

Cathay February 2016

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;

By now most of you know that I did not win the January 13, 2016 Power Ball Lotto with the largest US lotto payout of 1.5 billion dollars. And that 3 lucky folks have got my winning ticket!

The latest winning lotto numbers were: 4, 8, 19, 27, 34 and power number 10. My ticket numbers were: 10, 18, 48, 62, 64 and power number 23. Yes, I managed once more again to not even get one single number selected in the Lotto drawing.

However; all is not lost especially when you attend the ~~February 18, 2016~~ Saturday February 13, 2016 CARC Chinese New Year Luncheon. During the luncheon raffle you will have much better odds of winning fabulous raffle prizes provided by Ed Fong - *WB6IQN*.

The portion below of this newsletter is a repeat of the CARC January 2016 Newsletter for those folks that missed it.

A belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.



2016 is the Year of the Monkey, which begins on Monday, February 8, 2016.

If you were born in 1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, and 2016 you are a Monkey person according to the Chinese Calendar.

Yes, it is time to think about celebrating Chinese New Year which will take place on Monday, February 8, 2016 and will herald in the year of the Fire Monkey.

Folks born in the year of the Monkey tend to be witty, intelligent, have a big life almost magnetic personality. Their personality traits are practical joker, curiosity, cleverness make for a very dynamic personality. They are fast learners, creative, inquisitive, ambitious, adventurous and enjoy mental challenges to keep them from getting bored. They are extroverted and can be communicated with easily. However being the master of practical jokes they can be too much to handle at times.

The best mates for Monkey folks are Ox, Rabbit, Serpent, and Monkey. It is best to avoid mates that are Tiger or Boar. .

CARC Chinese New Year Luncheon

Let us, CARC members come together and celebrate the Chinese New Year with a luncheon, from 10:30 am – 1 pm on Saturday, February 13, 2016. It will be held at KOME Restaurant in Daly City.

Please email early your RSVP: bill.kc6pof@comcast.net , it will greatly assisting us with planning, the printing of name tags and handling of several other logistical task.

Edison Fong is planning on some awesome raffle prizes, so you don't want to miss out on this event. **The list of raffle prizes and additional CARC luncheon details along with sign up information are contained in the latter part of this newsletter.** I wish to express my many thanks to Ed for taking on this huge task on behalf of the CARC.

Featured Tech Article will resume in April 2016 to keep the next several CARC newsletters to a downloadable size.

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, Feb 16, 2016
Tuesday 7pm, Mar 15, 2016
Tuesday 7pm, Apr 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 (SFFD)

On December 26, 2015 one of our SFFD NERT members, Ada Lowe (in picture on the next page) performed lifesaving CPR on a stranger, an elderly lady at a restaurant.

Our congratulations to Ms. Ada Lowe for taking action and applying her life saving Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training.



Ms. Ada Lowe

Upcoming events

February 2016

- 6 Intro to NERT Communications (NCT) 101
- 11 NCT 201: Emergency Messaging
- 23 NCT 301: Hands on buttons & knobs and antennas
- 24 NCT 401: Hands on message passing and scribing
- 25 NCT 501: NET Control for NERT staging
- 27 SFPD ALERT Training
Information and Application

(You must apply early and pass a background to be considered for this training)

March 2016

- 2 NERT Coordinators & Leaders meeting
- 5 Neighborhood Leadership College
- 10 Ask an Elmer: informal session with ham radio mentors
- 12 St. Patrick's Day Parade NERT marching Unit
- 16 NERT Communications 601/Social Media
- 19 Neighborhood Command Operations (NCP) I
- 29 ICS Forms Workshop

April 2016

- 2 Neighborhood Command Operations II (Prerequisite NCPI)
- 5 Staging area command post set up & operations
- 17 NERT Citywide Drill (Sunday)

May 2016 – Sept 2016 (TBD)

October 2016

- 7-9 Fleet Week Humanitarian Village; NERT Outreach/Education booth.
9:00a-3:00pm, Marina Green near Scott St.
- 15th: Save the Date! NERT drill

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

Visit www.sfgov.org/sffdnerf 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 May 7, 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>

CARC Chinese New Year Luncheon

2016 CARC Annual Chinese New Year Luncheon

As for those of you that were able to attend the CARC luncheon last year, we enjoyed seeing each other and “yakking” it up. As word spread about our successful CARC luncheon get together, those who did not make it told us "We will be there for the next one". This year it will also be a great opportunity to meet up with our newest club members and to renew our old friendships.

The time and date: 10:30 am - 1:00 pm Saturday February 13, 2016.

Location: KOME Japanese Seafood and Grill
1901 Junipero Serra Blvd.,#A
Daly City, CA 94104
650-992-8600

Parking: There is free parking in the adjacent five story garage structure.

Cost: Special CARC Adult cost will be \$22.50 per adult.

Seniors over age 60 pay \$21.50

Children Pricing:

Age under 3: Free

Age 3-5: \$9.90

Age 6-8: \$12.38

Age 9-11: \$14.88

These Saturday prices includes: tax (9%), 15% tip, and reserved seating. As you know everything retail seems to goes up in price. So this year KOME Restaurant raised the prices slightly (50 cents) from last year but now charges for all beverages except water.

Beverage prices other than water, not included with the luncheon price:

Soda\$1.99 – free refill

Hot tea\$1.25 – free refill

Juice.....\$2.25

Sake.....\$7 – \$9, Hot Sake: \$4:30 – \$6:30

Beer.....\$4.99 – 6.99

Please note that any beverage other than water not included with the price of the luncheon. If you order beverages not covered, you are responsible for paying the additional charges. At the end of the luncheon, using the honor system, we will collect any beverages monies previously not collected.

For more info please see: www.komebuffet.com

Luncheon money and optional beverage money will be collected at the start of the luncheon, so please have exact change ready! Please put on the CARC name tags that will be provided. We need it to identify who has paid and for head count to satisfy the restaurant.

Please email Bill Chin (bill.kc6pof@comcast.net) by February 8, 2016 if you are planning to attend the luncheon. We need your name with call sign and the names of your guests (with call sign if available) to create the necessary name tags that you will be requested to wear during the luncheon. The name tags help identify you for the pictures we put into our newsletter. Plus it helps us with money collection of who has paid up.

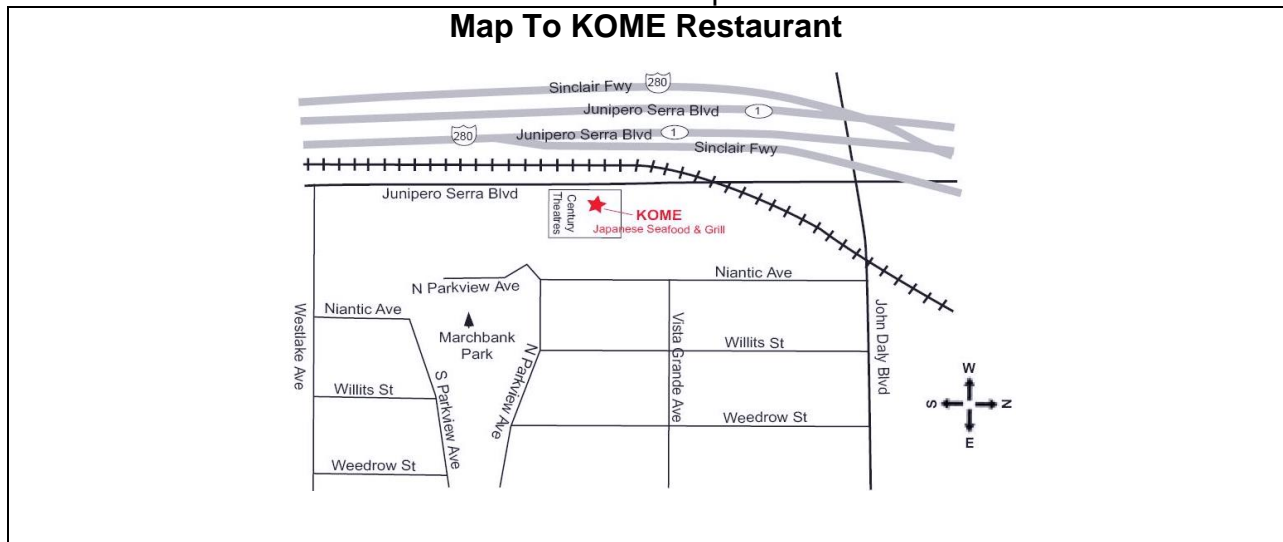
Driving Directions:

* If coming from Hwy 280 Northbound, take the John Daly Blvd/Junipero Serra Blvd exit and continue north on Junipero Serra Blvd and side drive past the Century Theater ticket office.

After a series of small restaurants on the right hand side there is a 5 story parking garage, the entrance will be about 50 feet past KOME restaurant entrance doors.

* If coming from Hwy 280 Southbound, take the John Daly Blvd/Junipero Serra Blvd exit. After crossing the traffic signal light intersection, in about 500 feet, turn left into the 5 story parking garage structure entrance.

Please refer to the KOME restaurant location map that follows below:



We have reserved the back area room at the KOME restaurant for use of the Cathay Amateur Radio Club. **At the restaurant door please identify yourself as being with**

the CARC and a KOME hostess will escort you to the back room. Please check in with both Vince Chinn aka Mingie W6EE and Hetty WB6SHU so they can check your name off the attendee list and collect the money to pay the restaurant bill. Hetty WB6SHU will make sure those senior citizens will get their dollar discount. Be aware that the early bird gets the worm, no feeding after 1PM; I hope we won't have to be booted out, hah-hah!

KOME restaurant is an all you can eat Asian buffet style dining offering a large choice of foods. KOME restaurant is where we held our previous Cathay Radio Club Chinese New Year Luncheon and it was a big hit with all the attendees. There is free parking at the adjacent 5 story parking structure. The Daly City Bart train stop is 2 blocks away.

Please arrive early; **the luncheon time (10:30 am-1pm) will quickly slip away while you are getting caught up with the latest news among our fellow club members, plus you don't want to miss the raffling of fabulous prizes.** The back room is fairly large is able to accommodate 150 guest. I doubt that our CARC members and friends would completely fill it, so feel free to invite additional guests.

The dining tables as I seem to recall were sort of like outdoor picnic types with individual chairs for seating. One other hint: If you are a great eater and love food, try not to choose any tables where the opposite end is against a wall. I found that it was really hard to maneuver quickly for more goodies!

Your Hosts:

George Chong (W6BUR)
w6bur@comcast.net

Mingie Chinn (W6EE)
vince@vincechinncpa.com

Bill Chin (KC6POF)
bill.kc6pof@comcast.net

CARC Chinese New Year Luncheon Raffle Prize Announcement From Ed Fong:

Once again I have been honored to be selected as the prize chairman to obtain the prizes for our CARC annual raffle. The prizes I have procured this year are again representing the state of the art technology for us "Hi-Tech Hams".

This raffle has something for everyone, even if you are not a ham. I always have fun purchasing these prizes because it educates me on what is leading edge technology. The advantage is that I get to test these new products out to make sure they are working to spec. In the past, I actually returned defected products and made sure the replacement products worked before I brought them to the raffle.

It is also true that many a times I have stood in line in the cold early morning hours for Fry Electronics Store to open to assure that I am one of lucky ones to get the lost leaders (or what Fry's calls the promo codes) for our raffle prize deals.

We also like to thank Nick Cassarino (President of CountyComm) for donating CountyComm LED flashlights for this year's raffle prizes.

Grand Prize as requested by our CARC members.



Toshiba A4 Satellite Laptop computer. Make no mistake. This is not your plain vanilla laptop. This is a full blown Quad Core machine running at 1.8 GHz. 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.

- 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.
- Ultra-thin – $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick
- This is a \$500 laptop. Winner must be present to win.

2nd Raffle Prize: Ematic Tablet



ematic – A full blown 8 inch screen tablet running Windows 10. This is a new release by the ematic company, an engineering firm based in LA. Don't be fool by its small size. This Laptop/Tablet is running an Intel Quad Core Atom at 1.3 GHz with 32GB of flash memory and has an SD slot for further memory expansion. It will fully process HD video with real time processing.

There is absolutely no freezing up while running the Windows operating system and only taking up about 25% of the CPU. I confirmed this myself with the Windows "Task Manager".

This little Tablet has more processing power than a CRAY 1, but consumes less than 1/1,000,000 of the power requirements. This is an answer to prayers for a portable computer.

A few years ago I won an Apple iPad from one of our events. It was great for browsing and had a nice camera, but it certainly could not do things my PC could do. Then in 2013, I bought on Black Friday an Android Tablet with a Blue Tooth Keyboard running an ARM processor. Cute, but it did not have a power of a full PC.

Androids and iPads even offer a watered down versions of Microsoft Office, but those versions lack many of the advance futures of Microsoft Office 2010. The iPad does offer very smooth real time video processing but it could not run many of my Windows programs such as the programming software for my Wouxun and Baofeng walkie talkies.

After experiencing both the Android and iPad, I came to the conclusion what I really wanted was a Tablet (with a touch screen) with a good keyboard, good battery life, and that can totally run a full version of Microsoft Windows 10 that would be compatible with third party Windows software that I can just load in and run.

I could have purchased a Microsoft Surface PC, but what are the prices one of these computers? Over \$1000? Yahoo!!! My prayers have been answered with the release of the lower cost ematic tablet.

The **ematic Tablet Specs** -

- 8 inch HD 1280x800 LED back lit display
- Windows 10 operating system
- 1.3 GHz Intel Quad Core Atom processor
- 32 GB flash memory – expandable with SD slot
- Wifi – 802.11b/g/n
- USB 2.0
- SD card slot
- hours operating time
- Front and back cameras for skype/videos, etc.
- Touch Screen
- Built in speakers

Accessories included - full featured blue tooth keyboard (30 ft range – tried it myself), AC charger, USB cable, gorgeous neoprene case with numerous compartments, and stylus pen (with built in flashlight).

Whoever wins the raffle prize for this this latest and greatest ematic tablet running Microsoft Windows 10; they will be one very happy camper!

3rd Raffle Prize: Yaesu VX-3R



Yaesu VX3 - World's smallest hand held transceiver with a general coverage receiver.

Yep, Yaesu took the world by surprise several years ago and introduced this tiny little dual band hand held and never looked back. Nothing comes close to it.

The Beofeng's UV3 transceiver was an attempted to clone the Yaesu VX3 but it lacked the features of a general coverage receiver and did not have AM or the 1000 memory channels.

The Yaesu VX3 is clearly the "Rolls-Royce" of mini- held hands transceiver that is envied by many but copied by none. Great things come in small packages.

- Ultra-compact and Light Weight 4.6 ounces
- Rugged Construction - Aluminum Die-Cast Chassis
- Plenty of Power Output in a Compact Package - 1.5 W (@ 4.5 V AA x 3 or built in 3.7 V LiOn battery
- Operate with AA Batteries with Optional Battery Case – included with the prize
- Internal Bar Antenna for AM Broadcast Band Reception - external antenna not required

- Earphone Jack for FM Stereo Broadcast Listening -
- Listen to AM or FM Broadcast while Monitoring an Amateur Frequency - sub RX feature allows you to listen to your favorite AM or FM Stereo Broadcast station while monitoring an Amateur Radio frequency...AT THE SAME TIME!
- Wide-band Receiver Coverage - Extremely wide receiver coverage – 1 – 1000 MHz
- Special Memory Banks - WX, VHF Marine, Shortwave Broadcast
- Huge 1000-channel Memory Capacity
- New Mechanical Dial Lock Function - No more "bumps" off your desired channel - lock it and keep it.
- Equipped for Worldwide Internet Linking -Talk around the World using Yaesu WIRES II Internet Linking!

4th Raffle Prize: Countycomm GP5/S SB



Countycomm GP5/SSB - The latest and best portable hand held HF SSB receiver in the world. Fully software defined using the Syllas 4734 DSP chip. Has software defined product detector and DSP SSB filters for true LSB and USB with 450 memories. In case you are wondering.....Yes, I am proud to say that had a hand in designing this clever and handy device!

Frequency Coverage –

MW/ AM: 520 – 1710 kHz (10K tuning step)

SW: 1.7-30 MHz AM/SSB/CW (with DSP SSB filters)

LW frequency: 150 – 522 kHz AM/SSB/CW

FM: 76 – 108 MHz – stereo

- Displays ambient temperature in Fahrenheit or Celsius
- Built in clock
- Operating time: 225 hours at 40% Volume
- Multi Tuning Methods: ATS, ETM, Auto scan tuning with 5 seconds pre-listening for both frequency & memory (VF / VM)
- LCD Backlight
- External AM antenna Jack
- Built-in rechargeable function (USB jack, 5V) (can use rechargeable batteries)
- Size: 53 (W) x 159 (H) x 26 (D) mm

Accessories include: Stereo earphones, external AM ferrite antenna, external shortwave antenna, soft carrying pouch, and user manual

Additional Raffle Prizes:

There will be many other wonderful raffle prizes including but not limited to - digital multi meters, latest in LED Flashlights, etc.

Don't miss this trend setting CARC Luncheon raffle. I'll see you all at the CARC Chinese New Year Luncheon & Raffle event. Don't forget to bring your \$5 for each raffle ticket. Unlike the Powerball lotto, I guarantee winners among the luncheon attendees every time!

Ed Fong - WB6IQN