



Cathay Newsletter May 2009

www.cathayradio.org

President: George Chong, W6BUR

Vice President North: Leonard Tom, NX6E

Vice President South: Murray Kay, WA6USL

Secretary/Membership: Bill Chin, KC6POF

Treasurer: Vince Chinn, W6EE

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Mission: Cathay Amateur Radio Club is a social club of Ham Radio Operators and their spouses

Monday Night Net 9PM PT the best way to find the latest club news. All check-ins are welcome.

Frequency: 146.67MHz - PL 85.4 and 442.70MHz + PL 173.8 The repeaters are linked.

Washington High School Net Monday 7PM PT Frequency: 147.06MHz + PL 100

Net control is Nathan, KI6PVO. This is on the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club Repeater.

President's Ramblings:

Hi Guys & Dolls, Spring is here, I hear. The third week of April seemed a lot like summer and I hope everyone enjoyed it much as we did.

The hot weather came at just the right time for tower raising. Those of you who have been here for CARC picnics and Field Days may remember when it was up and when it was horizontal. Yes, it has been years and I don't remember how long. I guess at least 10 years and then some. Reason? It's a crank-up and bearings malfunction with age. Thanks to the generosity of Gary Gin, KN6LV, he presented me with three replacement bearings on one of my birthdays. These were special



bearings and were no longer available thru normal bearing houses. Thanks also to Joe Lee, W6DOB, who pressed the bearings into the pulleys. Last, but not least, appreciation for the urging of Hetty, WB6SHU, "When are you going to get this off my wildflower bed?" Mingie Chinn, W6EE, helped too. How? Ask him -- maybe he'll tell. Yes, the tower is now vertical. However, in place of antennas, Old Glory (5' x 9'), donated by Joe W6DOB, is up and flying in the breeze. This to remind the neighbors I am back.

At the spring meeting I met Loren Singh, AD6YU, our newest member from San Jose, California. Here is a member we can all learn something from. He is active on HF and operates on 20 meters CW QRP. Please welcome him to the club. He has already checked into the Monday night net.

A message to Net Control Operators: Until the Monday Night Net List is updated, please write-in AD6YU. Thank you, Bill Chin, KC6POF, for continuing to keep the membership roster up to date. Bill KC6POF came up with a neat suggestion for a new section in the newsletter: A members' page for photos of CARC events, new home-brew projects, swap meet treasures, and any other photos you want to share with others. I think this is such a great idea. I have been a camera bug ever since I was a little boy and, later, when I could afford it, I got my first expensive (\$150) SLR, a Nikon F.. We all enjoy taking pictures and sharing them with friends.

Save The Date 30 May 2009, Saturday Angel Island trip

Bring your daypack and let's rendezvous at Noon for lunch outside the immigration building. Joe W6DOB will provide information to everyone.

Save The Date 27 June 2009, Saturday ARRL Field Day

Other than the first few years of the Cathay ARC Field Days, club activities have not included any real field operations, had lots of "show and tell" stuff, mods, etc., and was always held on the same weekend as the ARRL field day.

Edison, WB6IQN, has proposed an alternate weekend for Cathay activities which would free members to visit other Bay Area Field Day sites on June 27th. Our VP Leonard, NX6E, inquired about last year's consideration of holding Field Day in conjunction with the SF Amateur Radio Club on the SS Jeremiah O'Brien. Or...

At the QTH of George, W6BUR and Hetty, WB6SHU, members wanting to operate and check out your home brew antennas, or the IQN Dual and J pole, this is the place to do it. Do bring whatever you want to test, your dual band transceiver, or your QRP rig. I will supply the antennas (VHF and UHF, and dual band 40-80 meter dipole. Come early so you can set up what every you're going to require. You will have fun, the QSO's will be loud. This site is on a ridge located in the Oakland Hills called Rancho San Antonio at over 1200 feet above sea level, and don't forget to bring the kids. Hetty says "plants will be available for the ladies" again.

1. Vote for alternate weekend (Edison)
2. Vote for Jeremiah O' Brien/SFARC on ARRL Field Day (Leonard)
3. Vote for George and Hetty's on ARRL Field Day (George)

Email your choice to Bill Chin KC6POF: bill.kc6pof@comcast.net

Harry's Hofbrau Planning Meeting, April 11, 2009 – From Hetty, WB6SHU

NEW MEMBER

Loren Singh, AD6YU became a new member of the club. We welcome him and look forward to seeing him at future events. Picture below.

ANGEL ISLAND

The Angel Island "tour" had a majority yes votes by attending CARC members. There was a tie on whether it be held on 30 Sat or 31 Sun in May. It will be decided upon a show of hands on the Monday Night Net called by the net control via a QST. Joe Lee, W6DOB, is chairing and will provide details.



L to R Connie KF6WEA, Tony KR6EG, Kate, George NT6G, David KI6FPO and Judy

ARRL FIELD DAY (Saturday, June 27, 2009)

Ed, WB6IQN, noted that last year when we held our FD pot-luck other than on the ARRL Field Day weekend, we seem to have more in attendance than usual. That was good for him and maybe others too because this enabled those members to visit or

operate at other sites on the ARRL Field Day weekend since our FD was nonoperational. So do we want to change "our Field Day" weekend to accommodate the operators? ARRL Field Day is usually held on the fourth weekend of June. The CARC "FD" has traditionally been held on that same weekend. Except for the earlier CARC FDs, we haven't set up to operate any field radios/antennas since. Maybe, if the newer members want we could again start up a "real" Field Day at our 1200' location (W6BUR QTH). It's up to the membership: pot luck only or pot luck plus operation. I would say let's go for it! Let's bring this up on the net. Also discussed under President's Ramblings. [Since the April meeting, by show of hands, Sat May 30th was selected. Ed.]

ADDITIONAL SUMMER FIELD TRIPS

George W6BUR had additional suggestions, Hiller Air Museum in San Carlos and World War II Victory ship in Richmond. I did get a write-in member's suggestion: Red Oak Victory Ship in Richmond. Of course this was from someone in attendance, but how about members that were not at the meeting?.



Dave, are those the items you are donating to the raffle table??

CATHAY PICNIC

Ed, WB6IQN, was asked directly by George, W6BUR - What were the chances of a last CARC picnic at National? The answer was a big negative. Ed was laid off and the company has let go over 50% of its employees in the year.

George, W6BUR will be checking with the East Bay Redwood Regional Park for cost to our club for a picnic space for a Saturday or Sunday. This Park is in the area that Hetty, WB6SHU and George have done most of their daily hiking for the last 7 or 8 years. It's a very beautiful area and they never get tired of its beauty. It is about 7 minutes by car from my QTH on Skyline Blvd. As usual, George and Hetty says their home is always open to the CARC members for meetings, socials, and the like.

ED's TECH SESSION IN SUNNYVALE

The Tech Session this year again will be at Ed's WB6IQN QTH in August. This year he will demonstrate a time domain spectrum analyzer that goes from DC-3GHz. This unit plugs directly into a USB 2.0 and uses "time domain spectrum analysis" and displays a frequency domain plot via a Fast Fourier Transform.

THE ANNUAL CHINESE NEW YEARS BANQUET

This is also the event where I will be officially handling the Gavel to our next President for 2010. A show of hands indicated that our next banquet may be held in Alameda at a Chinese Buffet, There were only 17 at this meeting, we need to hear from everyone that rather have the traditional banquet served in a restaurant. Joe, W6DOB, will be chairing; his associates will be handling the logistics.

Thanks to Hetty, WB6SHU, acting Secretary for the above minutes for April 11, 2009 meeting at Harry's Hofbrau, Redwood City, California.

And Ed, WB6IQN, was kind enough to describe the raffle outcome:



New member Loren, AD6YU



George W6BUR wins Grand Prize again !!!

RAFFLE WINNERS

By the photos we all had a great time at the April meeting at the Harry's Hofbrau in Redwood City. Thanks to Howard N6MNV for taking the pictures. It was chaired by our new President, George W6BUR. Hetty WB6HSU recorded the minutes. I had a great ½ pastrami sandwich with a soda and it was under \$6. So what a deal? George W6BUR won the Grand Prize. Now how does that happen? Two years ago at this same event he won a Motorola GM300. Last year at the annual picnic he won the Grand Prize of the Yaesu FT817 and now he wins the Grand Prize of a Motorola GP68. I think George should start buying lottery tickets.

Talk about lucky people, Frank W6GSR won both the digital multimeter and Journey's Edge Knife. Leang K6LJF won both the GP4 Shortwave Radio and 2 meter mag mount antenna. George Griffin NT6G won the LED Mag flashlight. Believe me, it's all random. I mixed up all the tickets with Howard N6MNV and I think Dave WZ6X also helped. Luck is catching up with George W6BUR because he never won a grand prize for 17 years.

Regular features: This is a proposed new section of the newsletter, please let us know how you like it!

Ham exams: (Walk-ins allowed unless otherwise noted)

Date	Time	City	More info:
13 June	0845	San Francisco	http://www.hamcrams.com

Lost and Found: A camera case left during a "field day" event at W6BUR's QTH. Just identify what's in it and it's yours. Email Bill Chin at bill.kc6pof@comcast.net

Want ads: Send your buy and sell listings for next newsletter to dave1@wcf.com

Deals: If you find a great sale price or discount, let me know. I will check it out and run it. dave1@wcf.com

Web site reviews: Send us a quick review of your favorite (ham radio) web site. dave1@wcf.com