

Independent Radio Club WA6IRC Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 3

Fall 2009

Presidents Corner

Comments from IRC President Leon KC6JAR

First I would like to congratulate Mark and Mandy on their wedding. It was great to see them to get married and to be a part of their big day. We are honored that they chose our Field Day event to get married. Field Day went off with no major problems and ran very smooth. We all had a great time working HF and hanging out together. It was great to see the young kids get on HF, learn how radio works and what radio can do in an emergency situation. I can see from the interest they had that we are going to get some new hams out of this. That's what Field Day is all about. Learning how ham radio works and getting together for fun and fellowship.

Our Field Day VE session went well. It was nice to see people trying to upgrade and to see some new hams actually get their license during Field Day. One of the things we really enjoy doing is having a VE session every chance we get. It's a great way to promote our hobby and to help people advance in our hobby. If you

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Field Day 2009

Lots of fun in the Pines

This year we held Field Day at Dogwood campground near Big Bear in the San Bernardino Mountains. We had an excellent turnout and a whole lot of fun. We operated on every Field Day band from 160 meters to 23 cm. We operated SSB, FM, PSK-31 and SSTV. While we did not rack up a large score, everyone had a great time and no one died from Leon's cooking.

The big event of the trip was Mark N6MGM and Amanda's K6MDY wedding. On Saturday they tied the knot in the campground at Field Day. Mr. Lowell KG6AJF performed the ceremonies. Congratulations to Mark and Mandy and thank you for sharing your special day with all of us!

Our 2009 Field Day participants were:

KG6AJF- Lowell	WB6ANP – Keith
W6CPA- Ken	KI6CYS- Scott
KI6DHN – Carolyn	K6EJC – Eric
KI6FXL – Michelle	KG6GIK – Steve
KG6GIN – Shane	W6IOM – Mike
KC6JAR – Leon	KD6LLK – Mary
K6MDY – Amanda	KF6MFW – David
KF6MFU – Kim	N6MGM – Mark
KI6MGO – Susan	KI6MGQ – Craig
KI6MGS – Joe	KI6MYM – Debi
KC6NVL – Larry	KG6PPA – Cat
KG6RIE – Sharon	KF6RSF – Chris
KC1RON – Ron	KI6RUS – Russell
KC6SAD – John	K6TWS – Tamara
K6VE – Rick	KG6VEP – James
KG6WNM – John	N6XKT – Connie
N6XKU – James	KI6ZKK - Bill

have a general or higher license I would encourage you to become a VE and give us a hand. It's good for the hobby and is a lot of fun to boot.

Keep an eye out for our newsletters, come to our monthly meetings, stay tuned and see what's going on at IRC. I hope to run into you at one of our meetings or on the air. Don't forget we have a camping trip coming up soon as well as our holiday party. Hope to see you there.

de Leon KC6JAR

Join us at the Beach!

Our club beach trip to Carpinteria is coming soon

The IRC is sponsoring a family beach trip to Carpinteria State Beach Thursday October 15 through Monday October 19. We will have some radios set up but this is primarily a trip to relax and enjoy the beach. Carpinteria State Beach has great swimming, biking, walking, tide pools to explore, and a world class beach. The town of Carpinteria is within easy walking distance and has a full range of stores and restaurants. You won't want to miss this one.

You can start camping Thursday October 15 at 2 pm and we have to leave the site on Monday October 19 at noon. You can camp in RVs or tents. The campground has potable water, flush toilets, hot showers (for an additional fee) and a fire pit. No RV hookups are available. We will be staying in the Santa Cruz group site. Just tell them you are with the IRC group at the gate and the Ranger will give you a pass and wave you in.

Talk in on 446.000 MHz or on the Santa Barbara repeater 147.000 + PL 131.8.

The cost of the trip is \$30 per night. If you want to reserve your space, e-mail Ken at w6cpa@ircradio.org or you can send in the coupon for the flier on our web site at <http://www.ircradio.org/beach09.pdf> See you at the beach!

Technician License Class

Give us a weekend and get your license

Do you know anyone who is interested in getting their ham ticket? If so send them to our Technician license class. The IRC is conducting a technician license class Saturday October 10 and Sunday October 11 at Eagle Rock City Hall. This is an intensive weekend class followed by a VE testing session immediately after class. This is a great way to get your license quickly and learn about amateur radio. The cost of the class is \$50 which covers your study book and the testing fee.

There will also be a VE testing session on Sunday October 11 at 3pm which is open to the general public. You are welcome to come to the testing session if you don't need the class. We will be offering exams for all license classes from Technician to Extra. Candidates need to bring the \$14 testing fee, a picture ID and a copy of your existing license if you plan to upgrade.

For more information or to find out how to sign up for the class, see the flyer on our website <http://www.ircradio.org/tech092.pdf>.

2009 Trivia Contest

This is your last chance to score for 2009.

Mr. Lowell KG6AJF runs the IRC trivia contest every Tuesday night during the net. He asks two trivia questions during the net which each net participant gets a crack at answering. You get a point toward the contest every time you check in and a point for each trivia questions you get right.

The 2009 contest is almost over and according to Mr. Lowell the contest is very close. You will definitely want to check into the net and take a crack at the questions. The ham with the most points will be awarded a nice prize at the holiday party. Make sure you check in and score your points!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS & VE TESTING SESSION

EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL

2035 COLORADO BLVD.

EAGLE ROCK, CA

SATURDAY OCTOBER 10 & SUNDAY OCTOBER 11 AT 9:00 AM

OCTOBER CLUB MEETING

LAMPLIGHTER RESTAURANT

5043 VAN NUYS BLVD.

VAN NUYS, CA

FRIDAY OCTOBER 30 AT 7:00 PM

NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING

LAMPLIGHTER RESTAURANT

5043 VAN NUYS BLVD.

VAN NUYS, CA

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20 AT 7:00 PM

HOLIDAY PARTY

EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL

2035 COLORADO BLVD.

EAGLE ROCK, CA

SATURDAY DECEMBER 5 AT 7:00 PM

JANUARY CLUB MEETING

LAMPLIGHTER RESTAURANT

5043 VAN NUYS BLVD.

VAN NUYS, CA

Friday January 29, 2010 at 7:00 pm

D-Star Repeater QSY

Our 2 meter D-Star repeaters change frequencies

As you may have been aware, there have been questions in the past about the operations of our 2 Meter D-Star repeaters. We currently have two 2 meter D-Star repeaters in operation at Contractor's Point and at Blueridge. The question revolved around the portion of the band our coordinating group TASMA gave us to operate in.

TASMA chose to have all of the coordinated Southern California 2 meter D-Star repeaters operate in the packet section of the band. This was done to better utilize the available spectrum and to cause the least disruption to existing users of the band. The problem is that the output frequencies chosen by TASMA can not have repeater operations in them per FCC regulations. TASMA coordinated these stations as auxiliary stations which are legal in that section of the band. They were able to coordinate them as auxiliary stations as it was not clear that the D-Star system met the FCC definition of a repeater under their regulations. Recently the FCC has clarified their definition of a repeater which made their classification as an auxiliary station somewhat questionable. As a result the 2-Meter D-Star repeater operators in Southern California requested that TASMA change their band plan to allow operations in a section of the band which is allowable for repeater operations.

TASMA has implemented a band plan change which will take effect on December 5. The D-Star repeater output frequencies will be moved from the 145.600 section of the band to the 147.550 section of the band which is currently being used for simplex operations. The simplex frequencies will be moved to the old D-Star output frequencies so simplex users will not face the loss of any spectrum.

As a consequence on December 5 our 2-Meter D-Star repeaters will change output frequencies to 147.560 MHz for Contractors Point and 147.540 MHz for Blueridge. The repeater split will be a non standard split of 2.555 MHz.

You don't need to use a computer to reprogram most D-Star radios to accept the odd split but it makes it much easier. Monitor the net each week to see when the frequency change goes into effect.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Independent Radio Club, Inc.

Statement of Income and Expenses

January 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009

Income:

Membership Dues	1,330	
Class Income	310	

Total Income		1,640

Expenses:

Bank Charges	4	
Rent	900	
Telephone	357	

Total Expenses		1,261
Excess of Income over Expenses		379
		=====

Independent Radio Club, Inc.

Balance Sheet

September 30, 2009

Operating Funds	1,997	

Total Cash		1,997

Total Assets		1,997
		=====
Total Liabilities		0
Unrestricted Fund Balance	1,997	

Fund Balance		1,997

Liabilities and Fund Balance		1,997
		=====

Club Repeaters

KC6JAR/R repeater
445.340 MHz minus CTCSS 103.5
Contractors Point

K6VE/R repeater
224.480 MHz minus CTCSS 110.9
Contractors Point

KB6THO/R repeater
927.9625 MHz minus CTCSS 100.0
City Terrace

W7EB/R repeater
224.480 MHz minus CTCSS 110.9
Las Vegas, NV

KC6JAR/R repeater
224.020 MHz minus CTCSS 110.9
Blueridge

Club Contacts

www.ircradio.org

Information:

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Webmaster:

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D-Star Sysop:

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