

The Poinsettia Amateur Radio Club Newsletter



OVERMODULATION

November 2005

Volume 73 Number 11

A Jamboree For The Scouts And Some Great Fun For Us!

Grant Park was the scene of some radio activity on October 15th for the annual scout Jamboree On The Air. Several of us were on hand to get our rigs on the air. Using generator power for portable operation, or mobile from a truck, we got on the 20 Meter and 15 Meter bands to work other jamboree stations around the US and Canada. Randy McAlister, W7CWW, took care of the 15 Meter mobile operations.

Dave Anderson, W6SNE, supplied all the donuts. Thank you young Dave.

Although the scout turnout was poor, we still went ahead and got everything set up and working, and did have an enjoyable time. If nothing else, it was another antenna testing event for those of us who like that kind of thing.

Bill Klope, KW6PE, brought his 5/8th wave length vertical antenna for the 20 meter band, along with its 24, 5/8th wave radials. I'm talking 43 feet tall and a circle of radials 86 feet in diameter. It took several of us to unsnarl all those pesky radial wires, but it was well worth all the fuss. The

antenna is a sight to behold. It is so tall that it darned near bent over double while we were setting it up. Once set up and matched, that antenna is a real performer, especially for DX. We even heard a sailboat on the Mediterranean.

It was a nice sunny day and propagation was outstanding, at least on 20 meters. The band was wall to wall with signals, some engaged in a contest, some engaged in DXing, and some set up for JOTA activities. A few of those JOTA stations were contacted and scouts were able to talk with other scouts about their favorite things to do (camping, hiking, swimming, sports, etc.). We hope that we did our part, however small, in helping to stimulate their interest in Ham Radio.

Farewell PARC, But Not To My Friends

The Poinsettia Amateur Radio Club will cease to exist after December. Please see the flyer on page 5 and the calendar of events on page 2.

It has been a very pleasant association with all of you, my Ham friends. You have made a difference with your support and, I'm sure, will continue to do so in the future.

I do not see much difference in the things we will be doing in the future as opposed to the past. We are free to be having our outings as before. When Field Day comes along, (the real one), we can plan on Lake Casitas or the US Forest Service camp grounds. We will be doing contests like the international DX contest, Lighthouse Weekend, or just plain experimenting with, you guessed it, antennas.

By having the Thursday breakfasts we have always attracted more people. Of those usually attending we have a wide variety of backgrounds and talents, and certainly, enough combined knowledge to instruct ourselves in anything we would want to learn.

I cannot be certain about what goes on at the ladies table. But we love 'em for their support. 73.....George KA6WZR

PARC CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2005

- THU NOV 3 **PARC MEETING** 7:30 PM
(Rear) First Christian Church
- SAT NOV 5 **FIRST SAT BRKFST** 9:00 AM
Vagabond Coffee Shop
760 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura
- SUN NOV 13 **MINI-FIELD DAY** Grant Park
Gate opens at 0930. Call George Myers
for more information
- THU NOV 17 **PIZZA NIGHT** 6:30 PM
Round Table Pizza, Main St., Vta.
- THU NOV 17 **DIRECTORS' MTG** 7:00 PM
Round Table Pizza – After the meal
- SAT NOV 26 Swap Meet at Northrup
Grumann (TRW) Redondo Beach
- *** **Breakfast Every Thursday** 8:45 AM
at Carrows, Seaward at Harbor, Ventura

DECEMBER 2005

- No Membership Meeting in December
- SAT DEC 3 **FIRST SAT BRKFST** 9:00 AM
Location to be announced
- SAT DEC 3 **SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY** 11:00 AM - Oxnard NWS facility
- THU DEC 15 **CLUB FAREWELL & HOLIDAY BANQUET** See story and flyer in this issue of *Overmodulation*
- THU DEC 22 **PIZZA NIGHT** 6:30 PM
- THU DEC 29 **DIRECTORS' MTG** 7:00 PM
Location to be announced
- SAT DEC 31 Swap Meet at Northrup
Grumann (TRW) Redondo Beach
- *** **Breakfast Every Thursday** 8:45 AM
at Carrows, Seaward at Harbor

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

The final meeting of PARC at the First Christian Church will take place on Thursday, 3 November 2005.

The "Farewell Banquet" will be in lieu of the December Membership Meeting.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

In addition to donated equipment, there are also some items which the Club has owned for a number of years. If interested, please call George Myers or Don Cook for a list.

FAREWELL TO THE POINSETTIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Board of Directors of PARC put the membership on notice last month that the disbanding of the Club was being seriously considered. A page was devoted to this subject in the October issue of *Overmodulation* and it was discussed at length at the October Membership Meeting. Little or no opposition surfaced. A straw vote was taken, and no one opposed disbanding.

While the Club has some 45 members, of which 30 are licensed Amateurs, and a healthy Treasury, only a dozen or so members are truly "active," i.e., they are willing to hold office and regularly attend the various social and operating functions of the Club.

The "active" members believe that they can carry on many of these activities informally, without the structure that a club requires.

To that end, the Board at its October meeting voted to disband the Club as of 31 December 2005 and to undertake a list of specific actions necessary to accomplish an orderly shutdown. The text contained on the special page in the last Newsletter is virtually identical to the action taken.

NOVEMBER SWEEPSTAKES

The dates for this event are as follows:

CW: 2100 UTC November 5 -
0300 UTC November 7

Phone: 2100 UTC November 19 -
0300 UTC November 21

For complete information see the October edition of *QST*, page 105.

CLUB FAREWELL BANQUET

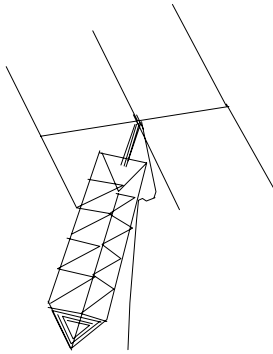
The final social function of the Poinsettia Amateur Radio Club will be a Holiday Banquet to be held at Marie Calender's Restaurant in Ventura on Thursday, 15 December 2005.

Because the Club has more than adequate funds to cover the cost, the dinner will be FREE for all members and some guests.

See the enclosed flyer for details. It is important that we get an early count of the number of attendees, so please send in your Reservation Forms by 1 December. Let's have a good turnout!

Antenna Corner

I was looking through a number



of saved articles on antennas the other day, and happened on one I had previously missed. In fact, I did not even remember who I got it from, or when. Nevertheless this antenna might be of interest to any who are limited in space. Imagine an 80M antenna only 65 feet long!

The inventor, Robert T. Syler, was an engineering student at Kansas State University when this antenna was first conceived in 1934. It has since been known as the "Kansas antenna".

The overall length is 65 feet. Most any home can hold one of these antennas without too much trouble.

Ladder line of the 450 ohm variety is used to make most of the antenna. A third wire has to be added along the ladder line center. It can be woven from one side to the other throughout the length of the two pieces of ladder line by punching a hole along the center line of the ladder line dielectric and poking the wire through, punching another hole as you go along until the third wire has been threaded throughout the whole length of each piece of

ladder line. Please refer to the diagram on the next page.

When all parts of the antenna are assembled, you will need to do a little tuning. You will be adjusting two jumpers at a time, moving them towards the feedpoint or toward the antenna ends. The 40M jumpers go toward antenna center to lower the frequency and toward antenna ends to raise the frequency. The 80M jumpers work just the opposite, that is, toward the ends to lower and toward the center to raise.

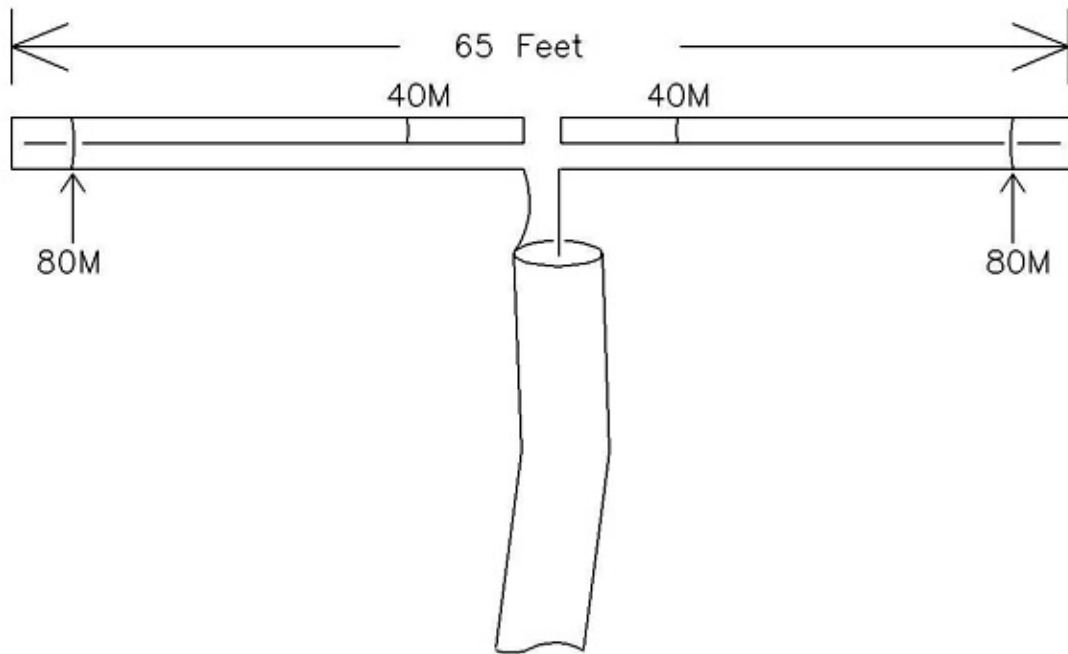
After initial tuning is complete, a final touch may be necessary, but not until the final resting place has been selected. The antenna should be erected to its permanent location, checked, and lowered down for a readjustment. I realize that can be tedious, but if performance is to be optimum, it will be worth the effort. On the other hand, a whole lifetime might be spent repeating the previous steps. That is going to be up to you and your time schedule.

Ben Raznick and I will make a copy of the Kansas antenna. By the time that this newsletter is in your hands we should have it working. We are going to try some higher frequencies too at a later time, such as, 40M / 20M or 20M / 10M .

BCNU,
George KA6WZR

The Kansas Antenna

The antenna shown below was invented by Robert T. Syler, KI6AT, (now living in Sun City, CA) when he was an engineering student at Kansas State University. Noteworthy is the fact that a low impedance is presented at the feedpoint at both frequencies, 80M and 40M. I talked to him at length asking various questions regarding this antenna. The shorting jumpers allow tuning for both bands. They are in pairs which must be moved together, left and right, to make tuning adjustments. A half-size replica may be built for 40M / 20M.



I'm sure that somebody will build one of these for LOCAL 160M / 80M operating. I say local because it must be close to the ground in terms of wavelength (and therefore radiation is straight up). Just double the above dimensions.

The Poinsettia Amateur Radio Club

Announces the

Club Farewell & Holiday Banquet

- WHERE:** Marie Callender's Restaurant
1295 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura
- WHEN:** Thursday – December 15, 2005
- TIME:** Social Hour - 6 PM Dinner Served - 7 PM
- MENU:** Choice of: Lemon Chicken, Meat Loaf, Roasted Turkey,
Country Steak, Five Cheese & Meat Lasanga (Salad
And Desert Included)
- COST:** FREE to members & spouses and single members
& one guest. Additional guests: \$20 each

The Farewell & Holiday Banquet will be the Club's final social function. Good food, prizes, and (most of all) great camaraderie combine to guarantee a memorable evening.

Each attendee will receive a raffle ticket. There will be a number of door prizes.

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RESERVATION FORM

FAREWELL & HOLIDAY BANQUET - 15 DECEMBER 2005

Please reserve space for me and my party, as follows:

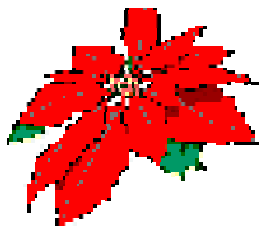
Member's Name _____

Member and Spouse	No. _____
Single Member and Guest	No. _____
Additional Guests @ \$20 each	No. _____
Total No. _____	

Total \$ amount enclosed \$ _____

Mail to PARC, Attn: Michael Atmore, 241 Carr Drive, Ventura, CA 93001.
It would be appreciated if you would make your reservation by 1
December.

**POINSETTIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
POST OFFICE BOX 268
VENTURA, CA 93002**



FIRST CLASS MAIL

The **POINSETTIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (PARC)** cordially invites members, their guests and **ANYONE INTERESTED IN HAM RADIO** to attend our monthly meetings. They are held, starting at 7:30 PM, at a social hall at the rear of the First Christian Church at Telegraph Road and Teloma Drive, in Ventura. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month except January and July. For additional information, call George Myers KA6WZR 644-1131 or Dick Kelly W6BKY 643-0713.

2005 List of Officers

President	George Myers	KA6WZR	644-1131
Vice-Pres.	David Anderson	W6SNE	482-4028
Secretary	Don Cook	KO6WZ	643-3731
Treasurer	Michael Atmore	KE6DKU	641-0466
Director	Bob Kanthack	W6WDS	643-1004
Director	Bill Klope	KW6PE	642-4955
Director	Randy McAlister	W7CWW	
Director	Ben Rasnick	K6VBC	647-8343

Committee Members

Education	Bob Kanthack	W6WDS	643-1004
	George Myers	KA6WZR	644-1131
Editor	POSITION VACANT		
Refreshments	Margaret Myers		644-1131
Webmaster	Jack Bankson	AD6AD	658-6345

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The **Call Sign** of the Poinsettia Amateur Radio Club is **W6CEV**
The **Web Site** of the Poinsettia Amateur Radio Club is **www.qsl.net/W6CEV/**