

# • C o u n t e r p o i s e •

## The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLVI

June 2005

Number 6



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave.

Next meeting:

June 7th, 2005 7:00 pm

### Table of Contents

From The President	Page 2
Meeting Minutes	Page 3
V.P. Corner	Page 4
Calendar of Events	Page 4
Membership Application	Page 5
Fun Page	Page 6
Ham Spot Light	Page 7
Editor's Corner	Page 8
Thing to keep in mind	Page 8
Crest Radio Museum	Page 9
The A.R.E.S Connection	Page 9
Photos & For Sale Items	Page 10

All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022  
The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:

kc6qls@cox.net or by post

1237 Victor Ave #4, El Cajon, CA 92021

The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Web Site: <http://www.qsl.net/wa6bgs>

### Staff and Writers:

KC6QLS	Paul	Editor
KC6JCW	Stogie	From the President
N6OPH	Mike	Meeting minutes
	Tassy	HAM Spot Light
W6LKK	Erich	WAMO Report
W5COM	Tom	Jokes
N6NKJ	Rich	The A.R.E.S Connection



**Tuck, NZ6T presented Stogie,  
KG6JCW \$1000 check from the  
Estate of Seth Collier, W6CDD.**



**May meeting Speaker  
was Scott Weber  
KF6ZRT talking about  
Homeland Security  
More on page 10**

**"WOW" now that was a surprise. That was very nice of Seth to think of the club. Seth will always be with us.**

## 2005 Officers

President	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogie" Panger	263-4439
Vice-President	KG6QCO	David Cyr	328-0246
Secretary	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Treasurer	KF6WXA	Susan Kochel	445-6067
Past President	WA6MHZ	Pat Bunsold	593-1111

## 2005 Board of Directors

Affiliated Clubs	AE6AV	Larry Plummer	460-1818
Club Attire	AI60	Ed Felter	668-0928
Public Service	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Prizes	WA6PPG	Carl Ferree	328-2694
Welcoming	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
Social	KD6PRV	Anselmo Ruiz	574-0720

## 2005 Standing Committee

SANDARC Delegate	K5WFW	Len Fulbright	258-1322
Membership	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Public Relations	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Counterpoise Editor	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Education	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Estate Sales	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Field Day	KG6QCO	David Cyr	328-0246
Health & Welfare	OPEN		
Historian	OPEN		
Net Manager	KG6CQO	David Cyr	328-0246
Post Mistress	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Technical	W6RHV	Bob Boehme	448-4728
Swap Meet	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Bylaws	KF6XY	John Cordle	697-2175
WA6BGS Trustee	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
WAMO	W6LKK	Erich Bennett	401-7332

Would you like to be in the next HAM Spot Light?

The Counterpoise is looking for Staff Writers for Tech Talk, Band Condition Reports, new equipment reports, and other articles of interest to the Amateur Radio community.

Please contact KC6QLS Paul at:

kc6qls@cox.net



## From The President "Stogie" KG6JCW



Hello fellow club members. I am sorry and would like to apologize for all the confusion concerning Field Day. It will be held as scheduled on the 25 and 26<sup>th</sup> of June at the AI Bahr Shrine Camp. This confusion was caused by some problems that the camp is having. We will be one of two events occurring at the Lodge Saturday Night. Since there will be a band playing from 1900 to 2100, we may have to shutdown operations due to noise. The food service will be changed a little due to an invite from the Shriner's. More information will be put out at the next club meeting. I would like to thank Chet Smith, a long time member and a Shriner's for straightening out the SNAFU. The club is looking for band captain to manage and schedule the operators. We currently have one band taken care of, the Six Shooters will be managing the Six Meter band operations. They are currently repairing the antenna. If we have enough equipment, we will also be sponsoring a GOTA station on the 10M band. Please come out and have a good time.

Stogie KG6JCW

<b>AI60</b>	<b>FELTER FINANCIAL GROUP, INC</b> Financial and Estate Planning
	<b>Ed Felter, President</b>
8080 La Mesa Blvd Suite #113 La Mesa CA 91941 Phone: (619) 668-0929 Fax: (619) 668-5666 E-mail: edfelter@pacbell.net	

## Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting  
12 May 2005



The membership meeting of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon was called to order by club president at 1900hrs.

Tuck, NZ6T presented Stogie, KG6JCW \$1000 check from the Estate of Seth Collier, W6CDD.

SECRETARY'S report: was approved as published in the *Counterpoise*.

TREASURER'S report: was given by Susan, KF6WXA. It was approved as read and filed for audit.

Scott Weber, KF6ZIQ gave the presentation on the topic of homeland security.

After the break, the business portion of the meeting resumed.

PRESIDENT'S report: was given by Stogie, KG6JCW. Stogie, KG6JCW stated that negotiations for the repeater site for the club machine. Rattlesnake peak is the probable site. The problem with the Crest site is that there would be no room for the repeater. Another possibility would be the Helix water site. Negotiations are ongoing. We will need to provide some labor from the club to clean up the site and dealing with the cables. The next meeting will be a discussion of the upcoming field day. There would be many topics of discussion in regards to the field day operation. The El Cajon fire station will no longer allow the club to use the training room. Sites are being investigated. The minister of the church stated that he is very pleased with the presence of the ARCEC at the church for club meetings. The six shooters club is possibly able to repair one of the club's beam antennae.

SANDARC report: was given by Larry, AD6AV. He stated that the slate of officers have been re-elected for a two year term. CERT San Diego leader Barbara Ayers addressed the council regarding radio volunteers for the CERT teams. Volunteers are being requested to operate the ITU radio station during the ITU conference.

The conference will be held from 18 May to 27 May at the Sheraton Harbor Island. The Del Mar fair will be held from 10 June to 5 July 2005. Clubs are asked to provide operators for the SANDARC station at the fair. A report on the convention committee meeting was also tendered.

PUBLIC SERVICE chairman: Rich N6NKJ announced that the club participates during the Special Olympics during the first weekend in June (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>). The club handles the Sunday activities. Eric will be the control operator for this event. He also reminded the members that all who participate in drills or help out during emergencies should acquire the picture ARES card.

Steve Early, AD6VI reported on upcoming classes to be held within the county, which is sponsored by SANDARC.

EDUCATION chairman: Mike N6OPH reported on the club class schedule. The general class has concluded and the next class will be the CW instruction after Field Day. This class should start in July.

PUBLIC RELATIONS chairman: Paul KG6QLS reported that a CW presentation will be made on the Jay Leno show. Paul stated he needed people for the "Ham Radio Spotlight." The deadline for the *Counterpoise* will be extended one week to the Sunday a week from the general membership meeting. He also stated that

WELCOMING Chairman: Mike AE6CQ announced that we had 34 members and one new member who signed up this evening.

SOCIAL CHAIRMAN: Xemi KD6PRV apologized for the lack of donuts during the meeting.

It was announced by the club president, Stogie, KG6JCW that the June discussion will be a comprehensive discussion on field day and that in July, Cal, KG6FBV will give the program. They're being no further business before the general membership; the meeting was adjourned at 2056hrs.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael Paul Maston, N6OPH  
Secretary  
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon



## From The VP Corner KG6QCO David



June as everyone knows is "The Annual ARRL Field Day" This years event will be held June 25& 26. A few were concerned about our location at the Al Bahr Shrine Camp. Well, we are on for the use of the location with a few changes. Due to over booking by the camp manager, we will be using the porch as usual but not the lodge itself, as there is another function going on while we will be there. Also we will probably be closing down our stations for approximately 3 hours Saturday evening as there will be a live band in the lodge. The location of the Al Bahr Shrine Camp is on the left side of Sunrise Hwy off of Interstate 8 at the 26.5 mile marker. If anyone can help with the transporting and setup of antennas and stations, please drop me an e-mail at [kg6qco@yahoo.com](mailto:kg6qco@yahoo.com) We are also in need of radios for said stations, Mike N6OPH has 40 meter radio that he will be bringing up. We will be needing 10 & 20 meter radios and Mike N6IEF will have a station of his own up there and the 6 shooters will have the station setup there as well. Please see Mike N6OPH has far as lodging goes for the site, and I'm sure he will have something dealing with that subject. Junes general membership meeting will be centered around field day so please try to attend. Hope to see you all there.

73 David KG6QCO

### VEC Testing Sites

1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday:	El Cajon 10:00 am First Lutheran Church of El Cajon 867 South Lincoln Ave.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday:	Carlsbad 10:00 am Carlsbad Safety Center Orion Way Carlsbad
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday:	North Park 10:00 am North Park Recreation Center 4044 Idaho Street San Diego
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday:	Chula Vista 9:00 am Salvation Army 643 Third Ave Chula Vista
5 <sup>th</sup> or last Saturday:	Escondido 10:00 am Escondido Chamber of Commerce 720 north Broadway Escondido

To make advance reservations or to find out more info from the site captain, please call 465-EXAM (3926)

### WA6BGS Nets

David Cyr:	KG6QCO	Net Manger
Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Controller
Frito	N6WKB	Wide Open Nets

#### WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights  
8:00 pm local time 7:30 "Checkins"

10 Meters: 28.480

Tuesday Night Rag Chew net:

8:00 pm

Nets held on club repeaters

WA6BGS Repeaters

2 Meters SANDRA Repeater

Output 146.265 " Otay"

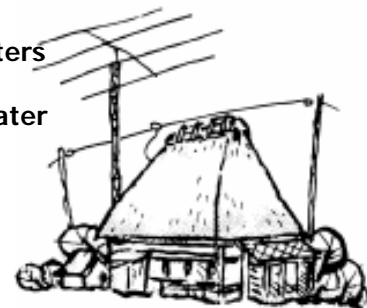
Input + Split

PL 107.2

224.080 – 107.20 PL

445.900 – 141.30 PL

Don't miss it. All members welcome.



### Club Attire

\*\*\*\*\* Shirts on hand Call for Sizes \*\*\*\*\*

Get your jackets, hats and t-shirts.

Show off your club colors and let all know that the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon is strong and growing.

## Calendar of Events June 2005

June	4:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
June	4:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
June	7:	Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
June	9:	General Meeting, 7:00 pm
June	11:	ARES Meeting, 8:00 am
June	18:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
June	18:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
June	25-26	ARRL Field Day

The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: [www.qsl.net/wa6bgs](http://www.qsl.net/wa6bgs)

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file maybe up to 1.5 mb at times.

**ELECTRONIC SUPPLIES**  
 "ELECTRONICALLY SPEAKING"  
 GATEWAYS GOT IT FOR ALL

\*STATE-OF-ART COMPONENTS \*RADIO AMATEURS  
 \*ELECTRONIC EXPERIMENTERS \*ROBOT EXPERIMENTERS  
 \*INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS \*ROBOT BUILDERS

**WE BUY & SELL**

(858) 279-6802 MON-FRI 9-5:30  
 SAT. 9-5

**gateway**  
 ELECTRONICS, INC.  
 9222 CHESAPEAKE DR. SAN DIEGO  
 1 BLOCK SOUTH OF 52 FWY BETWEEN KEARNY VILLA & RUFFIN RD

**CUPIDS CATERING**

GLORIA BAUTISTA  
 (619) 588-8202

El Cajon, CA 92019

**HAM RADIO OUTLET**  
 INVOLVEMENT AND FUN

Tom Mc Duffie KM6K, Manager  
 5375 Kearny Villa Road  
 San Diego, CA 92123  
 (858) 560-4900 or 1-800-854-6046

## Change of Address

### Moving?

Do not miss an issue of the Counterpoise. Fill out the Change of address form below.

Call \_\_\_\_\_ WAMO# \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 New Address:  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Membership Chairperson:  
 A.R.C.E.C./ P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

### ARCEC Membership Application

1. Amateur Call Sign	2. Class of License
3. First Name	4. Last Name
5. Street Address	6. City, State, Zip+4
7. Home Phone	8. Work Phone
May we list: Y N	
9. DOB	10. e-mail
11. ARRL Member Yes no	12. ARES Member Yes No
13. RACES Member Yes No	14. Sponsored by: or Family Member

Return this form with check made payable to the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon or ARCEC for new or renewal membership. Annual Dues \$18.00 for Individual, \$30.00 for family. New members add \$5.00 per member. Include your call on Check. Mail to  
**Membership Chairperson**  
 A.R.C.E.C., P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

New ( ) or Renewal ( )	WAMO Number
Certificate Issued	Computer Database Updated
Paid Cash ( )	Check No.
Check ( )	

### Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and he will send you the database back as an attachment. He uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593.9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

# FUN PAGE

## Birthdays

June 1	WB6POW	Gordon	Ripley
June 2	KG6QCO	David	Cyr
June 7	KF6CVG	Robert	Lang
June 11	N6WHK	Phil	Pedigo
June 12	W6RHV	Bob	Boehme (L)
June 12	KF6CSY	John	Durante
June 15	KF6MLK	Carl	Scavo
June 18	KF6ZCA	George	Miner , JR
June 20	NX6Q	Mel	Dunn
June 22	KE6QCA	Allan	Ingram
June 22	W6PEA	Patrick	Allen
June 26	WA6YWC	Frank	Ratty
June 27	WB6ODR	Bob	Smith
June 27	N6OEI	Matt	Lunati
June 29	KE6QVF	Bill	Geiler
June 30	K7SD	Steve	Bertalan
June		Lucille	Kelm (L)

Did I miss your Birthday or is yours next month? E-mail me: KC6QLS@cox.net

## Jokes "Big Fire"

One dark night outside a small town in Wisconsin, a fire started inside the local chemical plant and in a blink of an eye it exploded into massive flames. The alarm went out to all the fire departments for miles around. When the volunteer fire fighters appeared on the scene, the chemical company president rushed to the fire chief and said, "All our secret formulas are in the vault in the center of the plant. They must be saved. I will give \$50,000 to the fire department that brings them out intact."

But the roaring flames held the firefighters off. Soon more fire departments had to be called in as the situation became desperate. As the firemen arrived, the president shouted out that the offer was now \$100,000 to the fire department who could bring out the company's secret files.

From the distance, a lone siren was heard as another fire truck came into sight. It was the nearby Norwegian rural township volunteer fire company composed mainly of Norwegians over the age of 65. To everyone's amazement, that little run-down fire engine roared right past all the newer sleek engines that were parked outside the plant.

Continued Page 11

## Word Search "Homeland"

T	E	C	H	N	O	L	O	G	V	O	R	S	J	F
A	H	E	L	P	M	E	F	I	N	D	I	T	K	F
X	D	G	X	S	E	I	C	N	E	G	R	E	M	E
E	I	K	N	R	E	S	P	O	N	D	E	R	S	M
S	S	D	U	E	A	V	K	E	N	G	K	N	X	A
L	A	Q	G	S	R	D	N	T	R	A	O	S	L	E
R	S	V	T	C	U	C	I	A	E	I	G	D	N	P
K	T	K	R	U	S	T	V	O	T	K	B	D	C	K
H	E	L	X	E	W	D	D	A	R	U	L	F	O	Y
A	R	G	J	N	D	V	C	I	G	S	N	L	E	T
M	S	E	R	A	Q	I	T	N	E	D	I	C	N	I
S	V	L	I	T	N	L	V	L	X	S	P	O	K	R
L	X	E	Q	U	I	P	M	E	N	T	A	D	J	U
A	J	P	M	O	G	K	J	L	J	A	P	U	W	C
V	E	M	V	S	U	P	P	O	R	T	G	E	V	E
W	O	N	K	R	L	A	R	E	D	E	F	Q	L	S
C	V	X	N	E	G	D	N	A	L	E	M	O	H	X

ARES  
CIA  
Communications  
Disasters  
Emergencies  
Equipment  
FBI  
Federal  
FEMA  
Technology

HAMS  
Homeland  
Incident  
Radio  
Rescue  
Responders  
Security  
State  
Support  
Taxes

## Last Months Word Search

B	E	E	R	B	O	T	T	L	E	S	R	S	A	K
G	C	H	A	R	S	V	Q	J	F	D	J	I	K	
H	R	F	W	K	H	F	D	G	S	T	S	G	T	M
A	T	I	R	E	S	M	T	X	A	G	A	B	R	G
J	C	R	C	S	R	H	G	C	A	R	C	A	A	T
F	W	A	L	L	E	T	A	B	E	D	T	C	S	R
E	A	J	H	V	G	N	C	T	N	R	K	H	A	
F	K	M	G	O	S	I	T	K	A	B	D	I	K	C
U	D	H	I	D	T	E	L	C	X	E	K	A	S	G
S	F	B	T	S	B	K	G	V	F	O	M	C	H	N
H	O	C	A	B	J	N	H	S	X	F	D	K	D	I
X	R	L	T	B	I	D	J	D	C	R	O	G	E	P
M	P	T	F	P	S	G	H	L	J	A	O	W	S	P
A	S	G	P	L	H	M	K	S	X	M	W	R	X	O
K	J	S	L	D	R	A	D	T	O	E	C	D	M	H
D	H	S	T	R	E	E	T	S	I	C	N	Q	L	S
S	T	E	K	C	A	P	P	U	H	C	T	E	K	A



This month's ham spotlight shines on Rich Beisigl, N6NKJ, WAMO #573. Rich first got his ham radio license in May of 1985. He is now has an extra class license. His favorite mode and band is 20 meters sideband. He has 190 confirmed DX including China, Russia, parts of Africa and across the South Pacific. He likes working DX and emergency communications. His late father-in-law, Dave Cathers NV5H, was also a ham. Rich is a native of San Diego, has two grown sons, five grandkids and lives with his wife, April.

Rich first met his wife to be, April, at a service station, but she was engaged to be married. As fate would have it, they met again. He then learned that she was divorced. With that, they began to date and later married. They have been happily married since 1979.

Rich served in the California National Guard for six years, ranked as E4. His unit was artillery, he was the generator operator that supplied power to the guns and radar. Later it became a tank unit. He remembers getting out of the National Guard the summer of the watts riots. He later worked for the city of El Cajon and retired in 1999, after serving 28 years as a custodian.

One of the people responsible for his involvement with ham radio is, John K6BX, who was a supervisor for the city of El Cajon. He was always kidding Rich about his CB radios, calling them the chicken band and told him to get on to the real radio. When Rich got frustrated about the CB limitations, he moved on to ham radio. He likes

versatility and says, "There's something for everybody in ham radio. We need to get the younger kids involved."

Rich has worked Special Olympics and with many public service events. The largest event he's been part of was the Cedar fire. As a member of A.R.E.S., he received a call from Roxanne from the CDF to help staff Julian for evacuation center communications. After staffing the sites needed, Rich worked at the Monta Vista CDF office.

His biggest challenge was learning the code. He likes the diverse range of people he has met on the radio. He would like to encourage the younger generation to get into ham radio and see what all the fun is all about. After all, on the Jay Leno show, it's been proven: a ham radio still out beats cell phones and text messaging anytime.

No longer just a voice on the radio, the spotlight shines on Rich Beisigl. 73s!

Tassy Rios, Staff Writer

## MAZE



W6NXS Hank Wayne  
Owner

**CODE3**  
COMMUNICATIONS  
Serving the Ham Community,  
Law Enforcement, and Fire Departments

9920 Prospect Ave Suites 107 & 108  
Santee Ca. 92071  
Phone (619) 258-4237  
hw@code3communications.com  
code3communications.com

Custom Communication Solution



The Editor's  
Corner  
KC6QLS Paul



As soon as I heard there was to be a contest on the Jay Leno show, CW versus text messaging, I knew that CW was going to win. Radio to radio versus input, encryption, cell phone, cell site, computer, cell site, cell phone, decrypt, display was not really going to be a contest. Yes, our radios don't take pictures and don't make funny ringing sounds, but when some disaster hits, and the phone lines get overcrowded and shut down, Ham radio will always be there helping out with the communications that need to be done. This has been proven time and time again with the Cedar fire, school shootings and other disasters.

I do carry a cell phone, but do not rely on it when a real emergency happens. I only use it for communicating with non-Ham's in business that I cannot do over the air. I would like to see more people get into ham radio.

Paul Rios KC6QLS  
KC6QLS@cox.net

## Club Hats are in

List of members to pick up hats at the next meeting. Bring in your \$5.00. 10 more hats are available. See ED A160.

AE6AV, AE6QW, KA6NFC, KC6QLS, KC6TBG, KC6YSO, KD6VKZ, KE6GLM, KG6FBV, KG6NNU, KC6QCO, KG6UQA, AND WB6MNR

HATS....HATS....HATS....HATS....HATS....HATS....HATS....

## Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. To Help, contact WA6PPG Carl Ferree at 328-2694 e-mail at cferree@IEEE.ORG

---

## Things to keep in mind

*San Diego County Fair needs Hams to work the Ham Radio Station.*

Fair starts 10 June and the El Cajon Club mans the booth during that Friday and first weekend. There are three shifts during the day, starting from 1000 to 1400, from 1400 to 1800 and from 1800 to closing (around 2200 or so, sometimes earlier).

*Contact: Mike N6OPH*

---

*Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector*

*To sign up visit:*

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>

You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

---

## New Member

KG6YZE Paul Schmidt is the newest member, Please welcome him to our club.

### SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North  
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP  
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics  
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS  
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month  
GATES OPEN 6:30 AM



## CREST RADIO MUSEUM

Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ

This months photos of some items from our past. We hope you enjoy. Some of you may remember working on one of the rigs or may know someone that might have.

Clegg 22 MK II AM



Communicator II 2 Meter



Ad from the past



## The A.R.E.S Connection

From Rich, N6NKJ



Hello to all,

Last month I urged all of you to apply for the new and improved A.R.E.S./R.A.C.E.S. ID card, and once again I urge you to get this card as soon as possible.

My good friend Eric Crosser, N6SUB, and I will be meeting with Roxanne Provaznik, who is in charge of the Red Flag patrol, to plan this years training for the upcoming fire season.

It does look as though this years training will once again be Wildland Fire Safety Training, in fact there will be at least three chances for you to take this training.

R.A.C.E.S is going to offer it the first of June, and I do believe it will be open to other people as well. Then north county will also offer it, but I am not sure when.

So listen to one of the local A.R.E.S. nets or read the A.R.E.S. Alert. The Alert can be picked up at HRO, or you can read it on line at [www.qsl.net/sdgarri](http://www.qsl.net/sdgarri)

If you have a question about A.R.E.S. that you would like me to answer, please let me know, and I will do my best to find the answer to your question.

My neighbors are building a cabin up near Julian, and they told me how beautiful the flowers are along the roadsides as you drive to their cabin. But later on, this area will once again be very dry and we all know that in a blink of an eye, we could have another wildfire going.

Just last night, I heard one of CDF'S finest say this will be a very dry and dangerous fire season. So lets all be ready.

So until next month, stay safe, have fun, and enjoy life.  
Rich, N6NKJ.

## May's Speaker

To recap, the speaker at the May meeting was Scott Weber KF6ZRT, formerly WA6KGH, who works for Homeland Security Department of Defense. He discussed the role of HAMS and how the EPA and FEMA have grown since 1977 and changed over the years as a result of what they have learned from emergencies and disasters.

In 1981, at the Oklahoma bombing, in addition to the usual first responders like fire, police, and search and rescue folks, approximately 150 HAMS responded and participated, and they had their own equipment. The incident commander also had HAM equipment, which facilitated communications. As technology changed, the county got a new trunking system, and the department obtained approximately 70 old radios to use. However, in spite of the new equipment, it was apparent that there were some communication gaps which needed to be filled, and the Governor requested specific assistance of HAMS to handle communication and to fill the gaps in the radio system. This disaster, the changes made and the resulting report, led to the development of nine Emergency Operations Centers involving the Departments of Justice, Energy, Customs, DOD, FBI and CIA and led to a larger communication system.

At the Northridge earthquake and Yosemite fire many HAMS responded and participated in the handling of emergency traffic. These two incidents challenged the communication system again and led to more improvements. However, there was still no Federal communications system.

As a result of 911, the National Emergency Broadcast Response System was developed, which is a large radio system through satellite links that support all agencies at all levels. It included designating communicators at command centers to organize all agencies and facilitate communication in the event of an emergency or disaster.

KF6ZRT indicates that HAMS will have a continued role in the communications system, and he recommends that all HAMS be familiar with the ARRL Traffic Format as a fantastic and reliable form of communication. This format was proven useful and complimented the efforts made during the Yosemite fire. The ARRL also has a book on the procedures. Today, nationwide, his department is building additional communication sites, and it is anticipated that they will meet their current

## Continued

goals by October 1, 2007.

The question was asked as to what band and mode are most helpful. The response was that most communication is being developed through microwave and satellite links. However, frequently used field communication are: 388Mhz - 399Mhz ; 406Mhz– 420Mhz ; 800Mhz– 855Mhz; and 925Mhz – 960Mhz.

The question was asked as to what type of equipment is best for HAMS to bring to an emergency. The response was that the most common and reliable modes appear to be 2 meters and 6 meters, and in fact these were the most frequently used by HAMS participating at Northridge and at the Yosemite fire. Of course, ARES/RACES would implement their plans. 220 and 440 could also be used.

KF6ZRT reiterated the importance of HAMS working with his department; thanked all those HAMS who have participated in emergencies and disasters; and encouraged HAMS to continue in their capacity as emergency communication facilitators.

Ann Rios KC6TBG

Joke continued

Without even slowing down it drove straight into the middle of the inferno. Outside, the other firemen watched as the Norwegian old timers jumped off right in the middle of the fire & fought it back on all sides. It was a performance and effort never seen before.

Within a short time, the Norske old timers had extinguished the fire and had saved the secret formulas. The grateful chemical company president announced that for such a superhuman feat he was upping the reward to \$200,000, and walked over to personally thank each of the brave fire fighters.

The local TV news reporter rushed in to capture the event on film, asking their chief, "What are you going to do with all that money?"

"Vell," said Ole Larsen, the 70-year-old fire chief, "Da first thing ve gonna do is fix da brakes on dat truck!

GOD BLESS AMERICA!  
W5COM

## What, No Floppy or Serial Port?

Well, it all started when my laptop stopped working. It took me a long time to setup the laptop the way I liked it. I used it to program all my ham radios that were software programmable. I also used it for graphics and web-site designs. I took my laptop down to several stores to see if it could be repaired; they gave me estimates for parts and labor, which was very high. They also told me it is if they can find the replacement parts as the laptop was well over five years old. It took me another three weeks to trace the parts down that needed to be replaced. The labor to replace the parts will be several hundred dollars. With my knowledge of computer repair I decided to do the repairs myself. The laptop worked for a moment or two, but with the new parts installed the other weaker parts decided to fail.

So at that time I decided I needed a new computer, something that was up-to-date. I looked for about a week, asking questions, and going online to several stores. I narrowed it down to two or three units, but I noticed that none of the newer laptops had floppy drives and/or serial ports. I needed a floppy drive to install some of the software that I had. The programs to manage the ham radio files on the radios were on floppy. It was nice that USB ports were available, but I needed a serial port.

How was I to resolve this, buy a USB port adapter converted to serial port. So I bought the new laptop, upgraded the RAM and went home and started to install my programs. I started to load graphic and Web publishing software. After that was installed I then started on my ham radio programs. Four out of the six ham radio programs were already on CD-ROMs, and installed beautifully. The other two were on floppy disks.

I hooked up the laptop to my own home network; however the floppy disk in my main unit, I directed the laptop to A drive on the server, and tried to do the install that way. This would not work at all. I tried several times over and over in different ways, still would not install. Called the software manufacturer; they tried to help me to the best of their ability. We tried the USB floppy drive, transferring the data over to CD-ROM and copying files to a special folder. Still they would not install.

Part 2 next month

## Field Day Information

June 25th and 26th Field Day 2005. It is at the Al Bahr Shrine Camp in the Laguna Mountains. We need a set up crew for Friday and a tear down crew for Sunday.

Who is in charge:

David, KG6QCO Field Day Chairman  
Mike, N6OPH Field Day Safety Officer  
Anselmo, KD6PRV Social Chairman

Please don't call the campsite for cabins Call Mike N6OPH for the information. From Mike "First cabins 1, 2 and 4 are for club use. Both dorms are also available for club use. I would like to cabins go for the principals of field day, while the dorms should be for the general membership use. The dorms consist of three rooms each and totally would sleep ten."

Please come and join in on the fun. Let's make this Field day the best ever.

---

A preview of the Logo for the  
2006 Southwestern Division Convention



LAKE SIDE MUFFLER & WELDING  
COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR



(619) 561-3202

GARY YATES  
OWNER

12461 WOODSIDE AVE.  
LAKE SIDE, CA 92040

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon  
P.O. Box 50  
El Cajon, CA 92022



PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
El Cajon, CA  
92020

### Is your membership ready to expire?

Take a look on your mailing label. Is the expiration date in 2004? Does it say EXPIRED? That means it's time to mail in your yearly dues. Please take time to fill out the membership application in this newsletter, and mail it in, or bring it to the next meeting.



Amateur Radio ... A National Resource