



Cathay August 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.

Special Article Introduction:

Distinguished CARC member Bart Lee – K6VK has written an article for this month's CARC newsletter: "An archive radio picture tells a story".

A lot of detective sleuthing by members of the California Historical Radio Society (CHRS) went into figuring out the various pieces of equipment and of the HAM operator from a single vintage HAM radio shack photo. The article is worthy of a spy novel.

We are deeply are grateful to Bart Lee – K6VK with providing the CARC with a very interesting and insightful articles for your reading pleasure over these many years.

Tech Session Introduction

CARC member Ed Fong – *WB6IQN* is hosting a Tech Session on the topic of the new and latest FT-8 Digital Radio Mode. The Tech Session will be held on Saturday September 14, 2019 – 12 noon – 3PM at Ed's home.

Please read on further in this newsletter for further details.

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, August 20, 2019
.....Tuesday 7pm, September 17, 2019
.....Tuesday 7pm, October 15, 2019

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

August 2019

3 Medical Reserve Corps(MRC) & NERT Point of Dispensing (POD)
Training by DPH.

7 NERT Quarterly - all NERTs welcome

10 2MCM Ham Radio practice 10am
**no RSVP needed - location TBD due to Outside Lands Concert

17 NERT Training Day - Third Saturday
Featured Trainings:
Coordinators Corner - for Neighborhood Coordinators and those interested

September 2019

14 2MCM Ham Radio practice 10am
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

28 SFPD ALERT (Aux. Law Enforcement Response Team)
Program is designed to train volunteers to assist officers of the
San Francisco Police Department in the execution of their duties primarily
after a disaster
Visit website to Sign Up. Background check required so sign up early

October 2019

11,12,13 Fleet Week Humanitarian Assistance Village NERT Info Booth

12 2MCM Ham Radio practice
No RSVP needed. Meet at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park at 10am

19 NERT Citywide Drill, NERT graduates and victims needed
SAVE THE DATE

November 2019

6 NERT Quarterly Meeting - all NERTs welcome

9 2MCM Ham Radio practice
No RSVP needed. Meet at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park at 10am

16 NERT Training Day - Third Saturday
Featured Trainings:
Coordinators Corner - for Neighborhood Coordinators and those interested
TBD
TBD

December 2019

- 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

***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

The next SFPD ALERT training class has been scheduled for Saturday, September 28, 2019. 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 9:00 am – 1:00pm Saturday August 3, 2019. 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>

Tech Session in Sunnyvale Saturday Sept 14th. (includes free lunch)

Time: Saturday September 14, 2019 – 12 noon – 3PM

Topic: FT8 Digital Mode – Leonard Tom – NX6E as presenter

Place: 1163 Quince Ave. Sunnyvale, 408-245-8210

Menu: lasagna, pizza, salad, drinks, and chips. Chocolate Mousse cake for dessert.

Optional – bring a desert to share

Directions:

If you need precise directions from where you are coming from, go to

www.googlemaps.com. They seem to give the best directions or give me (Ed Fong) a call on the phone (408-245-8210).

Come to the End of Summer Tech Session September 14, 2019 meeting at my house (Ed Fong) and hear all about the latest and greatest digital mode in ham radio today. Our CARC member: Leonard Tom NX6E will give a talk on FT8.

FT8 Digital Mode is just an unbelievably effective mode. I don't have it at home just yet, but I have used it and yes, its performance is absolutely unbelievable. The FT8 signal can be as much as -20dB below the noise and the messages comes out flawless. At -20dB, the ear cannot even perceive any signs of a signal. This makes QRP (low power operations) very effective and practical. Folks have tried it for moon bounce and you no longer need 500 watts with 16 element antennas.

The FT8 developers are both Steve Franke K9AN and Nobel Prize winner Joe Taylor K1JT. FT8 only takes about 50 Hz of bandwidth. All you need is a HF station, a computer and you are all set to go.

Don't want to spoil it and review too much at this time about FT8. Come to our Tech Session to learn about FT8 from our very own CARC member: Leonard Tom NX6E will tell us all about the new FT8 Digital Mode.

Free pizza, lasagna, salad and chocolate mousse desert will be served. Bring a dish to share if you like. Some of the most interesting and delicious food at our previous Tech Sessions has been brought by the attendees. We always have a great group of folks show up at our Tech Session.

Ed Fong - WB6IQN

An archive radio picture tells a story

By Bart Lee, K6VK, A CHRS Fellow in History,
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An archival amateur radio picture – a “found photograph” – follow:



California Historical Radio Society (CHRS) Assistant Librarian Dave Harris reports:

“Last week I looked up Joseph Slizen, amateur radio station W2NDL, as indicated below. His first listing in the Call Book was in Vol. 31, #4, Winter, 1953, in Singac, N.J. I found him listed in the Amateur Radio Call Directory Name Index, 1982-83 ed., as well as the 1985-86 edition. He was as born in New Jersey in 1918. He held a Class A license for station W2NDL.”

“The W2NDL station was still listed to Joseph Slizen in Vol. 75, #1, 1997, but since we don’t have later Call Books I can’t say when/if he became a Silent Key. If Slizen were alive today, he would be 101 now.”

ARRL on the 2019 A-1 Operators Club Roster lists W2NDL as Joe Slizen. Note, on the preceding picture there is a straight key and a “bug” on the desk.”

E-bay provides an image of his QSL card, and has offered for sale W2NDL cards dated 1948:



The card says he goes by "Joe" as his "handle, and lists a National NC-156 as his primary receiver. (CHRS has at least one).



US Navy RBL from RadioBoulevard (= NC-156)

The W2NDL photo shows a typical post-war ham using military and civilian radio equipment. In the picture below; to the far left are two ex-Navy Collins equipment: a transmitter to the right of a receiver.

Collins Radio Equipped



HERE ARE A FEW of many types of the Navy's small craft which maintain communication with this Collins designed TCS radio transmitter and receiver combination. This equipment is so sturdy, handy and reliable, and packs so much power and sensitivity into so little space, that it finds numerous Naval applications ashore as well as afloat. Usually the first radio installation on the beach-head, it is also standard on fire, rescue and crash trucks, and is often used on jeeps and command cars. The TCS is another example of the variety and quality of radio communication equipment Collins will be able to supply to industry after the war. Collins Radio Company, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; 11 West 42nd Street, New York 18, N. Y.

©Official U. S. Navy Photo





IN RADIO COMMUNICATIONS, IT'S . . .




U.S. Navy Collins TCS-12 Transmitter

This suggests some Naval service by “Joe.”

The transmitter has an antenna tuner on top of it, with an antenna lead. A homebrew power supply sits under them.

On the desk, sits a pre-war Meissner Signal Shifter DeLuxe. It acts as a VFO for a homebrew transmitter atop it. CHRS displays one in the W6CF shack. This model is likely pre-war; production of the earliest version started in 1938.



The CHRS W6CF Meissner Signal Shifter DeLuxe

The transmitter sports its own tuning unit and the antenna leads are homebrew 600 ohm (+-) open-line. “Joe” put some technical talent to good use.

John Staples, W6BM identifies the tube in the transmitter as a type 813, widely available as war surplus at the time. Note also the war surplus headphones.

So, a single “found” photograph can tell quite a story. The key is in the callsign: W2NDL.

(de K6VK, 12 VII '19) ##