

Amazing hams in action!

The Humboldt ARC meeting for May was held at a former school site. Dan kb6de decided to bring his new portable antenna/mast for this field trip. This antenna is amazing, and Dan was already setting it up by the time I arrived for the meeting. He has made this rigging ultra portable and fashioned some extra bits as an aide for him if there is no other helpers to set up the antenna. It also fits into a very light weight enclosure for storage/transport. What is so very interesting to me is that the antenna can be made perfectly resonant on any HF frequency from 80m through 10m, as well as VHF. Thank you for the hard work and fun Dan!

DX Engineering Announces New Acquisitions

DX Engineering has announced two new acquisitions. It has acquired exclusive rights to Clifton Laboratories' ham radio product line, and it has purchased TW Antennas.

Clifton Laboratories manufactured preamplifiers and filters, which DX Engineering will now produce. DX Engineering said that part numbers and design specifications will remain the same. The company will manufacture more than a dozen Amateur Radio products and will offer parts and tech support for owners of Clifton Laboratories legacy products.

TW Antennas is the maker of the TransWorld Antenna and its related components. The TransWorld Antenna is popular with hams who enjoy portable operation, because it's small and easily transported.

DX Engineering said it's tooling up to begin production of Clifton Laboratories' products and of the TransWorld Antenna and accessories by mid-summer.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/dx-engineering-announces-new-acquisitions>

FCC Invites Comments on Petition to Eliminate 15 dB Gain Limit on Amateur Amplifiers

The FCC has put on public notice and invited comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM-11767), filed on behalf of an amateur amplifier distributor, which seeks to revise the Amateur Service rules regarding maximum permissible amplifier gain. Expert Linears America LLC of Magnolia, Texas, which distributes linears manufactured by SPE in Italy, wants the FCC to eliminate the 15 dB gain limitation on amateur amplifiers, spelled out in Part 97.317(a)(2). Expert asserts that there should be no gain limitation at all on amplifiers sold or used in the Amateur Service.

RM-11767 can be found on the web at,

<http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=60001536394> .

"There is no technical or regulatory reason [that] an amplifier capable of being driven to full legal output by even a fraction of a watt should not be available to Amateur Radio operators in the United States," Expert said in its Petition.

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club

DRAFT Meeting Minutes May 3, 2016 DRAFT

Officers Present: Jim Armstrong **KW6JIM**, Pres., Peter Esko **W6IES**, V.P.,
Marcy Campbell **KE6IAU**, Treasurer, Dan Eaton **KB6DE**, Secretary,
Anthony Wiese **KG6LHW**, Events Planner and Jaye Inabnit **KE6SLS**, Newsletter Editor pro tem.

Don Nelson **WA6NBG**, Past Pres.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm PDT @ the Jefferson Community Center meeting room. Intros were made and the log book was passed.

Health & Welfare: No report.

Secretary Report: Dan did not bring copies of the April Minutes for review. By show of hands, we discovered many members had not received e-mail copies of RAIN which contained the April Minutes and so we decided to postpone approval of the minutes to the June meeting. In the future Dan will bring copies of the minutes from the prior meeting to the current meeting for review.

Treasurer' Report: The current balance is \$1930.58. The old van license plate transfer pends for a reply from the DMV. . The April raffle brought in \$49.00 and tonight's Jefferson room cost to the club was \$30. Harry Majors **KJ6SYF** moved and Steve Isherwood **KK6MPV** seconded the motion to approve the report. Marcy's report was unanimously accepted by group vote.

Peter told us he participated in the recent MS Walk event as "TEAM SALLY," in honor of Sally Marx **KG6WWK (SK)** and the MS organization dedicated the race to her as well. Peter proposed that H.A.R.C. donate \$200 to the MS organization.

Jim Shryne **AC6YV** so moved and Steve seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the vote to accept was unanimous.

Old Business:

- a) *Not discussed but still pending:* A meeting with Reg, Kennedy of the Weather Service re Skywarn affiliation. Jim and Peter plan to attend.
- b) The Trusteeship for the club call sign **W6ZZK** pends. Not discussed at this meeting. (Ref. Feb. 2016 Minutes)

EMCOMM:

- a) Peter told us there will be no EMCOMM meeting in May.
- b) Peter will bring a guest to the June meeting to speak about EMCOMM preparedness (*need name and topic from Peter*)

Past Events:

- a) (EMCOMM) The Friday April 22 Fortuna Activation of the emergency operations group met at the Fortuna Ops center. Peter said the event went well.
- b) April 17th (Sunday) >>> Field Trip: Radio Activation of the South Jetty. Anthony's report pends to the June meeting.
- c) May 1st (Sunday) >>> Avenue of the Giants Marathon per Don N.. Don's report pends to the June meeting.

Upcoming Events:

- a) May 7th (Saturday) >>> Tour of the Unknown Coast 100 mile bicycle race per Don N.
- a) May 28th (Saturday) to May 30th (Monday) >>> Kinetic Sculpture Race will run on Memorial Day

weekend. There will be a pre-race meeting for H.A.R.C participants on Thursday May 26th at the Fire station meeting room at 7:00pm. Peter will be Net Control.

b) June 18th (Saturday) >>> The next EMCOMM event. Participants should plan to assemble at the McDonalds at 10:00am by the Bayshore Mall. Peter will give us more detail on this event later.

Suggested Upcoming Field Trips --- Pending (from April meeting)

Peter suggested:

a) Elk Prairie accessed by the Allan B. Drury Parkway a bit North of Orick and

b) Split Rock (Google it) North of Klamath using old Redwood Road.

No Field Trips are planned for May.

New Business: No new business.

Presentation:

Jim brought his radio, computer sound card and projector and demonstrated checking into the ORCA (Oregon – California) Net on 3.582.5 MHz. Dan brought his Stepp Crank IR antenna and set it up outside the room. Jim demonstrated the check-in using MFSK32 and sent a Radiogram via MFSK64.

Also, we received a picture of the ORCA logo (size: 144 x 140 pixels). Jaye and Howard Lang **KB6NN** checked in too and our club was recognized as being in attendance for the checkin.

Don N. mentioned that 80M SSB *digital mode* is upper sideband (also 160M & 40M) although the custom is for lower side band on SSB for voice and CW modes. Jaye told us the OLIVIA digital mode is more likely to have 100% successful message reception under adverse conditions but it is MUCH slower.

More information about ORCA is available at: w6hy.org/net

Also check out the Del Norte site: DNARC-Nets

Break and Raffle:

Winners were: Not recorded

Marcy & Jaye provided juice and cookies.

The meeting was adjourned around 8:45pm.

TU Dan KB6DE

REDWOOD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

RARC

PO Box 895,

Fortuna, CA 95540

RARC MEETING MARCH 22, 2016

The Redwood Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order by President Lonnie Harvey, KJ6WDL.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's the Report for the 2/23/2016 meeting were accepted as read with corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no Treasurer's Report.

OLD BUSINESS

Trailer Issues:

Lonnie will replace the jack tomorrow (March 23). He took pictures of the trailer to Reynolds but will have to bring it in. Future parking for the trailer needs to be discussed with Redwood Memorial Hospital

suggested that the grant writer with the Veteran's Hall in Ferndale may be able to help with a grant to replace the trailer. Educational opportunities for which the trailer could be used include:

- Ferndale Elementary
- 4-H
- Boy Scouts of America
- Apple Harvest Festival
- Disaster Fair
- Humboldt County Fair

Dues are payable.

NEW BUSINESS

The power at Mt. Pierce will be off on March 29 while PG&E replaces a power pole.

Tsunami Drill March 23 from 1100-1200 – check in on the Far West system.

Net Control for the April nets will be Steve, K6PIJ.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Campbell, KE6HEC, Secretary

Something to think about

While looking for a HDMI splitter, I came across this warning on the Amazon feedback regarding one of the splitters:

“In reply to an earlier post on Dec 30, 2013 11:27:01 AM PST

Harry says:

Thanks Mike. Glad to help. The Chinese evidently didn't get the message on 110v. blade keying (polarizing) standards either. If the hot side blade is reversed, it CAN cause a 60 cycle hum in the primary winding that can be induced into nearby cables. It does not affect the operation of the power supply, though, so they are probably randomly wired in China.

Small details like this are important and the Chinese need to learn them to produce quality products.

There should be a law.....Myself, I'd rather buy American products, but sometimes you just don't know where this stuff comes from.“

I think this is a good lesson to reducing local RFI in your own home. I would never have considered this myself until reading this exact post today! I have several non-polarized power supplies for laptops, and other battery powered gadgets. Fortunately, the first poster is an avid fan of AM and shortwave and noticed the noise after buying this HDMI powered splitter and by unplugging the device, turning the power plug 180 degrees and plugging it back it, the noise was almost completely eliminated.

/ed



"A ham - pod?"

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For more information, please visit our website <http://www.humboldt-arc.org>
or write to:

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BOX 5251
Eureka, CA 95502-5251

The Little Bits

May Radio outing

The May Radio Field Trip will be up at the Redwood National Park Visitor Center on Sunday the 22nd of May. Roomer has it, 40m & 20m are going to be the primary hunting grounds. Look for them and all the other National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) stations. They will be using KG6LHW & KW6JIM.

Amateur testing

Ham radio testing this week in Eureka! VE testing will take place at the fire station, 533 C Street. For all those wishing to earn a ticket or upgrade, make sure you bring money (to bribe the testers,) Picture ID, and a great attitude—heres wishing you best of luck! Testing times start at 10AM this Saturday, the 21st of May. Thank you to all the great VE team members—you guys rock.

Ham Connection

Have YOU logged onto and registered at www.qrz.com then updated your email address for all of us hams wishing to contact you? Remember, **ONLY YOU** can register with qrz.com!



Monday Emergency Nets

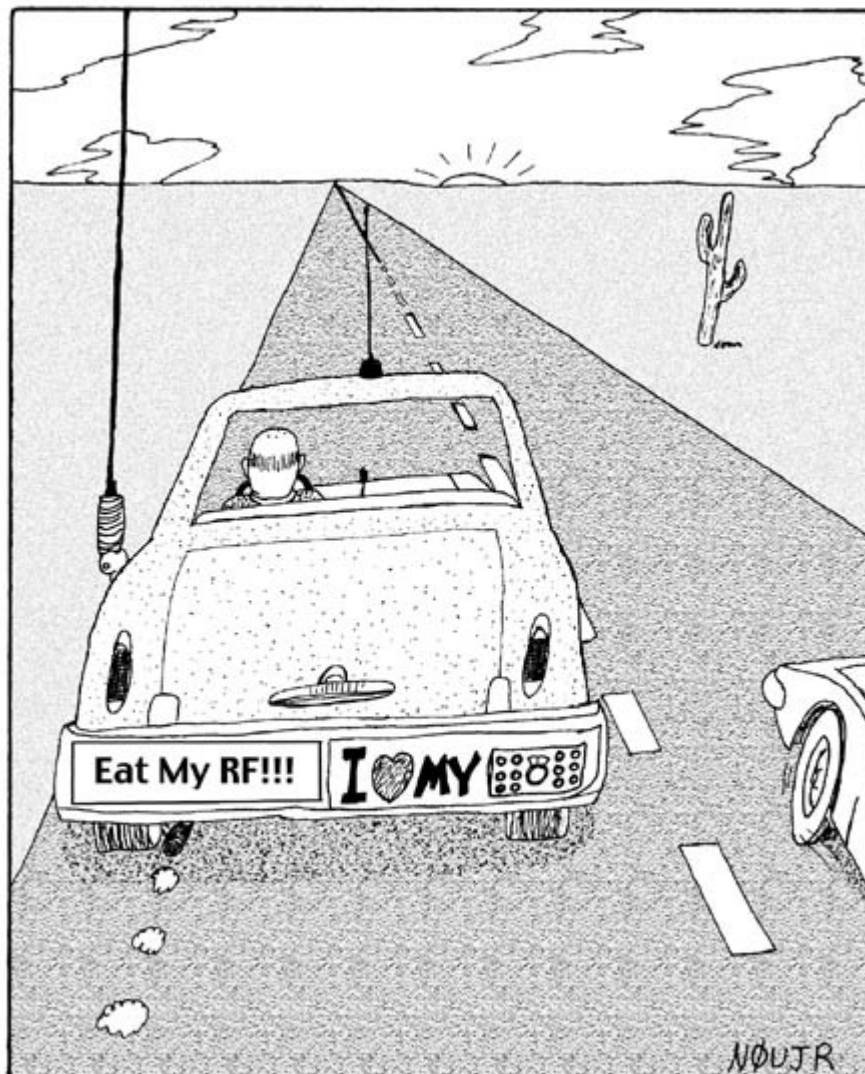
Set your alarms on smart phone to remind you of our Monday evening VHF & UHF emergency nets. I have listed the majority of them below. Let's get more radioACTIVE and learn how to check in with your local net control operators. Monday, 7PM is the time, the frequency depends on where in Humboldt you are. If you are too far away from any major town, there is still the VHF FWRA net on all the FWRA linked repeaters.

Grand Kinetic Challenge

OH oh, it's that time again! Grab your hats, charge those HT batteries and get the skeeter dope ready. When normal Americans take to the shores and hills for Memorial day, Hams in Humboldt take to the wacky madness of the KSR. Pre-Kinetic race meeting Thursday, May 26, 7pm – 8pm at the Humboldt Fire Dept. 6th Street door (533 C street). Contact Peter W6IES for more information at w6ies@arrl.net and keep your ears peeled to the FWRA repeaters.

Field day 2016

2016 ARRL Field Day is June 25-26 (Saturday & Sunday). Time to start planning for this, probably the largest, American field contest. For new hams, this is a great way to get your first experiences on HF. Look for more information next month right here in RAIN and also the next HARC meeting.



QCWA members with an attitude...

RAIN
Box 5251
Eureka, California, 95502-5251

North Coast Nets

Sunday	0800	North coast emergency net	3.855 MHz SSB
Monday	1900	Arcata Emergency simplex net	146.430 MHz
Monday	1900	Eel River Emergency net	147.090 PL103.5
Monday	1900	Eureka Emergency simplex net	146.460 MHz
Monday	1900	Southern Humboldt Emergency net	146.790 PL 103.5
Monday	1915	Eureka & north UHF Emergency net	444.400 +5000 PL103.5
Monday	1930	Humboldt county Emergency net	146.700 147.000
		(nearest FWRA repeater to you) Tone 103.5	146.760 146.610
Monday	1945	Humboldt County HF emergency net	3.955 MHz SSB
Monday	2000	California State net	3.992 MHz SSB
Monday	2005	Humboldt County HF Digital emergency net	3.582 USB
Tuesday	1930	ORCA digital operations net	3.5825 MHz USB
Tuesday	1930	California-Mendocino net	3.915 MHz SSB
Wednesday	1000	California State net	7.230 MHz SSB
Wednesday	1930	FWRA net	146.760 PL103.5



<http://www.humboldt-arc.org/>