

ORANGE NEWSLETTER



February 2008



The Juiciest Section

In the news for the Orange Section:

OCCARO (Orange County Council of Amateur Radio Organizations) is looking for Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

I encourage your support to Amateur Radio and to our clubs. If you are interested please contact Dino Darling at dino@k6rix.com for further information.

OCCARO MEETING - 7:30pm
Tuesday, February 12th, 2008

Anaheim Utility Service Center
[909 E. Vermont, Anaheim, CA](http://www.qsl.net/occaro/)
<http://www.qsl.net/occaro/>

BE APART OF OUR AMATEUR FAMILY

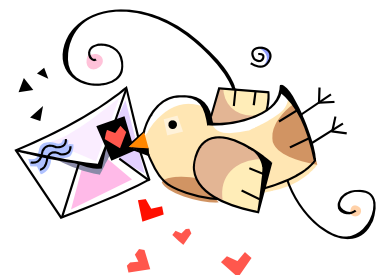
Orange County Fair July 13, 2008 thru Aug 3, 2008



The Orange County Fair is approaching and we are in need of a booth director to lead us to another successful Amateur Radio presentation at the booth. This years' theme is "Say Cheese". If you have an interest, please contact Gordon West at SWMEOW@aol.com or me at wu6d@arrl.org. Gordon has all the information that will help the booth director feel comfortable about this position. Many clubs have volunteered their time in the past and are doing so again this year.

<http://www.ocfair.com/ocf/>

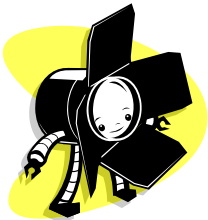
Remember February 14 – for your non-ham/ham partner!



CALIFORNIA DMV FINALIZES AND SENDS OUT INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMO

February 5, 2008 - The issue of the NO SPACE in our Ham Plates has been resolved. You may now take your plates back to the DMV. There is a special form that needs to be filled out regarding errors made on your plates. Information also can be found on QRZ.com – K7FE has put up an excellent post full of great information. Please pass the word on to those who may not receive this newsletter or my email via the ARRL.

Thanks once again to all the hams who flooded the DMV in Sacramento and to your assemblyman with concern over this change from norm. This was the real story on why they reversed their decision. From a source "We were so inundated by letters from amateurs that we decided to reverse our decision. A policy change is being made." This was accomplished as of today with the memo.



Spot Light Amateur Radio Operator

She was a bit inactive for some time but after moving to Hemet, wanted to get back into activity. She joined the Lee DeForest ARC of Hemet a couple of years ago, got some help in purchasing her Yaesu FT-60R (dual band VHF/UHF) and immediately was active on the local repeater. Her activities included: A "voice" on the repeater. She's not shy and jumps in when ever she can.

Everywhere she goes, she takes her HT with her and holds it "right in sight" when talking to people. It's impossible for the non-ham not to see that radio and ask "What's that?" and immediately she tells them about Ham radio, and offers to do a "demo" on the local repeater. Everywhere includes her doctor's office, the bank, the grocery store, the gas station, and really, just about anywhere. There have been many "demos" held on the repeater from Wanda.



Not long ago, she started a club for hams in the housing community she lives in. They currently have some 9 hams in their club and work closely with the Hemet club, as well as with their own groups involved in CERTS, SATERN, RACES and others. Although small in number, they hold monthly meetings and are planning for emergency conditions, as well as training.

More recently while monitoring at home, a highway emergency was called in. She jumped right in and took the information, contacted the authorities by phone and relayed information between the crash victims (none seriously injured) and the police and others. She's not afraid to "get involved".

During the fall of 2007 she talked with an elderly lady ham outside the Hemet area and soon realized that this ham had lots of telephone problems with outages lasting days, and she had to rely only on her HT for outside help. Her location and the mobile home made the use of a rubber ducky limited and very noisy into the repeater. Wanda went out to meet her and found a new friend. For different occasions Wanda became her transportation and got her to doctors or just shopping since she is unable to drive anymore. To resolve the noisy HT problem and keep costs low, Wanda conferred with others in the ham club in Hemet, and a J-Pole was donated to the cause and installed inside the hams mobile home to avoid drilling holes in the walls, and found to produce perfectly acceptable signals into the repeater. Now solid reliable communications are possible and our "distant" ham is now much closer to the Hemet area by radio.

In her housing complex there is a restaurant and Wanda has already found others interested in Ham radio. They will soon be involved in learning more and taking classes and their test.

Although she has health problems like many of us, she is always "UP" and eager to "get involved" with ham radio, including emergencies which she was involved with during the fire seasons. When someone says they need help, she says "What can I do to help?" She does all this using just an HT and a little help with external antennas at her home, which has restrictions.

Congratulations Wanda Alyea KB6ERP. The Lee Deforest Club and Amateurs all around thank you for your service to the Amateur community and the Hemet community

******* My idea is to give each club the opportunity to Spotlight a member, who the club feels has proven to be an exceptional Amateur and Volunteer within their Club. I will spot an Amateur each month if I am provided the information. It can be a short statement or medium statement regarding that person and also try to give me a photo. ***** Send emails with story to k6vc@scdxc.org**

Upcoming events in California and Arizona

Yuma Hamfest Feb 15 -16, 2008 – Yuma County Fairgrounds -
<http://www.yumahamexpo.com/>

International DX Convention Visalia – April 25 -27 2008 the best DX convention this side of the Mississippi. Visit www.dxconvention.org

ARRL NEWS:

- The 160 bandplan will remain the same as it has since July 2001
- Starting in 2009 – The \$36 dollar for seniors (65) goes back to \$39 for membership. The discount was favored 12 – 3 by the BoD at HQ.
- Two new positions have been created under the Section Managers field organization – 1. Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator (ASEC) and 2. Assistant District Emergency Coordinator (ADEC). The job descriptions are being formulated and will be emailed to each Section Manager shortly.

On another note: - The DMV also posted a clarification regarding cell phone usage and their mention of PTT. They have clarified on their website that PTT communications using radios that are based in the vehicle such as CB, PPT handhelds such as Nextel are exempt from the cell phone law. Keep in mind be safe when you are driving, be aware of your surroundings and respectful to all drivers. Note that your minors still can not use cell phones while driving a vehicle.

This was revised and posted due to not only Amateurs calling and writing, but commercial companies that were being affected the way it was stated on the website. Citizens again allowed their voices to be heard.



AMATEUR RADIO NEEDS YOU

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

73

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www.orange-arrl.org