



Cathay December 2019

www.cathayradio.org

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Mission: The Cathay Amateur Radio Club is basically an active social club of Ham Radio Operators and their spouses. We support local community requests for HAM emergency communications. Several of us are trained in CPR/ First Aid and are involved with community disaster preparedness.

Monday Night Net Time: 9 PM Local Time/PST, Repeater: WB6TCS - RX 147.210, TX 147.810, Offset +0.6 MHz, CTCSS/Tone PL100 Hz

Please note: Repeater: N6MNV UHF 442.700 Mhz, Offset +5MHz, CTCSS/Tone PL 173.8 Hz in South San Francisco is cross linked every Monday Night Net at 9 p.m. to WB6TCS 2-meter repeater.

The CARC Monday night net is the best way to find out the latest club news. All check-ins are welcome.

Message from the President: George Chong, W6BUR

Hello CARC Members and Friends;

Many thanks to Mr. Denis L. Moore – WB6TCS for the use of his repeater for our CARC Monday Night Net.

I hope you all had a very Happy Thanksgiving Dinner.

Thoughts on PG&E Power Outage

Just a reminder as you know in late October several CARC members had their electricity turned off as part of PG&E plan to prevent wild fires. Some of our CARC members reported not having electrical power for as long as a week.

The very nature of our HAM Club is that we are in effect resources for our community during a disaster and that we are expected to be resilient during those time. That includes during power outages, we need to make sure we have sufficient electrical power to operate our HAM radios. So please remember to confirm your backup electrical systems are in place and operating correctly.

CARC Veteran's Day Luncheon Wrapup Introduction

We had 14 folks from the CARC attend our annual Veterans Luncheon this past November 11, 2019. It was one of our biggest CARC turnouts in recent memory at the Buffet Fortuna restaurant in Oakland. We stayed at the restaurant until the closed up the lunch hour to prepare for dinner.

Pictures from the event are posted toward the end of this newsletter.

Upcoming Annual CARC Christmas Party Intro

Distinguished CARC Member: Ed Fong is hosting the annual CARC Christmas Party at his home from 6-10pm Saturday December 14, 2019.

Ed's Christmas parties are a south bay legend, nobody leaves hungry nor empty handed.

Further details are contained in this newsletter.

Tech Article Introduction

This month's article is very inspirational in that this a story of: "Thinking Outside Of The Box" and the ingenuity from the future American scientist.

An interesting solution to the question: "What Can You Could Remove the Blind Spots On Your Car?".

Now that I have peaked your interest you will need to read the rest of this newsletter.

Additional Thoughts

I wish to thank our CARC members that set aside their valuable time to participate in our Monday night's nets.

Chat sub s'em to all you CARC members! - George W6BUR.

Public Service Announcements

HAM CRAM / HAM Licensing

For upcoming HAM Licensing locations please refer to:

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS)

The Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) was organized by the San Francisco Office of Emergency Services (OES) following the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake to support the communications needs of the City and County of San Francisco when responding to emergencies and special events.

The Auxiliary Communications Service holds General Meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at the San Francisco Emergency Operations Center, 1011 Turk Street (between Gough Street and Laguna Street), from 1900 hours to 2100 hours local time. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

The ACS Net begins at 1930 hours (7:30 p.m.) local time each Thursday evening, on the WA6GG repeater at 442.050 MHz, positive offset, tone 127.3 Hz. The purpose of this net is to practice Net Control skills, practice checking in with deployment status in a formal net, and to share information regarding upcoming ACS events. Guests are welcome to check in. ACS Members should perform Net Control duty on a regular basis. On the second Thursday of each month, the net will be conducted on the output frequency of the WA6GG repeater, 442.050 MHz no offset, tone 127.3 Hz, simplex.

For more information, please attend an ACS meeting or check in on a net, or call 415-558-2717.

Upcoming meetings: Tuesday 7pm, January 21, 2020
 Tuesday 7pm, February 18, 2020
 Tuesday 7pm, March 17, 2020

Gilbert Gin (KJ6HKD)

Free Disaster Preparedness Classes In Oakland:

<http://www.oaklandnet.com/fire/core/index2.html>

CORE is a free training program for individuals, neighborhood groups and community-based organizations in Oakland. The underlying premise is that a major disaster will overwhelm first responders, leaving many citizens on their own for the first 72 hours or longer after the emergency.

If you have questions about the recertification process, you may contact the CORE Coordinator at 510-238-6351 or core@oaklandnet.com.

Free Disaster Preparedness Classes In San Francisco – NERT Taught by San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD).

<http://sf-fire.org/calendar-special-events>

Upcoming events

December 2019

- 5 Psychological First Aid for NERT/MRC Responders
- 14 2MCM Ham Radio practice
No RSVP needed. Meet at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park at 10am
- 21 NERT Training Day - Third Saturday
Featured Trainings:
Coordinators Corner - for Neighborhood Coordinators and those interested
TBD
TBD

January 2020

TBD

***SFFD DOT** is the Fire Department Division of Training. All participants walking, biking or driving **enter through the driveway gate on 19th St.** between Folsom and Shotwell. Parking is allowed along the back toward the cinderblock wall.

Visit www.sfgov.org/sffdnert to learn more about the training, other locations, and register on line. Upcoming Special NERT Events.

San Francisco Police Department: Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT)

The Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT) is a citizen disaster preparedness program designed. The ALERT program is for volunteers 16 years of age or older, who live, work, or attend high school in San Francisco.

Graduates of the San Francisco Police Activities League (P.A.L) Law Enforcement Cadet Academy are also eligible to join.

ALERT volunteers will first complete the Fire Department's Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) (www.sfgov.org/sfnert) training and then graduate into an 8 hour Police Department course specifically designed for ALERT team members.

ALERT members will work closely with full-time and/or Reserve Police Officers in the event they are deployed after a disaster. The Basic ALERT volunteer will have no law enforcement powers other than those available to all citizens.

SFPD ALERT Training (New Members)

The next SFPD ALERT training class has been scheduled for Saturday February 01, 2020 from 8 AM – 5 PM. The class will be held at the San Francisco Police Academy, in the parking lot bungalow, from 8am-5pm (one hour lunch break) on Saturday.

****** Class date indicated are only for new members who have not completed either SFFD NERT training or the SFPD Community Police Academy.

IMPORTANT- All participants must complete the background interview process in order to be eligible to attend the ALERT training class.

Eligible ALERT participants may register for a training class by contacting the ALERT Program Coordinator, Mark Hernandez, at sfpdalert@sfgov.org, or by telephone at 415-401-4615.

SFPD ALERT Practice/Training Drill

All active/trained ALERT members are asked to join us for our next training drill, scheduled for on Saturday February 8, 2020 from 9 AM – 1pm. Details will be emailed to active ALERT members, prior to the date of the exercise. Participation is not required, but strongly encouraged.

For more information on the San Francisco Police Department ALERT Program, email us at sfpdalert@sfgov.org, or call Sergeant Mark Hernandez (SFPD, Ret.), SFPD ALERT Program Coordinator, at (415) 401-4615.

For additional information on the web please refer to:

<https://sfgov.org/policecommission/alert>

Annual CARC Christmas Party

Time/Date: Saturday, December 14 6-10 PM

Format: Potluck – bring your favorite dish.

Door Prize - Lenovo Thinkpad PC, Radioddity Quad band 25 watt transceiver and more— **each attendees gets one raffle ticket for FREE.**

Where: 1163 Quince Ave. Sunnyvale, CA -

Best directions given on www.googlemaps.com Call if you get lost 408-245-8210

This year we will not only have unsurpassed prizes but a few new World Famous folks have promised to attend.

Do you folks know of Prof. Hiroki Kato's AH6CY (formerly of Harvard University) work on preserving the history of WWII spy radios? Meet him in person. He is an authority on WWII secret organizations such as SOE (special operations executives). These were the brave folks that snuck into enemy lines and provide vital information to win the War. He is a fascinating person and just a world of knowledge. He was only 3 years old when the Bomb dropped in Hiroshima and he survived.

Doug Hendricks KI6DS - says he will come by. Doug is founder of world famous QRP Kits. He is fascinating person having taught high school physics as a career and having a love for QRP and starting a very successful kit building company.

There is no excuse not to attend. Not only that, it is FREE to all attendees. Just bring a dish to share. If you have ever been to our Cathay Radio Christmas Party, you know this is the event to taste foods from all over the world. Does not matter whether you like – barbecue ribs, salads, seafood, Chinese, Mexican, Italian, Korean, it will be there. All kinds of desserts served at the dessert table. Get ready to eat your heart out and meet new friends as well.



Just some of the food at last year's event.

Get a chance to meet some really cool folks that are movers and shakers in the Silicon Valley. Dr. Steven Stearns, Keith Synder, Ron Quan, Nick Cassarino, Jim Walker.

Rules for the raffle - Every attendee will receive one raffle ticket - no charge at the door. This will make you eligible for the grand prize. This is our way of saying thank you for your support during the year at the events we have held.



1st Prize Lenovo – Thinkpad X240 i5 processor with 8GB of memory and 500 GB of hard drive

Windows 10 operating system

CNET rates this laptop a 4.3/5

Up to 15 hours battery life.

PC benchmark 4,717 - very respectable.

Less than 3 pounds 0.8 inches thick

USB 3.0

12.5 inch screen - just perfect to carry around.

Intel HD4400 graphics processor

USB 3.0

Intel Cetrino Wifi.



2nd prize Radioddity QB25 (same as the QYT 7900SD) new Quad Mobile 25 watt transceiver.

This radio boast 200 memories, full software programmability, great bullet proof front end with 0.25 uV sensitivity, full FM broadcast radio, direct microphone key pad entry, absolutely the best color display out there and more.

If you have been looking to get on 220 MHz, this is the latest and greatest. You will be a proud owner of one of these radios.

Comes programming cable and programming software.

The Frequency coverage:

- 65-108 MHz – FM broadcast – receive only
- 136-174 MHz – VHF – TX/RX
- 210-230 MHz - TX/RX
- 350-400 MHz TX/RX (not an amateur band in the US)
- 400- 520 - MHz - TX/RX

Full CTSS and DCS coding

Power – 10/25 watt (user programmable)

I will have this radio pre-programmed to most of the Bay Area VHF 2 meter, 220 MHz and 70cm repeaters. I will gladly edit channel list free of charge to the winner.

Of course, we will have many other prizes such as state items: LED 3 watt flashlight, digital multi-meter, tools, etc.

So mark your calendars. You must be present to win.

- Ed Fong *WB6IQN*

Tech Article

2019 Broadcom MASTERS Winners Announced

<https://student.societyforscience.org/broadcom-masters>

<https://student.societyforscience.org/broadcom-masters-2019-finalists#Gassle>

Updated 12:43 AM ET, Wed November 6, 2019

Broadcom Foundation and Society for Science & the Public today announced that Alaina Gassler, 14, of West Grove, Pennsylvania, won the coveted \$25,000 Samueli Foundation Prize, the top award in the Broadcom MASTERS®, the nation's premier science and engineering competition for middle school students.

The Broadcom MASTERS (Math, Applied Science, Technology, and Engineering for Rising Stars), a program of the Society for Science & the Public, inspires middle school students to follow their personal passions to exciting college and career pathways in STEM. The thirty finalists took home more than \$100,000 in awards.

Alaina Gassler, 14, West Grove, Pennsylvania, won the Grand Prize \$25,000 Samueli Foundation Prize, for her project reducing blind spots in cars and her exemplary performance during the Broadcom MASTERS's hands-on challenges. The prize is a gift of Dr. Henry Samueli, Chairman of the Board, Broadcom Inc., and Chair of the Broadcom Foundation and his wife, Dr. Susan Samueli, President of the Samueli Foundation.



Alaina Gassler, 8th Grade

Avon Grove Charter School: West Grove, Pennsylvania
Improving Automobile Safety by Removing Blind Spots

Project Background: Alaina's family owns a Jeep Grand Cherokee, but her mom doesn't like driving the vehicle because of its large A-pillar design.

Those pillars are the vertical supports on each side of the windshield, and their large size provides more protection in case of a rollover crash.

However, their size and angle also result in blind spots. Blind spots are areas that drivers can't see from their usual sitting position at the wheel, either directly with their eyes or with help from the car's mirrors.

"I started to think about how blind spots are a huge problem in all cars," Alaina says. She decided to design a device to deal with the problem.

Tactics and Results:

My prototype had to reduce blind spots in a safe, efficient way,” Alaina says. The materials had to be affordable and easily accessible.

The device had to be practical and work in different lighting conditions. She also noted that the design should not lead to other kinds of car accidents.

The solution she came up with uses a webcam mounted outside the passenger side A-pillar. The camera images are then displayed on the inside of the pillar so the driver can see them. Alaina’s first prototype used a projector inside the car to show the images. She used 3-D printing to make a special part so the projector’s image would focus properly at close range.

The system worked in test drives with her dad. However, bright light sometimes made it hard to see the projector’s images.

Alaina plans to use LCD screens (liquid crystal display screens) for her next prototype. “LCD screens are easier to see in daylight than projected images,” she explains.

Other Interests: “I have always loved dancing,” Alaina says. She has studied lyrical, hip hop, ballet and jazz styles. She’s performed in the school musical and plays the string bass as well.

Alaina is a senior Girl Scout and also enjoys field hockey. “I really want to go into the field of physical therapy because I love to work with and help people,” Alaina says. “I would also love to design new machines/prosthetics that will help people develop skills to get better,” she adds.

CARC Veteran's Day Luncheon Wrapup

This past November 11, 2019 our CARC hosted a luncheon at the Buffet Fortuna restaurant in Oakland downtown.

We had a very good turn out and gathering of our Club members. We even had other people drop by our table to ask if we were Veterans and thank us for our service to our country.



Group Selfie photo by Cy Moy



Bart Lee – K6VK



Judy Mears, xyl of Bart Lee



Gilbert Gin – K6HKD



John Tim - W6QNT



Dennis Lee - AH6KD



Alicia – Granddaughter of John Tim



Left to right: Mingie Chinn - W6EE and Shirley Chinn (xyl)



Left to right: Chris Gin (xyl) and Gary Gin - KN6LV



Cy Moy - WB6TCF



David Chan - WZ6X



Left to right: Hetty Chong - WB6SHU
and David Chan - WZ6X



Left to right: George Chong and Dave Chan-
WZ6X



Another group photo taken during CARC Luncheon on Veteran's Day 11/11/2019