



Amateur Gazette

Paso Robles
Amateur Radio Club

W6LKF

www.pasoroblesarc.org

Meeting Date: First Monday each month (except December)
Submissions and email updates to: w6hd@arrl.net

November 2006

President: Mike Barry, AE6FL

Vice President:

Secretary: Greg Porter, N6MOQ

Treasurer: Jane Thornton, KF6QHP

Newsletter: John Thornton, W6HD

Webmaster: Ron Patterson W6FM

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PRARC

**Next Meeting: November 6, 2006 - Centennial Park, 600
Nickerson Drive, Paso Robles 7:30 PM**

President's Corner:

**I won't make the meeting on Monday. Greg offered to
talk about and
show pics of his experiences during Katrina
deployment.**

Hope he gets back to us before newsletter publication.

**Seems that
it's been a busy year for all of us at PRARC!**

**Thanks and hope to see y'all soon,
Mike AE6FL**

October Meeting Minutes

Mike AE6FL, opened the meeting at 1930, 14 members present.

We started out by discussing some upcoming contests. The [California QSO Party](#) is coming up 7-8 Oct 06. This is always a lot of fun. Mary W6ROX is once again participating in the [School Club Roundup](#) 17-20 Oct at Kermit King Elementary School, near the North County Cuesta College campus. She is still looking for volunteers, contact Mary if you can help.

We also reviewed other upcoming calendar items.

A couple of the hams that participated in the recent [Lighthouse Bike Ride](#) told us about how it went. 20 Hams were among the 200 volunteers to assist with the management of the over 1300 riders. There were 6 or 7 accidents that warranted CHP involvement. Out of the 9 "sag" (rider recovery) vehicles in use, 4 had Hams with radios in them.

We discussed the upcoming Christmas party. Members expressed the need for us to verify that all the arrangements have been made and that we are still a "go" for the event.

We took a short coffee break at 2000.

After break, Mike AE6FL demonstrated the use of [Winlink](#) and [Airmail](#) to send email traffic over HF radio links.

Greg Porter, N6MOQ
Secretary

PRARC Christmas Party

Here are the particulars regarding our Radio Club Christmas Party.

John and Berna Dallons have graciously offered to host the party at their "Big House".

I heard through the "ham vine" that Jeff Joynt is our Christmas Party Chairperson. As he is out of town until Nov. 8th, I wanted to be sure this gets communicated to all club members as well as announced at the club meeting Monday night. Please let everyone know as well as get an email out to all club members and coordinate the RSVP's and ADVANCE payment which are due in by December 1st so the Dallons have sufficient time to organize etc. Who will coordinate the collection of \$\$\$ and the RSVP's?? Is that going to be Jeff?

DATE: Sunday, December 10, 2006

Time: 4:00 p.m. gather and appetizers

Dinner: 5:00 p.m.

Place: John and Berna Dallons
address and directions forthcoming

Menu:

First Course: Salad

Main Course: Prime Rib & Yorkshire Pudding, seasonal vegetable, roasted potatoes - vegetarian main dish will be available

Dessert: Trifle

Coffee and Tea

Bring Your Own Wine/Spirits

Cost \$20.00 per person

Gift exchange as usual...\$15

Thanks very much

Sharon George KE6ODF



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Paso Robles Press Subscription Rate Information

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Reaching Across the Globe BY MATTHEW FOX

10-24-06



Students at Kermit King Elementary School spent last week reaching out to the rest of the world using Hamm radio. Around 100 fourth and fifth graders at Kermit King took turns trying to contact like school groups, individuals and organizations as part of the annual School Club Roundup. The international competition sees schools jump on the radio to try and make as many contacts as possible in as many places as possible.

"It's a chance for kids to get on the amateur radio bands and see what amateur radio is all about," said Mary Mason, a fourth grade teacher at Kermit King. "The goal is to make contact with as many people as possible."

Kermit King, which is in its third year competing in the contest, began its quest on Tuesday and wrapped up on Friday. On the first day alone, students reached people in 25 states, four Canadian provinces and

representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation FBI). By Friday, the students had made 310 voice contacts and two digital contacts in 45 states, seven provinces as well as contact with people in Spain, Italy and St. Martin. The Kermit King group made contact with nine radio clubs and 27 school clubs throughout the week. The contacts were logged both on the computer and on a large map that sat facing the radio equipment near the entrance to the school. The large antennae used to make contact was furnished by Tom Schiller, a member of the Paso Robles Amateur Radio Club and president of Force 12, one of the largest manufacturers of amateur radio antennas.

"We've supported schools ever since we started," Schiller said. "We give them special deals to get them on the air because that's how I started, and it was a really great experience. It expands their experience because a lot of times their universe is very small. It lets them know there's a whole world out there and you can actually reach it."

The Kermit King project was led by Mason, herself a member of the Amateur Radio Club. She sees the project as a great way to get the students actively engaged in a number of subjects, most notably geography. "It's a great geography lesson," Mason said. "It's a good, quick way to learn geography, develop good speaking skills and listening skills. It's a great opportunity to talk to other people."

Mason was aided by a number of fellow Amateur Radio Club members who donated their time throughout the week, helping teacher Kermit King students how to use the equipment to make contact with people around the world. Most of the students enjoyed being able to reach out and communicate with people a world away.

"I like to talk to all the different people in different countries to see what they sound like," said fourth grader Karley Maldonado. "It's fun to contact other people," said fourth grader Michalann Mott. "It lets you see all the different jobs you can do and it's fun to talk with people who are really far away."

In some cases, the students were reaching people across the country. "I like that we're learning where people are and meeting new people on the radio," said fifth grader Jessica Gage. "My favorite part was talking to people in Washington D.C."

The best part for Philip Stevens was making contact with the FBI. "The best one, I would have to say, was talking to the FBI," he said. "I didn't know it was the FBI until the person I was with told me. It was pretty exciting." It doesn't hurt that the students have a blast while they're learning. "The kids love it," Mason said. "If we could have it set up all year long, we'd have kids coming all year at lunch to try it." The competition was sponsored in part by the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL), a network of amateur radio operators around the country.

CALENDAR

Paso Robles Amateur Radio Club 2006

January

9 7:30PM Club Meeting

February

6 7:30PM Club Meeting

18 Pot Luck –Bethel Lutheran Church- Bill Sundius

March

6 7:30PM Club Meeting

April

3 7:30PM Club Meeting

9 Tailgate Breakfast – Larry and Char Miller

? Visalia DX Convention

29 Wildflower Bike Ride – Bill Palmerston

May

1 7:30PM Club Meeting

? Armed Forces Day

TBA Wine Festival bike ride – Bill Sundius

TBA BBQ – Heilmann Regional Park, Atascadero

? 7:30PM SLOECC Meeting in North County (Cambria)

June

5 7:30PM Club Meeting

23-25 Field Day

July

10 7:30PM Club Meeting

August

7 7:30PM Club Meeting

? Siren TeSt / BBQ

September

? ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in Riverside

4 7:30PM Club Meeting

Cancelled Fish Fry

30 Lighthouse Ride at Piedras Blancas

October

2 7:30PM Club Meeting

7 Pioneer Day – Bill Sundius

21 Colony Day – Bill Palmerston

13-15 ARRL Pacific Division Conference (Pacificon) in San Ramon

28 ARRL SET

November

6 7:30PM Club Meeting - Election of Officers for 2006

December

10 Holiday Party at John and Berna Dallon's "Big House"