



## **CATHAY RADIO NEWS**

### **Summer Events July 2005**

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Cathay Amateur Radio Club is basically an active social club of Ham Radio Operators and their spouses.

Monday Night Net Time: 9PM PST Frequency: 146.67MHz -600KHz PL85.4 and 442.70 +5MHz PL 173.8 The repeaters are link. If you live outside of the Bay Area, you can log onto Echolink via N1GF. The Monday night net is the best way to find out the latest club news.

### **Field Day 2005**

We all had a great time at the W6BUR QTH. The club would like to thank George and Hetty for graciously hosting the 2005 Cathay Amateur Radio Field Day. The roster shows that 22 members and visitors came to enjoy the great day. My estimate was about 25 people total since there were some kids and people that did not sign the roster. One can always tell it was a

successful event when George's parking lot fills up. I like to thank everyone that may it all happen. Without the great food and company, it would not have been possible. I counted a dozen dishes with great deserts, lasagna, several chicken dishes, salads, and you name it. I ate so much, I could not eat dinner that night. Here are some of the highlights of the day.

**Dave Chan (WZ6X)** brought all his Motorola HT's. I counted like 7. I hope he still had his 7 at the end of the day. **Howard (N6MNV)** demonstrated his capabilities with his laptop for programmable the Motorola radios. So all you folks with Motorola radios missed your chance to get free programming.

**Bob Lai (KM6QP)** brought his HDTV tuner that he hook up to the Grand Prize (the 17" LCD monitor) to demonstrate how clear HDTV is. Everyone agreed that it was much sharper than NTSC video. Maybe a HDTV tuner could be a future prize. Thanks to Bob, we probably sold more tickets.

Yours truly (**Ed Fong WB6IQN**) brought his Agilent 8591E spectrum analyzer. We tested about 10 HT's that were on hand and found that most synthesized radios all had poor phase noise. Some better than others. but not a single one could perform like a Motorola HT220. Even the Motorola GP68 and HT1000 were rather disappointing.

We compared **Arey's (K6MEW)** Nikon D70 and my Sigma SD10 digital camera by photographing a Chinese map that Arey had. The Sigma SD10 was sharper with its 10.6 megapixels.

**Leonard Tom (NX6E)** won the grand prize. Beginner's luck. Leonard is member who moved away about 10 years ago and has rejoined our group. New member Ron Quan won the flat bed scanner. Although we have all known Ron for years, he is finally a new member. Howard (N6MNV) and I grew up with Ron in our neighborhood. This Flat bed scanner was a Umax 2200 which also scans negatives. Ron had it working on his computer the next day.

We had Nancy Stevens (KG6OCT) as visitor. She even won one of the raffle prizes. Hope she becomes a member. The raffle yield \$17 for the club. The prize winners are listed below.

#### **Prize winners:**

**Hyundai 17 LCD monitor** - Leonard Tom (NX6E) - beginners luck

**Umax 2200 USB flat bed scanner** donation by Foveon Inc. (division of National Semi) Ron Quan – just what Ron needed.

**175 Watt DC to AC power inverter** - Cyrus Moy (WB6TCF) - the man that is always prepared.

**3 - 50 ohm Coax patch cables** - Howard Louie (N6MNV) – Howard can certainly used these for the all the tinkering he does.

**Digital multimeter** Bob Lai (KM6QP) – Can Bob really use another one of these?

**Shortwave 7 band radio** - Ron Quan – great little radio for Ron to take along on his hikes.

**1 million candle spot light** Gary Gin – maybe one night I can go to my roof and you can send Morse code to me across the Bay and see if I can see it.

**Multi function key chain flashlight** Arey Mew (K6MEW)– Arey, remember to leave this in your luggage while traveling. The knife won't pass airport security.

**3 - dual band portable J-poles** Bill Hardy (KF6VOG), Nelson (AD6XZ), Nancy Stevens (KG6OCT) – This is a great antenna to put into your emergency kit.

**Pictures from Field Day 2005:**



Leonard Lee, the Grand Prize winner.



Dan Young K6GOW making contacts.



Cyrus (WB6TCF), Howard (N6MNV) and Nelson (AD6XZ) checking out a radio on the Agilent 8591 Spectrum analyzer. Wow!!! Look at those spurs and phase noise. Time for a HT220?



Dave Chan (WZ6X) getting ready to barbecue a hotdog. What's wrong with charcoals?



Nancy Stevens KG6OCT, a visitor, won one of the portable dual band J-pole antennas. Hope she will become a member.



There was plenty of food to go around. Lasagna, chicken, salads, deserts, you name it. I don't think anyone left with an empty stomach.



Cecelia Cervano (KG6ICM) with her daughter or was that granddaughter. Isn't she too young to be a grandmother?

Thanks to Howard (N6MNV) and Dan (K6GOW) for the pictures.

## **Coming Events for the year. Mark your calendars.**

**Tech Day:** August 13 – Construction of a Dual Band Portable J-pole

**Place:** 1163 Quince Ave. Sunnyvale Phone: 408-245-8210

**Time:** 12 AM to 4PM Right after the DeAnza Swap Meet

**Food arrangement:** FREE Pizza, lasagna, salad, and drinks. Bring a desert for 4-6 people. \$6 if you wish to build and take home a dual band portable antenna.

This year's technical seminar in Sunnyvale will be right after the DeAnza College Ham Radio Swap meet. It will be at my house in Sunnyvale right down from the swap meet. Come after the swap meet and enjoy some Pizza, lazagna, salad and drinks. There is no charge for this event. Bring a desert if you like. If you would like to build and take home a portable dual band J-pole, the cost of materials is \$6. This is the same exact antenna HRO's sells for \$20 as the DBJ-2. It is completely portable and can easily fit into a large pocket or backpack. It provides about 6dB gain over a handie talkie antenna. For those weak signal areas during an emergency or in remote areas, this is an idea solution. An article of this antenna is being written up for QST or CQ magazine. I have not decided which magazine I will submit it to.

**Directions :** From the DeAnza Flea College Flea Market. Go North (towards Highway 101) on Stelling Rd (DeAnza College is on the corner of Stelling and Stevens Creek). Stelling Rd will

change its name to Hollenbeck Ave. when you crosses Homestead Rd. Go 1 more mile and cross Fremont Ave. On the next signal light, make a left on Torrington. Go one block to a dead end and make a right. I am the second house with all the antennas.

**Directions: From 101.** Exit Highway 101 in Sunnyvale by taking the the Matilda Exit. Go South on Matilda for 2 miles. Cross El Camino, go about ½ mile then make a right on Fremont Ave. Go ½ mile and make a right on Hollenbeck. Proceed to the first signal which is Torrington and make left. Go one block to a dead end and make a right. I am the second house with all the antennas.

## **Annual Picnic (Saturday, September 10) –**

**Place:** National Semiconductor, corner of Lawrence Expressway and Kifer in Sunnyvale

**Time:** September 10, right after the DeAnza Swap Meet 12 Noon

**Costs:** FREE food, FREE parking, FREE drinks Raffle Tickets: \$5 each

Bring your friends and guests. It's all free except for the raffle tickets.

This year's annual picnic will be held at National Semiconductor Park in Sunnyvale. Can't beat this park since there are no park fees, no charge for parking, and best of all, it is close to HRO's, Computer Surplus, Halted Specialities and Costco. We will provide for the lunch which will be hamburgers, barbeque chicken, and hotdogs. Bring a desert or side dish for 4-6 people. We have always had a great time at this park.

The top raffle prizes will be a **Dell Inspiron 7000** donated by my company Foveon In. (spin-off of National Semiconductor) and a **Yaesu VX2**.

The **Dell Inspiron 7000** is not the latest and greatest but it will more than suffice for the typical user. It comes equipped with 320 Meg of RAM, an 8 Gig harddrive and loaded with Windows XP. It also comes with a CDRW/DVD so you can play your favorites movies and burn CD ROM's. It has a built in 8 meg ATI graphics card and your can have you choice of a 56K/network card modem or 802.11g wireless network card.

The **Yaesu VX2** is the smallest dual band handheld in the world with 1000 memories. It has a general coverage receiver that covers 100KHz to 1 GHz. Receive modes include AM, FM narrowband and FM wideband. You can use it as a scanner, a shortwave receiver, an FM broadcast receiver, an AM broadcast receiver, and a dual band VHF/UHF 1.5 watt transceiver. It can be programmed via a computer and it can even transmit on the 220MHz band with some slight modifications. It has a special narrowband mode (12.5 KHz spacing) so it is completely compatible with FRS, GMRS, and MURS channels, WOW!!!. Do you really need another radio after this one?

**Directions:** On 101 take Lawrence Expressway West. Go about 0.5 miles and there will be an underpass, go past Arques Ave (this is the turnoff for HRO's). The next intersection is Kifer, make a right at Kifer. Go about 2 blocks and National Semiconductor is on your right. Go past the main building and eventually you will see a big park on your right. Turn in and that is where the picnic will be. Monitor the Southbay repeater N6MNV 442.70+ 100Hz pl if you get lost. We will have color balloons at the entrance.



One of the Grand Prizes. A Dell Inspiron 7000 Laptop with CDRW/DVD.



The other of Grand Prizes. A Yaesu VX2, 1000 memory dual band HT.

### **Hiller Air Museum**

Date: October 1, 2005

Time: 1:30 PM to 3PM

Cost: \$4 seniors, \$7 regular, kids 8-18 \$4 , under 8 free

The Hiller Aviation Institute & Museum was founded by helicopter pioneer Stanley Hiller Jr. in June 1998. I think it is one of the big secrets in the Bay Area. It has numerous exhibits of

helicopters, airplanes, and other flying machines. We have arranged a private tour at 1:30 PM. This should be really fun for you flying enthusiast.

Exhibit – A collection of aviation history spanning over the past 30 years by Stanley Hiller. Collection includes 50 aircraft exhibits and numerous displays such as:

- 1869 “Avitor” Hermes Jr. (first aeroplane to fly - unmanned)
  - 1883, 1905, & 1911 gliders (Montgomery)
  - 1911 Eugene Ely’s Curtiss Pusher (the first plane to land on a ship).
  - 1913 Lincoln Beechey’s “Little Looper” (first aerobatics airplane).
  - 1945 Hiller 360 (first inherently-stable helicopter to be licensed by the FAA).
  - 1955 Flying Platform (first ducted fan, man-carrying, VTOL aircraft)
  - 1956 XROE Rotorcycle (fully collapsible helicopter)
  - 1970 Boeing 747 cockpit (interactive display)
  - 1986 Boeing Condor (spy plane with 201-ft. wing span)
- And many more ...



You will see the insides of a Boeing 747 cockpit. You can also see 1/3 of the fuselage of the entire 747.



Another unique exhibit is the Boeing Condor which was a high tech test bed reconnaissance aircraft built in the late 1980s. With a wing span of over 200 feet, the Condor is larger than either the Boeing 747 or the Boeing B-52 bomber. The Condor had an un-refueled flight duration of 80 hours. It was powered by two 175 hp, six-cylinder opposed, twin supercharged, liquid cooled, Continental TSOL-300-2 engines. One of the Continental engines is on display on the museum's mezzanine. Remarkably, the aircraft is totally robotic with no pilot. On board computers communicate with computers on the ground via satellite to control all facets of the Condor's mission.

This is only some of the cool things you will see. So don't miss it.

**Directions: From San Francisco:** Take Hwy 101 south to Holly Street/Redwood Shores Pkwy exit. Go east onto Redwood Shores Pkwy. Turn right onto Airport Road. Turn right onto Skyway Road.

**From San Jose:** Take Hwy 101 north to Holly Street/Redwood Shores Pkwy exit. Go east onto Redwood Shores Pkwy. Turn right onto Airport Road. Turn right onto Skyway Road.

## **AVOIDING SILENT KEY - Lyme Disease, by Bill KN6QD**

Lyme Disease, a very serious infection first diagnosed in Lyme, Connecticut, is transmitted by a deer tick, which is now spread to every state in our nation, but infections are most prevalent in the New England States and in California.

Lyme Disease is caused by spirochete bacteria, roughly related to the syphilis bacteria, carried by some deer ticks, which is actually not a tick, but it is in the spider family and is about the size of a poppy seed, almost invisible to the eyes. The tick can be passed on to animals, pets and to human.

The Lyme Disease can be divided into two phases. The early phase has symptoms so mild, such as chills, minor fever, headache, fatigue, joint and neck pain, that could easily be overlooked. About half of the infected cases develop a typical "bull's eye" rash that lasts about 2 to 3 weeks. This rash can appear in any part of the body, not necessarily in the area of the bite.

The "bull's eye" rash is a 6 to 8 inch circle that has a central red spot surrounded by clear skin which is encircled by a red ring. It is possible to develop more than one bull's eye rash. These rashes are rarely painful or itchy, but may be warm to the touch. If caught early, the disease can easily be cured by a few days of antibiotics. Like syphilis, Lyme produces some mild symptoms and a rash early on, then disappears, only to return to cause terrible problems years later.

But, not every person bitten by the tick would develop such a rash and the disease can easily be ignored until it has arrived at the late-stage symptoms which may occur years afterwards. These symptoms tend to be more severe to include fatigue, arthritis, and damage to the heart and nervous systems. In some instances, these late symptoms can still be treated successfully with a prolonged and expensive series of oral or intravenous antibiotics.

Fortunately, Lyme disease cannot be transmitted from person to person, since it requires the tick vector, and not every tick is infected by these bacteria. These ticks are normally found in grassy areas, such as golf courses, wooded areas, walking trails, and bushy and tall grasslands. They cannot jump, hop, fly or drop from trees. They must be in direct contact with your skin or clothes to attach. Once attached, they would migrate up your leg, your arm or upper body and would bite and bury themselves into your skin to suck your blood for 36 to 48 hours, during which time it would inject the bacteria into your body.

These ticks can easily be removed with a pointed tweezers, grabbing the tick as close to the head as possible. Squeezing the tick or covering them with Vaseline or nail polish would only force them to inject the bacteria. If the head, that is buried into your skin, becomes detached from the body, the head alone cannot inject the bacteria.

Prevention: You should apply insect repellents, such as DEET (diethyltoluamide) or Permetrin repellent on your clothing, being careful in their use on young children. Keep your yard clean of rodents, deer, squirrels and chipmunks that are hosts for ticks. Remember, ticks can survive a winter by hibernating under tree leaf litters. Bird feeders and stonewalls often harbor ticks. Family pets, such as dogs and cats, can bring the ticks into your household. Chemical control can be instituted by spraying your recreational areas with insecticides every six months.

During the summer months, it would be impossible to keep away from grassy areas. If you or your children were bitten, it would be very wise to see your physician for get a course of antibiotics to stop the disease early. *kn6qd*