



Cathay December 2015

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, Frequencies: 146.67MHz -600KHz PL85.4 and 442.70 +5MHz PL 173.8. The repeaters are linked only during the CARC Monday night net.

Update: Link to repeater 442.70 is currently not active until further notice.

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;

Yes, it is the December and I wish you all a Merry Christmas during this holiday season.

Now for the news you all have been anxiously awaiting for: **Ed Fong's blow out Annual Christmas Party**. Further details are in the special announcement section of this newsletter.

I like to take this moment to thank our Net Control Operators that have tirelessly run each Monday night the CARC Radio Net:

- Cy - WB6TCF
- Cecilia - KG6ICM
- Bernard – K6KBL
- Bill – KC6POF
- David – NC6D
- Edison – WB6IQN
- Terry – WB6TA

I cannot stress how valuable our Monday Nights radio nets are to both the CARC and the local community. We are able to demonstrate that the CARC is ready and willing to provide community emergency communication during a disaster (i.e. earthquake, fire).

Please save the date: 10:30 am – 1:00 pm Saturday February 13, 2016 for our CARC Annual Chinese New Year Luncheon at Kome Restaurant in Daly City.

My 90th Birthday Celebration Recap:

On Saturday November 21, 2015 – Along with family and friends numbering some 70 folks and a selected number of CARC members got together and celebrated my 90th birthday at the Pasta Pelican in Alameda.

My birthday celebration party was a gift from my loving children; Lauren, Janine, Russell and Michael. My daughter Lauren greeted each guest and presented them with her exquisite hand crafted special “long life” red pin for people to wear. She also did a terrific job as master of ceremonies during my lovely birthday party.

The party guests were treated to a delicious multi-course pasta luncheon and very poignant slide show of our family pictures accompanied by a wonderful music track that was put together by my talented children: Janine, Russell and Michael.

My wonderful kids took care of everything for my 90th birthday celebration party (i.e. planning, invitations, restaurant/food selection, financials, seating arrangements and so forth).

The birthday party was similar to a wedding party except the guests were asked not to bring any gifts. I could not be any more proud of my dear lovely children for their

generosity, thoughtfulness and enduring love. Yes, I have been very blessed these past 90 years with such fantastic children and wife of 50 years plus.



One of two huge coffee crunch cakes for my 90th birthday celebration party. Reminiscent of the long gone but not forgotten Blum's signature white frosting coffee crunch cake.



Picture of me (George) and Hetty wearing our bright red pins with the inscribed Chinese character for long life.

CARC 2015 Veterans Day Celebration Recap:

Turning the clock slightly back on another recent past event, on Wednesday November 11, 2015 several CARC members celebrated Veterans Day at the Buffet Fortuna Restaurant in Oakland. As many of you know I served with the US Army Air Corp in 1944-1946 as a ball turret gunner on a B-17 bomber and that I am extremely proud to have serve my country.

During the Veterans Day luncheon we had the following folks attend;

- George – W6BUR
- Hetty – WB6SHU
- Cy – WB6TCF
- David – WZ6X
- Gil – KJ6HKD
- Bill – KN6QD
- Linda (xyl of Bill)
- Gordon - KG6FAN
- Linda (xyl of Gordon)
- Rodney – KJ6DZI
- Gary – KN6LV

It was a very pleasant surprise to see Bill Tom (KN6QD), Linda Tom, Gordon Fang (KG6FAN) and Linda Fang at the luncheon as this was unexpected surprise. Bill Tom served as a Medic with the US Army in Europe and was in Berlin, Germany in 1945.

We all had a great time during the Veterans Day luncheon discussing past and current events.

Below are a few pictures taken during the CARC 2015 Veterans Day luncheon:



Left to right: Bill-KN6QD, George-W6BUR, Linda xyl of Bill



Gary – KN6LV



Left to right: Linda & Gordon - KG6FAN, first time having lunch at the Buffet Fortuna Restaurant



Left to right: Cy – WB6TCF proudly showing his US Navy Service Hat and Gil - KJ6HKD



Left to right: David-WZ6X, George-W6BUR both



Left to right: Bill-KN6QD (WWII)

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| proudly wearing their service uniforms jackets. | Combat Veteran) and Hetty-WB6SHU |
|---|-------------------------------------|

Tech Article Introduction:

The next big electronic gadget is expected to sell over a million units during this holiday season. That gadget; a quad copter drone was all over the news especially when one of them crash landed on the Ellipse, a grassy area just outside of the security perimeter near the White House South Lawn this last October 9, 2015.

Back in June 2015, William Merideth, a Kentucky home owner discovered a drone with a remote camera hovering over his property and spying on his 16 years daughter sunbathing in his backyard. Well, he did what any good father would do; he quickly grabbed this shotgun and just blew that spying drone out of the sky as it remained hovering over his property. The drone owner, David Bogg decided to press charges once the home owner refused to pay up the \$2,500 to replace the drone.



Picture of drone prior to being shot down

The father was arrested and charged with first-degree criminal mischief and first-degree wanton endangerment from discharging a firearm.

Now that you are properly informed, please proceed to read the **Featured Tech Article**.

CARC Final Wrap-up News

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, Dec 15, 2015
Tuesday 7pm, Jan 19, 2016

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

Upcoming events

December (TBD), please check website

RSVP to sffdnert@sfgov.org or call 415-970-2024 to register.

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 ALERT training classes have been scheduled for Saturday, February 27, 2106. The classes will be held at the San Francisco Police Academy, in the parking lot

bungalow, from 8am-5pm (one hour lunch break).

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 Saturday January 30, 2016 9AM – 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:

<http://sf-police.org/index.aspx?page=4019>

Special Christmas Celebration Announcement by Ed Fong- WB6IQN

Christmas Party – Saturday, December 19 6 PM - 10 PM

Host: Ed Fong – WB6IQN

Where: 1163 Quince Ave. Sunnyvale, CA

Format: Potluck – bring your favorite dish.

Door Prize - Full Featured Toshiba A4 Laptop with 4GB RAM, 500 GB hard drive

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

We will once again host the Christmas Party this year. Bring your friends, neighbors, cousins, you name it. Last year we had over 80 people with kids, friends, neighbors, all kinds of ham friends.

There will be all kinds of dishes from traditional Christmas, to Chinese, Korean, Italian, barbeque, you name it. Deserts are always plentiful.

Who knows who would be there at the Christmas party? The President of County Comm (Nick Cassarino) may show up. Lots of IEEE Fellows like Denny Montecelli, George Vendelin, etc. Famous authors like Ron Quan. This is also a great party to update your professional networking if you are looking for a job.

All licensed hams will receive one ticket - no charge at the door. This will make you eligible for the raffle grand prize. This year we have outdone ourselves once again.

The door prize will be a Toshiba A4 Satellite Laptop computer.

Make no mistake. This is not your plain vanilla laptop. This is a full blown Quad core machine. PC Review says “powerful processor at a great price point”. This model has 8-10 hours battery life. I tested it myself. It has an absolutely gorgeous satin black finish.

Check out the picture on the next page of my daughter, Violet Fong holding the grand prize: Toshiba A4 Satellite Laptop.



My daughter, Violet Fong proudly holding the Grand Raffle Prize, Toshiba Laptop.

The Toshiba A4 Satellite Laptop specifications are as follows:

- AMD A4 7210 Quad Core processor 2.2 GHz Radeon 3 Graphics
- Windows 10 Operating system
- 4GB of RAM
- 500 GB of hard drive
- 15.5 inch LCD (LED backlight) screen
- Gorgeous Satin Black finish
- 10 hour LiOn battery
- 3 USB ports, 1 HDMI, 1 CAT5
- SD slot
- 802.11n Wi-Fi
- DVD drive – you never find Laptops now that include a DVD, but this one does include one, an ultra-thin model that is only $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick

This is a \$500 laptop. Winner must be present to win.

We will also have a bunch of other prizes like my **new tri-band antenna** (2 meter, 220 MHz, and 70cm), flashlights, etc.

Featured Tech Article:

Rogue Drones Have Met their Match

www.battelle.org/media/press-releases/rogue-drones-have-met-their-match

Battelle's DroneDefender™ Brings Immediate, Portable, Effective Defense

COLUMBUS, Ohio (Oct. 13, 2015)—Aim. Engage. Stop. [Battelle's](#) revolutionary DroneDefender™, is the first portable, accurate, rapid-to-use counter-weapon to stop suspicious or hostile drones in flight, providing critical security protection at home and abroad.



The Battelle DroneDefender uses radio control frequency disruption technologies to safely stop drones in the air, before they can pose a threat to military or civilian safety.

The growing use and availability of commercially-available drones—also known as Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)—is raising concerns among defense, security and law enforcement leaders.

DroneDefender is an inexpensive, easy-to-use, lightweight, point-and-shoot system with a demonstrated range of 400 meters. DroneDefender provides instant threat mitigation, quickly disrupting the drone so that no remote action, including detonation can occur in sensitive areas. This minimizes drone damage and the risk to public safety.

“This is just the kind of tool we need to safely counter a drone threat,” said Dan Stamm, senior researcher who led the project. “The DroneDefender can help protect us from those who may wish to do us harm.”

“It can help us in numerous settings, from the White House lawn to bases and embassies overseas; from prisons and schools to historic sites,” said Alex Morrow, technical director on the project. “It easily and reliably neutralizes the threat.”

This innovative device has a cold start time of <0.1 seconds and an operating time of five hours continuous. It weighs less than 10 pounds, depending on how it is configured. Battelle is a recognized leader in national security, with the ability to quickly transform discoveries in the laboratory into mission-ready solutions.

The research team that developed the DroneDefender drew from their own extensive military backgrounds as well as Battelle’s deep technology expertise and 70-year history addressing complex Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear & Explosive (CBRNE) defense challenges.

Because it is designed to repel undesirable UAS attention without doing damage to the UAS, DroneDefender can be used stateside as well as abroad, with versions hardened for forward deployment in challenging environmental conditions.

The DroneDefender can be either fixed or portable, with battery packs available to help protect any installation, mobile VIP or unit.

www.battelle.org/media/press-releases/rogue-drones-have-met-their-match

CARC Editor Addendum on Drones:

The Drone Defender sends out a jamming radio signal on the common GPS and industrial, scientific and medical (ISM) radio frequencies (2.4 GHz, and 5.8 GHz) used by commercial drones.

For more information:

<http://www.droneflyers.com/2014/11/basics-radio-frequencies-fpv-quadcopter-drones/>

Once radio communications have been severed between the operator control unit and the drone, generally the drone is programmed to do one of the following:

- Fly back to release point following the way it arrived only in reverse.
- Land Immediately

Having the drone fly back to the release point requires additional software and hardware. Hence, most commercial drones will land since it is much simpler for the drone to just land.

In case you decide to build your very own personal drone jammer: the FCC has ruled they are illegal in the US for private citizens, please see the following:

<http://droningskies.com/good-news-drone-radio-frequency-jammers-are-against-the-law/>

Post Script Follow Up on the Kentucky Shooting Down of a Hovering Drone:

On October 27, 2015 the presiding Bullitt County Judge Rebecca Ward dismissed all charges against the home owner, William Merideth for downing the hovering drone.

Judge Ward ruled it was a clear violation of invasion of privacy and that the home owner had the right to shoot down the spying drone that was hovering low just above his backyard.

By the way, I really don't recommend shooting down a flying drone with a firearm as there are way too many legal complications especially in California.

Our club president, George – W6BUR believes that by using a mirror and shining it at a hovering drone, it is a nifty way to not harm the drone but to make the captured images from its camera unusable.