor	KF6YQZ
23	James	Tiemstra	K6JAT
24	Brian	Treusch	W6LL
25	Mark	Violet	N6RCG

ORCA Inc., Officers and Board

President	David Otey	Mike Pompa
Vice President	Brian Treusch	Donald Street
Treasurer	Bob Firehock	Fran Sweet
Secretary	Art McLaughlin	Jim Tiemstra
		Mark Violet

**Remit 2002 Dues (\$15) for ORCA to:
Treasurer, 347 63rd St. Oakland, CA
94618**



Web Access for ORCA Members Only

<http://www.qsl.net/orca/news/>

This newsletter is published monthly. Please submit articles and announcements by Feb.17, 2002 to: ORCA Editor Dave McGuinness, **KF6EPQ**, via email at dpm24@cornell.edu.

Monthly events

1st Sundays Livermore Swap meet - Las Positas
1st Saturdays ORCA ARES - Oakland OES 9:00
2nd Saturdays Los Altos Hills Flea Market
2nd Fridays East Bay Amateur Radio Club
3rd Fridays Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club
3rd Fridays Hayward Radio Club
3rd Weds Rocky Ridge Repeater Group
East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets 7PM at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave; Albany.
Hayward Radio Club meets at 1401 West Winton Ave in Hayward behind Hayward Fire Station 6, next to the Hayward Air National Guard Base.
Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club and the Rocky Ridge Repeater Group meet at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette.

VHF Repeaters, Inc., Officers and Board

President:	David Otey, WB6NER
Vice Pres:	Alan Whitman, KQ6TW
Secretary:	Art McLaughlin, W6THD
Treasurer:	Eliza Greene, KE6EHD
Director:	Bill Hardy, KF6VOG
Director:	Dave McGuinness, KF6EPQ
Director:	Frank Clasby, K6UE
Past Pres:	Dale Choy, KD6KMU

**Remit 2002 Dues (\$24) for VHF Repeaters to:
Treasurer, P.O. Box 21305 Oakland, CA
94620-1305**

An Official Word about 2002 Dues

Thank you, Hams, who have already paid 2002 Dues either by mail or at a meeting. Ideally, (but optional) everyone can officially support both organizations. ORCA and VHF Repeaters dues will remain separate during 2002. When renewing, please write separate checks. If ORCA and VHF merge, a single dues structure will be created for future years.