

Cathay March 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.

Tech Article Introduction

We are very fortunate to have our distinguished CARC member: Bart Lee – K6VK write an article for this month's CARC newsletter about Ham Radio in the past. Please enjoy the well written and well research article. Many thanks to Bart Lee.

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, February 19, 2019
Tuesday 7pm, March 19, 2019
.....Tuesday 7pm, April 16, 2019
Tuesday 7pm, May 21, 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

March

- 2 Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Point of Dispensing Training
- 9....2MCM Ham Radio practice
.....No RSVP needed. Meet at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park at 10am
- 17...NERT Training Day - Third Saturday
.....Featured Trainings:
 - Coordinators Corner - for Neighborhood Coordinators and those interested
 - NERT Forms Fun - hands on included
 - NERT Communications Team (NCT) continued training
- 20 ...Psychological First Aid for NERT and MRC volunteers
RSVP to sffdnert@sfgov.org or call 415-970-2024 to register.

April

- 13 2MCM Ham Radio practice
No RSVP needed. Meet at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park at 10am
- 20 NERT Citywide Drill, NERT graduates and victims needed
SAVE THE DATE!!

***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 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 June 1, 2019 and 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 May 4, 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.

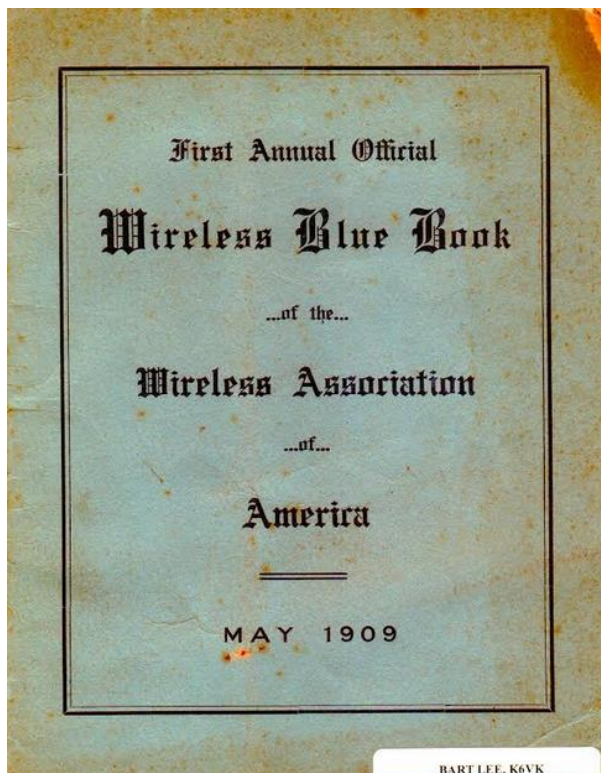
For additional information on the web please refer to:
<http://sf-police.org/index.aspx?page=4019>

Ham Tech Article:

California Historical Radio Society Archivists at Work By Bart Lee, K6VK, A Fellow in History of the California Historical Radio Society – Feb 20, 2019

The California Historical Radio Society (CHRS) has been responding to inquiries from Dylan Flesch, a radio historian. Dylan is a Research Associate at the Library of Congress Radio Preservation Task Force and the Media Asset Librarian at the Seattle based radio station and arts organization, KEXP.

Dylan is asking and researching: “How many Amateur Radio Operators and Stations, and When?”



In 1909, private publication, the *Wireless Blue Book* (see image on right) in 1909 listed *some* amateur stations.

The publisher was Electro Importing Co. of New York (Hugo Gernsbach, principal). It had just started *Modern Electrics* magazine which invited amateurs to write in and sign up for an association. Some 89 stations appear. This is a very small fraction of those on the air by 1912, perhaps as many as 10,000 by some estimates.

The *Blue Book* is the list of those stations that were well-off enough, and interested enough, to subscribe, and in many cases send in a photograph for *Modern Electrics* (see nearby image).

A favorite is:

"Ozone Wireless Co., San Francisco, Cal. Call Letter: MJ Approximate wave length in meters: 80 Spark length of induction coil: 10 [inches]." Doc Herrold's assistant Ray Newby is listed as station EZM, San Jose, Cal. at 235 meters with a three inch spark.

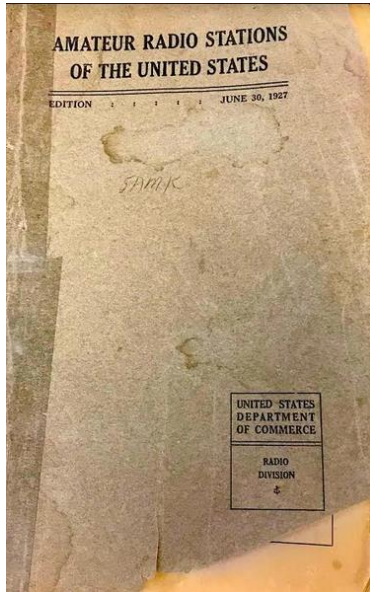
The 1912 Radio Act (after the RMS *Titanic* wireless telegraphy problems) discouraged many amateur radio operators because their operations were consigned to (then) very high frequencies, 1500 KHz and above or "200 Meters and Down." At the time this was a technical challenge, so many hams did not stay involved and did not renew licenses. On the other hand, many continued on the air as illegal operations. In many parts of the country amateur operation did not change much and there was little enforcement outside of New York and San Francisco, where the Navy would face radio interference and complain. Legal operations by licensed amateur radio operators plummeted in 1913 -'15 (one of Dylan's sources says down by 90% or so to somewhat over 2,000) and picked up again with new licenses 1915 - 1917. Overall operations may not have dipped nearly as much. The Army Signal Corps history says:

THE SIGNAL CORPS: THE EMERGENCY (To December 1941):
[When the US entered World War One] "... there were 6,000 licensed amateur radio operators. More than 4,000 of these responded to a spirited recruiting campaign ..."
[https://history \(dot\) army \(dot\) mil/html/books/010/10-16/CMH_Pub_10-16-1.pdf](https://history(dot)army(dot)mil/html/books/010/10-16/CMH_Pub_10-16-1.pdf) [page 21].

Keep in mind that the Army (and Navy) mostly wanted men with Morse code skills and some technical background, so even no longer licensed hams fit the bill. During World War One there was a *justified* near hysteria about German spies and sabotage. All antennas had to come down under penalty of law. There was no "bootlegging" or illegal operation by hams. Perhaps only one ham radio club, the San Francisco Radio Club (established in 1909), stayed active, but not on the air.

Also, in say, 1916, 1917 or 1919, the US ether in general was pretty quiet except for military and naval (and some low frequency commercial) circuits. There wasn't a lot to interfere with. That changed with the coming of broadcasting and home radios, circa 1922-'23. But by then, the hams were back on the air legally, as of 1920.

The 1919 list of licensed radio stations from the Department of Commerce has only government and commercial stations. Hams were not allowed back on the air until 1920. The 1922 list is also only of government and commercial stations.



At Radio Central in Alameda, we have two old but relevant books in the library. Both are lists of licensed amateur radio stations from the Department of Commerce, one 1927 and the other 1931. Neither book gives any totals. But 293 pages in the 1927 book (see nearby image) each have about 77 entries, although the stations are first listed by callsign and then otherwise. So figure about 145 pages at 77 each for 11,165 (with some false precision). It's safe to say more than 11,000 hams licensed as of 1927.

In the 1931 book, there are 420 pages with about 72 entries each (somewhat longer addresses). Again only half are callsigns. So figure 210 pages at 72 each = 15,120 (again with some false precision). It's safe to say about

15,000.

Dylan's research indicates about 53,000 licensed hams by 1946, and 160,000 by 1958.



Assistant Librarian David Harris took a look at the commercially published "*Amateur Radio Callbooks*." They listed amateur stations by callsign so other amateurs could send them QSL cards to verify a radio contact. The first one to give any totals was 1960 (see image on left), for 225,000. A later one, 1974, shows 294,000.

Keep in mind that Citizens Band Radio at 27 MHz was taking off in this period, so there were many thousands of initially licensed and then unlicensed lower power (and some high-power illegal) stations on the air— true "Citizens Radio."

73 de Bart Lee K6VK ##