1946 MOUNT DIABLO W6CX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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THE CARRIER

The monthly newsletter for the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club
Volume LVI I • Number 4 • April 2008

April Meeting

Friday, April 18—7:00 pm
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
1035 Carol Lane
Lafayette, CA

Meeting Program
This month will be the annual MDARC club auction. See page 4 for rules and details.

V.E. Testing
6:00-7:00 PM, prior to each meeting at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

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President's QRM

by Jason Legate, W6SN

I wish I could say it's an April Fool's joke, but sadly, we got notification from Riley Hollingsworth with the FCC: reduce power output on ATV by 64dB. That puts our allowed output power at roughly 20 microwatts. Unfortunately, that means the signal itself is not receivable anywhere off the mountain itself. As of writing this, we haven't had our tech committee meeting to discuss our options moving forward, but there are some possibilities on the table.

Ok, now that the bad news is out of the way, time for happiness and cheer. We've been given permission to run Field Day this year from Heather Farm Park, in the beautiful city of Walnut Creek. Due to the high profile location, we will need as many operators and helpers as we can muster. If you are interested in helping out, there is a mailing list you can join. There is a link to the list on the main MDARC website. We currently are looking for just general volunteers who can help with setup, teardown, manning the information station, helping with crowd control, etc. Let us know how you can help!

Also coming up this year is the summer season, when public service events begin to go full swing. I haven't spoken to Pete about it recently, but I know he is always on the lookout for more volunteers for the events. I personally help out with two of the Alcatraz swims, and love almost every minute of it (sometimes the huge swells makes for a bumpy ride!).

In addition, we have the auction coming up this month. Dust off your checkbook, bring in your old gear... wait. Scratch that—reverse it! Just do both! Plenty to be had by all, and you can also use it as a way to get rid of some of your older (but still viable) gear. Reminder: No Boatanchors! Till then, 73.

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The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and space is available. All material must be submitted to the editor by the last day of the month prior-to publication. Material is accepted on a first-in, first-out basis. Articles and other material may be submitted via Internet email to *carrier@mdarc.org* or delivered to the editor at the address listed in the club roster. Material will be accepted in plain ASCII or rich text format (RTF). Material may also be submitted as hardcopy.

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MDARC Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2008
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Lafayette, CA

President Jason Legate, W6SN, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. There were about 40 members and guests present.

The minutes from the February meeting were approved as printed in the *Carrier*.

Don presented the status of our accounts. In the checking, we have a balance of $10,501.41, while our CDs total $43,620.38.

Trevor Hall reported that all repeaters were up, with no word regarding ATV. It is unlikely that we'll get a letter about it.

Tom sent word that we had approximately 220 members.

Adjourned for break at 7:54, returned at 8:10.

Dean Straw presented the basics of contesting, and confirmed that he is retiring at the end of March.

After question and answer session, Jason reminded everyone that the auction was coming up in April. Jason also indicated that it is highly likely that we will be able to use Tice Valley Play Field for field day, though he is still working on getting Heather Farm Park.

Adjourned the meeting at 9:15.

Minutes recorded by President Jason Legate, W6SN

Public Service Events

by Pete Harris, KE6ZIW, MDARC Public Services Coordinator

The following is a list of public service events for this year. Give me a call or email to sign up (Pete Harris at 925-228-4503, pharris125@comcast.net). You can also sign up for events at our regular MDARC monthly meetings.

March of Dimes March for Babies
4/26/08, San Ramon Iron Horse Trail
Radio Coordinator: Janice Fujii

MS Walk
5/3/08, Heather Farms Park, W.C.
Radio Coordinator: Eoin O'Donoghue

Concord Mt. Diablo Trail Ride
5/3/08, Mt. Diablo, 4WD vehicles welcome
Radio Coordinator: John Stuart

Devil Mt. Run
5/4/08, Danville
Radio Coordinator: Ed Ritchie

Escape From Alcatraz Swim and Triathlon
6/8/08, San Francisco Waterfront & Bay
Radio Coordinator: Barry Bettman

25/50 Mile Diablo Trail Endurance Ride
6/21/08, Mt. Diablo (starting at North Gate)
Radio Coordinator: John Stuart

4th of July Parade
7/4/08, Downtown Pleasant Hill
Radio Coordinator: Pete Harris

Alcatraz Challenge Swim
8/23/08, San Francisco Bay
Radio Coordinator: Barry Bettman

Mt Diablo Challenge
10/5/08, Mt. Diablo
Radio Coordinator: John Stuart

Long-Delayed Radio Echoes Resolved!

By Ailean Mac an Daroch
April 1, 2008

Modern "String Theory" provides resolution to decades old questions

Mystical delayed radio signals received on long-delayed echoes.

Long-delayed echoes (LDEs) have puzzled radio operators since the very beginnings of radio itself. For a history of this, see the work of Bill Continelli, W2XOY, in installment #31 of "The History of Amateur Radio" on www.ham-shack.com. Everything from tropospheric ducting for a dozen or more times around the earth to little green men from another star system has been postulated. LDE's have been popularized in Frank Edwards' Stranger Than… books and in Ripley's Believe It or Not. More recently Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, wrote about them in his "Surfing" columns.

Sverre Holm, of the Centre for Imaging, Department of Informatics, University of Oslo, has studied LDEs and wrote his findings in Oslo. Rather than commit to any one theory, he presented a fistful of ideas, each of which might just happen at a given time, for a specific frequency, and if conditions are just right in the cosmos. But he too added the little green men concept to the mix.

Until early in the 21st Century, the physics simply was not there to explain the phenomenon. However emerging results from the Superconducting Super Collider (SSC), secretly built in the late 1980's in Ellis County, Texas, under the direction Roy Schwitters, a physicist at the University of Texas at Austin and Harvard University, showed that the elusive "Higgs' boson," a particle predicted by the Standard Model, could actually be created.

While bosons exist in our world for only microseconds before reverting back into energy, their transdimensional effect on surrounding electromagnetic waves has been studied and documented.

Modern "String Theory" initially postulated that the most basic form of matter was a "string" which is right on the borderline between matter and energy. The characteristics of the particulate matter depend only on the frequency by which the string vibrates. Mathematically this model works out well and resolved many physics problems. It was a major step forward in understanding the Grand Unified Theory (GUT), but in doing so it was found to first require 7 and later 11 dimensions. (Human experience is limited to only four -3 directional axes plus 1 of time.) However, despite our own sensory limitations, these extra three or seven dimensions also resolved the "sponge-like" properties of the boson by which it captures and later releases surrounding electromagnetic energies.

"It's actually more like a spleen than a sponge," claims Dr. Juan O'Callaghan of Hamilton University. "Sponges just soak up things until squeezed. The boson takes electromagnetic energy, transfers it into a different dimension plane where it resides until brought back to its original state. Since there is no consistency to time in these different dimensions, the delay perceived on our side of the dimensional divide can be microseconds or months. Maybe eons. Examples of this are the unexpected re-appearance and reception of the 1937 television signals clearly showing Goebbel's meeting with Hopalong Cassidy."

Indeed, it was only after the recognition that the actions of bosons and the multi-dimensional properties of strings were interrelated with the magnetic monopoles predicted by GUT, that the mystery of the Long Delayed Echoes of radio finally was resolved and formulated as

$$\frac{4(eI)\mu}{\Omega(2\mu)}$$

(Some say this equation can be reduced further to eIeIΩ)

Future research is focused on humanitarian efforts by increasing the longevity of the boson particle effect but Riley of the FCC cautioned that, "There is a real problem with a radio transmission whose station callsign may only be heard once every few millennia." Other possibilities include the return and reassignment of many past DX and contest awards whose contact information has yet to return and also the home use of boson particles to delay the receipt of bad news or chore lists until after the weekend.

April fool! :-)

Annual MDARC Auction

The auction will be held at the next MDARC meeting on April 18th. Ham gear and related equipment are welcome. The doors open at 6:00 p.m. The auction begins 7:00 p.m., and ends promptly at 10 p.m.. This is a great opportunity to clean out the shack or to search for bargains. These events are always a lot of fun.

Auction Rules:

- Ham radio related equipment only.
- 10% commission charged to seller.
- $1.00 charge for buy backs. The auctioneer has the final word.
- Cash and checks only, no credit cards accepted.
- The seller is responsible for any unsold items. Any unsold items left at the auction will be disposed of at the expense of the seller.
- No boat anchors.
- The auctioneer has the final word.

For more information, contact Vice-President Dave Mulkearns, K6OH, at davidmul@pacbell.net.

W6PW/W6CX Annual Campout

The campout will take place starting on Friday, June 6th and end on Sunday, June 8th at the Sugar Pine Dam Recreation Area. It is one of the most beautiful spots in Placer County. This will be a joint venture between SFARC and MDARC members who have meeting for this annual event for the last 30 years.

We are limited to 50 people at this site, so get your reservations in early. The cost is $35 per family. Contact Dave, WA6UHA at youha@pacbell.net for more information and to reserve your spot. Also, check out the website at http://www.sfarc.org/camp2008.htm.

MDARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2008
Fuddruckers, 1940 N. Main St., Walnut Creek

President Jason Legate W6SN, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The board meeting was called to order by Jason Legate W6SN at 7:00am.

The following directors were in attendance: Jason Legate, W6SN, President; Don Anthony, N6SIA, Treasurer; Robert Green, K6GD, Emergency Coordinator; Herb Cole, KI6ATB, Director; Dave Gordon, N6SWE, Director; Tom Deeble, KA6SIP, Membership Chairman.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of last meeting by Robert Green, K6GD, and seconded by Dave Gordon, N6SWE. Voted on and approved.

Treasurers Report

CD's $54,875.73, Checking $11,434.56

Emergency Coordinator Report

Races Meeting Wednesday March 5,2008 to discuss CERT support.

Membership Report

20 renewals to process. Less than 240 total members including family memberships.

Tech Committee

Two meter interference was discussed, and the board discussed purchasing a remote controlled Doppler system for Mt. Diablo. We also discussed recruiting a team in the club made up of hams with Doppler systems to help track down stations creating interference. We also discussed progress on the ATV transmitter.

Field Day

The field day location is Heather Farms park. Trevor Raty KG6MDW will coordinate the event.

PIO

A motion was made to create a public information officer. Herb Cole KI6ATB volunteered and was voted in.

Refreshment Chairman

Don Anthony N6SIA requested a refreshment chairman be appointed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm Next meeting April 7,2008

Respectuflly submitted,
Trevor Hall, WA6JAU

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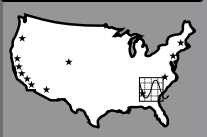

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South County	146.355/+ (100 PL) Ed Ritchie, K6SFD
West County	145.110/- Steve Adams, KF6WNH

March Events

April 18	7:30 pm	**MDARC Monthly Meeting** *Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Lafayette*
April 27		**March Carrier Deadline**
May 5	7:00 pm	**MDARC Board Meeting** *Fuddrucker's, 1940 N. Main St., Walnut Creek*

The Carrier
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www.mdarc.org

***Next Meeting—April 18*—Club Auction**