



The Coachella Valley Repeater



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HAPPY B-DAY



Stormy Dayton
KF6BM



Woodrow
Wood
N6LGW



Weldon Madlin
KE6GMC

Defense of Spectrum Donations

Members; please go <https://www.arrl.org/forms/fdefense/> and read the reason I asked the club to donate \$ 100.00 for the Defense of Spectrum. I have requested Club donations in the pass few years and this time, the vote was "NO". You need to understand we are not lucky to have our bands; it has a lot to do with the ARRL. I personally send my money each year and our club should be doing the same.

Please go to the attached link, read it and you will understand. My apologies for not being better prepared in my request for funds. It is difficult for the presenter to always know how everyone feels, therefore the best way to understand the big picture, is for everyone to examine the facts.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in this important matter.

Bill Dews K6AWO

Don Doughty, W6EEN, SK

an appreciation by Dave Bell, W6AQ

Whenever I think of Don I always remember the old English phrase, "Hail fellow, well met" because Don was a bigger than life character, friendlier, more outgoing, and more welcoming than almost anybody I ever met. He had the biggest antenna farm, the most radios, and more generosity in his heart than almost anyone I know.

Don loved DXing and contesting and showered the Northern California DX Foundation with support. Not only that, he loved everything about ham radio and supported the ARRL so the hobby would be sure to expand and grow and survive. He even urged other hams to do likewise, including me.

I got the contesting bug from Don and spent many happy hours in his huge, well engineered shack chasing points. But what those get-togethers were really about was camaraderie. Don loved being the host, whether for a few of us running a contest, or a huge gang from all over Southern California for a big barbecue. For several years, Don had his own ham-fest, right out under the patio roof and around the pool. It wasn't unusual for 150 hams to show up. Don was always smiling.

Some folks thought that Phyllis Doughty had to put up with a lot, but to me, Phyllis always seemed to be a happy participant. One of Phyllis' good friends, Helen Luttringer, Ron, K6XC's wife, helped Phyllis in the kitchen, feeding the hungry hoard of contesters who showed up with regularity to go for a clean sweep or a top ten finish. If Phyllis wasn't having a good time, she sure fooled me. Here's to you, Phyllis.

I first met Don at the International DX Convention in Visalia. I'd come into the bar of the Holiday Inn by myself and it was full of hams, as usual. A guy I'd seen but didn't know was sitting with a bunch of hams from the Northern California DX Foundation. He waved me over to an empty seat next to him. "Hi," he said, "I'm Don. What're you drinking? I told him a Saffire martini, very dry, up with a twist, and Don said, "I like that." A waitress appeared as if by magic and within a moment my drink was in front of me. I learned that night that Don's drink was a perfect Rob Roy, a concoction even more exotic than mine. I liked Don from that very first moment and I've liked him ever since. Don Doughty will live in my memory and will bring a smile to my lips for the rest of my days. Thanks Don and 73.

John Connell, KJ6J, SK

Sept 20, 1919 - Jan 17, 2009

During WWII, John joined the Army Air Corp and served as a Flight Instructor, obtaining the Rank of 1st Lieutenant. After the war, he returned from Iowa and started Connell Chevrolet in Orange County. John worked until 8 days before his death. John, KJ6J with his love for Amateur Radio, was a prime mover of the Condor Connection. He provided the Repeater, 224.82 on Santiago Peak.

May God Bless John, KJ6J

Michael D. Hood, AE6KR, SK

1931 - 2008

Born in El Paso, Texas, Mike was a Radioman for the Army Corp of Engineers in Germany during the war. Mike spent many years in Blythe, California on the Colorado River. Mike retired from AT&T in 1987 as a Radioman. Mike Hood was our past Emergency Coordinator for Riverside County R.A.C.E.S., Palo Verde District.

May God Bless Mike, AE6KR

AMSAT-NA

(Article Continued from Last Month)

I wonder if anyone really tried to connect to www.amsat.org? Put this in your bookmarks please. If you did you saw lots of information and read. I just did a print out of the above and believe me you will learn a lot. You don't even have to work a bird, just listen and see how it all works before spending money. I hope you have put a program in your PC and keep the Keys up dated and view the world with satellites flying around it.

This will take some of you a while and others who are fast with PC's, it will be faster. Just go at your own speed and learn. One of the sat's is named AO-51 and I down loaded the schedule so I could see what to write about. The dates Jan 12-18th show Uplink 145.920 Mhz FM and downlink 435.300 Mhz Now look over at your HT and see if you can program the Downlink in. Remember you will not hear a signal unless the bird is flying over your area. This is why I want you to have a world map on your PC screen and the up dated Keys. This way you can look ahead to see the date / time the bird will be in your area. Now even if the bird is in your range you may not hear a thing. Kind of like our local 2 M repeater; No one is on the air.

Back to downloads, on the first page of the www.amsat.org, you will see Downloadable Software listed; do as it says and get something on the screen. You are becoming a ham in a specialized part of ham radio now. One thing you will learn fast is the short time the bird will be in range. You may only get 15 minutes from start to finish (LOS) you must be ready and it's time to play. Afterwards the view on screen will still be seen but you are no longer in range. You will have time to continue to study on what you need to do to make it all come together with working satellites. You will be working other hams many miles away all on the VHF/UHF frequency's. The antenna's as you learn will be very important. The HT will need at times beams and outdoor views. Co-ax will need to be low loss of signal at these frequencies. The HT can work fine if you have a clear view of the bird, short feed line helps.



Example of Tracking Software

Have you wondered how the HT will work two different antenna frequencies? This is now part of the study time I spoke about above. Read about duplexers. Get your hands on ham radio catalogs and learn how to read information on the PC that you will need to read and learn. Look up the Arrow 145/437-10 antenna (<http://www.arrowantennas.com/146-437.html>) and why the use of a duplexer. Don't worry about cost you will only use a 435M bean that you will build to get started.

'Til Next Month . . . Bill Dews K6AWO



Coachella Valley Amateur Radio Club

Come join us at The Coachella Valley Amateur Radio Club Meeting.

Club dues are due in Jan & delinquent by Mar 31st
(PO Box 11092, Palm Desert 92255 or pay at the meeting)

- ☐ Day/Date: Tuesday, February 10th
- ☐ Time: 7:00 p.m.
- ☐ Location: Cathedral City Fire Dept.
32100 Desert Vista Road
Cathedral City



Coachella Valley R.A.C.E.S.

The next R.A.C.E.S. Meeting is Thursday, February 12th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at 425 N. Civic Drive, Palm Springs.

This is the LAST preparation meeting for the Tour de Palm Springs Bike Ride on February 14th, so it is vital that everyone attends. We're still in need of more operators for this big event.

Ken Nelson W6NEL

Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services
District Officer, Coachella Valley
Home Phone 951-849-7397
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Dave VonKaenel
N6KOO



Susan Kazmierczak
KI6VBO

H A P P Y B - D A Y



THE DESERT RATS

To bring you up to date about Jan activities in the Desert RATS Club . . .

You may or may not know that we have a 6 week long Technician Class underway with 40 students under the guidance of 8 instructors and a VE testing Team we are forming this month with 11 VE Testers on the Team. I'd like to thank Dr. Henry Richter W6VZA and Randy Skrypek, K6YFE our first Team of instructors and Dave Bowden, KG6AJ and Art Snow K6RKS our second Team of instructors. Despite a problematic microphone, these guys did an outstanding job in instructing our students. I met with most of our students and many commented on how interesting our class teaching format was. Many Hams have dropped by before the start of the 2 hour class to visit and lend their support and encouragement to the students. The Ham visitors have been blown away by the size and diversity in ages of this class. Our youngest student is in grade 3 and there are a number of teenagers and young adults represented (7 pm is the commencement time of the Thursday night class at the Palm Springs Civic Yard Conference Center; feel free to drop by between 6 pm and 7 pm to have a brief social visit with this very interesting diverse group of students and talk radio).

We have setup a web site for Instructors and students to answer any student questions and pass along information about VE testing information. As well we sent the students a lengthy comparison of all the 2 meter hand held radios on the market to help them decide on their first handheld radio. If anyone is interested in a copy, I'll gladly forward a "pdf" file copy; e-mail me at ve7rez@gmail.com

February promises to keep many in the Club busy with this activity. We are taking names for a waiting list for our next class. If you know someone who is interested in a Technician course, let Gary KD6QLT know. E-mail him at sboskovich@dc.rr.com. A General Class will be organized if we get enough response; put your name on the waiting list for that with Gary as well.

Our next Desert RATS Club meeting is on the 3rd Tuesday of the month and here is a link to our monthly calendar so you can check it to view any last minute changes or additions in club activities. <http://ical.mac.com/pete.r/Desert%20RATS%20Events%20Calendar> - Or you can always e-mail me at ve7rez@gmail.com

Check into our Monday Night 7 pm NET on 146.940-PL107.2, preceded by Amateur Radio Newline (Ham News from around the World) at 6:30 pm

73 . . . Peter VE7REZ

President, Desert Radio Amateur Transmitting Society of Palm Springs
"The Desert RATS"
<http://desertrats.x.am>



QCWA Chapter 154 DREEP's Droppings

Don Doughty, W6EEN, SK. Don died peacefully Friday, January 16, 2009. For many years Don was a "shaker and mover" of the ham community here in the Valley. His obituary is on page 2 in this issue of the Repeater.

Major items from Bill Burton's, K8ZZO, estate ham assets have been liquidated. All items, except for one dummy load, have been sold or donated to a charity. The tower, hardline, and miscellaneous fittings were donated to Southern California Intermountain Repeater Association, a 501(c)3 corporation. Total value of the donation: about \$5000. There are many miscellaneous items that will be sold at a hamfest in the near future.

At our January luncheon, Dick Clark, K6GLB, did a terrific job of describing the origin, financing, management, and behind the scene activities at the Palm Springs Air Museum. Indeed, this was valuable background information for next month's field trip.

Our February luncheon meeting will be Thursday, February 19, 2009, 11:00 AM, Palm Desert Greens Country Club. Price for the meal is still \$12.00. At 1:15 PM, we will carpool to the Palm Springs Air Museum, where Dick Clark, K6GLB, will conduct a personalized tour of the exhibits. Dick has negotiated a special admission price for our group: \$7.00. **Now here is a real deal: Paid up Chapter 154 members will get free admission courtesy our Treasurer!** So pay your dues before, or at, our February meeting! Everyone is invited to take advantage of this opportunity.

Please call or send an e-mail to me if you plan to attend the luncheon. We expect a larger than normal attendance because of the field trip. The dining room needs this information for planning.


73
Gene Pentecost, W4IMT
President, Leo Meyerson QCWA Chapter 154
Greater Palm Springs Area
Quarter Century Wireless Association
760-568-3341 gene.pentecost@ieee.org



HAPPY B-DAY



February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 am RACES NET	2 7 pm RATS NET	3	4	5 7 - 9 pm DRATS Technician Class 425 N. Civic Dr, Palm Spgs	6 11:00 am LUNCH @ Palm Desert Greens 	7 9 am VE Testing Cathedral City Fire Dept. 32100 Desert Vista Rd
8 8:30 am RACES NET	9 7 pm RATS NET	10 7 pm CVARC Mtg Cathedral City Fire Dept, 32100 Desert Vista Rd 	11	12 7:00 pm RACES Mtg 425 N. Civic Dr, Palm Springs 	13 11:00 am LUNCH @ Palm Desert Greens 	14 Tour de Palm Springs 
15 8:30 am RACES NET	16 7 pm RATS NET	17 7 pm RATS Mtg P.Spgs PD Trng Ctr, Library @ Civic Way 	18	19 11 a.m. QCWA Mtg @ Palm Desert Greens 	20 11:00 am LUNCH @ Palm Desert Greens 	21
22 8:30 am RACES NET	23 7 pm RATS NET	24	25	26 7 pm RACES Comm TEST 146.025+ I107.2	27 11:00 am LUNCH @ Palm Desert Greens 	28

NET(s) FREQUENCIES: Sundays 830 hrs - RACES Net (3.945 MHz)
 Mondays 1900 hrs - Desert RATS Net (146.940-, 107.2 pl)
 Thursdays 1900 hrs - Coachella Valley **RACES** Net (146.025+, 107.2 pl)