



Mountain Flashes

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R.A.C.E.S. Mountain District/ Mile High Radio Club News

November 2007 Edition

In this Issue:

KN6JV's Korner ✂ *Bill's Quiz* ✂ *Bill's Comic Revue* ✂ *October RACES Meeting Notes*
October MHRC Meeting Notes ✂ *November Meetings and Events*
MHRC Website ✂ *Bill's Quiz Answers*

KN6JV's Korner

There is a lot going on.

First, sadly, I must report that Derith Susman is a silent key; she passed away in the morning of October 17th. Bart, K6UNR, and "Derrie," KE6AMI, Susman lived in the Palm Springs area but were also members of the Mile High Radio Club. Both were part time residents of Pine Cove. They both worked the Idyllwild 4th of July Parade communications several times.

The Mile High Radio Club (MHRC) and RACES Mountain District have merged meetings. Any Club business will be presented first with RACES following with info and training. All are welcome to attend both meetings. MHRC has an annual dues structure while RACES has no dues. The combined meetings are set for the 2nd Thursday each month (including December) at 1900 hours. The usual meeting place will be Idyllwild Fire Station with occasional meetings at the American Legion Hall for a pot luck dinner before a meeting.

We often like to have dinner at Arriba's at about 1730 before the meeting. Join us there.

The following information was passed at the RACES Council Oct. 17th meeting:

Background checks will begin after the 1st of the year. The check is a basic county level and should not cause any issues with current members. One problem is that members need to go to either Perris or Indio to go thru the process. Existing background checks are not accepted. The County (or OES) is paying the fee. Scheduling is not in place yet.

Caches of radio equipment will be placed at strategic locations in the county. One cache will be at Station 23 in Pine Cove. Certain other Districts will have similar caches. Other equipment, such as portable repeaters, will be in Perris and Indio.

In November, **2008**, there will be a drill based on a major earthquake on the San Andreas Fault that will affect most of California in some way. The planning of where the quake causes damage, the type and magnitude, aftershocks, types of damage likely, the impact on all types of services, etc., is being developed by professionals in earthquake studies. Realism in all aspects is the goal. The exercise lasts a few days but simulates time spans of 2 months. RACES will be involved. More info as it develops – it's a year away. RACES and all communications will be exercised. Get ready to easily handle simplex and other modes.

The County RACES manual update is expected to be finished early in 2008. In addition to other revisions, it will include requirements for RACES members to retain membership.

RACES caps will be issued to all registered RivCo RACES members at no cost.

Thanks to all the RACES and Non-RACES amateurs who have answered up for the Mountain District Standby Roll Call.

DON'T FORGET TO FILL OUT YOUR PERSONAL COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT LIST AND BRING IT TO THE NEXT MEETING.

Bill Baker KN6JV
R.A.C.E.S. Mtn. Dist. Emergency Coordinator

Bill's Quiz

1. How does the wavelength of a radio wave relate to its frequency?
 - a. There is no relationship between wavelength and frequency
 - b. The wavelength gets shorter as the frequency increases
 - c. The wavelength depends on the bandwidth of the signal
 - d. The wavelength gets longer as the frequency increases
2. What is one thing that must be included when passing emergency messages?
 - a. The call signs of all stations passing the message
 - b. A status report
 - c. The name of the person originating the message
 - d. The message title

(Answers at end of the newsletter)

Bill's Comic Revue

One liners?

1. Now that I finally got my head together, my body is falling apart.
2. An unbreakable toy is very useful for breaking other toys.
3. Does this make cents? There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar. (Go figure!)

March RACES Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order by Bill Baker, KN6JV, E.C., at approximately 1930. There were 11 members and Chris Johnson, KI6LOD, present. Chris's and Greg Morris's (KI6HVA), memberships are in progress. Mike Erlich, KQ6QY, treasurer, reported there was \$2,788.83 in the RACES account. Bill was reimbursed \$75.20 for the purchase of a microphone which was lost at the 2006 Field Day.

We are still waiting for information about the drill which was to be held at the end of the month.

Bill received a report from Dennis, CDF fireman at Sta. 23, that there is a caboose available that CDF wants to fit up with radio gear. Dennis also reported that half of the HF antenna at Sta. 23 is down and asked Bill to look into it. Bill will report this to Gina. One pole of the antenna is on

Pine Cove Water District property and Dennis said they do not want it replaced on their property.

Bill distributed an Equipment Resource Form to be filled out and brought to the next meeting.

The training for this meeting was a review of the District Communications plan. Bill asked Jim Kent, KF6TYZ, if he would repeat the Communications Plan presentation Jim gave before as it was more comprehensive.

It was suggested by the group that we needed a review of the set-up at Station 23.

Bill asked the group if we should continue meeting as a combined MHRC/ RACES meeting and the group agreed that it worked well.

The next meeting will be held at 1900 on November 8, 2007, at the Idyllwild Fire Station.

Vi Hallacy K6VBH
R.A.C.E.S. Mtn. Dist. Secretary

March MHRC Meeting Notes

The meeting was convened with twelve members present, thereby constituting a quorum. Rick Foster led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance. New member Chris Johnson KI6LOD was introduced.

The Secretary's motion to approve the September meeting minutes was seconded and adopted.

Bill Tell read a letter thanking the Mile High Radio Club for participating during National Preparedness Month 2007.

Bill Tell presented the October Repeater Inspection Report and said all looked good. He suggested taking a broom and dustpan when inspecting the repeater.

Those assembled favored continuing with the combining of the RACES and MHRC meetings.

Jim Kent asked for newsletter submissions by October 25.

Tom Unwin reported that the Repeater hum was improved, but was still present. He suspected the power supply and will be looking into that possibility.

Rick Foster moved that the following slate of officers be elected for 2008: President—Bill Baker; Vice President—Jim Kent; Treasurer—Paul Miglin; Secretary—Vi Hallacy; and Directors Rick Foster, Bill Tell, and Tom Unwin. His motion was seconded and adopted. Officers will be installed at the November Meeting.

Jim Kent KF6TYZ
MHRC Secretary

November Meetings & Events

Mark Your Calendars!

MHRC Bd. of Dirs. Mtg., Tues., Nov. 8, 6:45 PM, Idyllwild Fire

RACES/MHRC Meeting: Thurs., Nov. 8, 7:00 PM, Idyllwild Fire

(Note: 2008 Officers will be installed during the MHRC Mtg.)

ALL AMATEURS are cordially invited to attend any of the above meetings.

MHRC Website

You may access the MHRC website at www.milehighradioclub.org

Bill's Quiz Answers

Answers: 1. b.; 2. c