

General Meeting
Friday April 15, 2011 7:30pm
 Our Saviors Lutheran Church
 1035 Carol Lane Lafayette

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President's QTC - April Meeting

VE license examinations session will be held at the at 6pm prior to the meeting.

Beginning 7 pm this Friday at the MDARC General Membership meeting Larry Lercrone WW6USA, Mitchell Boyce W8DOD and Umesh Ghodke K6VUG will be available to help new owners of D-STAR radios to program their radios and to get on the air.

Laptops, cables and programing programs will be available.

Later in the month we plan to schedule a two to three hour seminar on D-STAR for Beginners which also will offer to program your radios and help to get on the air.

Our speaker will be David Haycock KI6AWR who is a leader in Amateur Radio education, renowned for his very popular "Get On The Air" classes.

Hope to see you then!

— John Ronan, K3ZJJ



**Joint Camping Trip June 10-12, 2011
with San Francisco Amateur Radio Club.
See Page 5**

**Amateur Radio Publications
Now on Sale at Monthly Club
Meetings**

At each monthly meeting, a table of amateur radio publications chosen to meet the interests of its members from the newest licensee to the most seasoned operator. The available publications cover a broad range of interests including ARRL emergency communication publications, repeater directories, license class manuals and the ARRL *Handbook*.

Our club has negotiated prices for these publications to save members money. Purchases of the publications may be made with cash or check. Plan to stop by the table of publications on display at the next club meeting.

HELP WANTED

The **Education and Training Committee** is seeking club members that are interested in joining the MDARC/SATERN team of volunteer amateur radio instructors for in-class Technician and General License Course teaching opportunities. We also seek club members that are interested in joining Glen, NO6W's "Elmer" table to help our lesser experienced club members with their amateur radio questions. The club also seeks volunteers to help with Amateur Radio Publications sales at the regular monthly club meetings. Please contact John Primus, AF6RJ, at af6rj@arrl.net for further information.

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX
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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 provided space is available.

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Jim Siemons AF6PU

PACIFICON 2011
Chair: John Ronan K3ZJJ
Vice Chairs: Paula Costa KI6MPD, Jim Siemons AF6PU
Co-Treasurers: Doug Hinkley KI6VVV and
Rebecca Hinckley KI6VVT
Secretary: Patrick Rigney N6UPS

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Elizabeth Styles KG6HLV
School Liaisons - Jim Siemons AF6PU and Misa Siemons KJ6BUE
Communications Trailer - Brent Morgan AF6HQ
Amateur Television Help and Information:
John Schuler W6DTV JOHNQRZ@aol.com

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CLUB
YAHOO GROUP. DOWNLOAD FILES, INCLUDING
THE CARRIER IN FULL COLOR AS WELL AS SHARE
INFORMATION WITH THE MEMBERSHIP AT:

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

MDARC BOARD MEETING MINUTES, March 7, 2011

Presiding Officer – John Ronan, K3ZJJ Meeting opened at 7:03 PM

Attendees - Ron Luttringer, Tom Kramer, Misa Siemons, Dale McIntire, John Primus, Jim Siemons, Tom Deeble, Bill Swindell, Jay Caldis

President John said that the State of California has not sent us our 501C certificate because they have misplaced the whole file. John will re-submit the required paperwork.

It was announced that Marty Heyman has officially resigned as Emergency Coordinator. There was a motion to appoint Tom Kramer to take his place. It was seconded and approved.

Dale McIntire said that there has been not very much action about the annual auction. He asked for anyone with information about any estate sales to come forward. Dale said that he would be the auctioneer. Bill Swindell said he would provide a computer program that will help manage this auction. He and Dale will review it.

Misa submitted the March financial report. The board reviewed it and there was a motion to accept it. It was seconded and approved.

Secretary Dick Fletcher motioned to accept the minutes from the February Board meeting. It was seconded and approved.

There followed a discussion about the D-Star/HRO equipment sale. It was noted that the applications for discounted prices need to be submitted by March 24th. President John said that he and Larry/LNB will make a presentation about this sale to LARK members.

Tom Kramer spoke about needing some guidance with setting goals for the club's E.C. program. President John said that those goals were contained in the club charter. He went on to support members participating in E.C. programs. Tom spoke about co-operation between ARES, RACES and other E.C. groups. John supported this interagency co-operation. He further spoke of the need for E.C. education for our members.

John Primus announced the dates of the upcoming license training classes. He presented a \$500.00 check from the County of Alameda to MDARC to cover expenses for the training we presented to their Sheriff's department.

Tom Deeble reported on his efforts to finalize membership renewals for 2011.

President John noted that our charter allows us to offer a discounted membership fee for students. He suggested that we offer a yearly membership for a \$15 fee to High School and College students irrespective of license status or age. A motion was fielded, seconded and passed.

Jim has information about ham gear available for donation to a high school. He took several suggestions and will follow up on them.

Ron/XC noted that his audit committee was promised a Pacificon treasurer's report for audit but hasn't seen one yet. President John said that they were spread thin but he will speak with them.

At 8:47 PM there was a motion to adjourn which was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted, Richard W Fletcher, AF9RF, Secretary

FIRST ANNUAL ARRL EAST BAY SECTION CONVENTION

The ARRL East Bay Section and the California Historical Radio Society are co-sponsoring the first annual ARRL East Bay Section Convention.

Date: Saturday June 4th 2011 Time: 0900 - 1300 hrs PDT

Where: 601 Ashby Avenue, Berkeley CA 94710

Admission: Free

Activities:

- **Swap meet in Parking Lot: Set up 0800 - Open 0900 - Close 1200**
- **DXCC checking + VUCC, WAS, WAC cards in Parking Lot**
- **Presentations in Second Floor Meeting Room**
- **Door Prizes**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**0900 - 1200 DXCC (& VUC, WAS, WAC) card checking
Bruce Croskey, AH0U (parking lot)**

**0900 - 1000 ARES Leadership Meeting (DEC / EC) John
Rabold, KS6M**

1000 - 1100 PSK 31 on iPad - Kristen McIntyre K6WX

**1100 - 1200 Next Generation Digital Voice Codec2 -
Bruce Perens K6BP**

**1200 - 1300 ARRL Forum / Open Section Meeting -
Jim Latham, AF6AQ**

Contact person: Jim Latham af6aq@arrl.net

A 2011 Camping Adventure"

June 10th, 11th, &12th

Introduction

The joint SFARC-MDARC campout will take place starting on Friday, June 10th and end on Sunday, June 12th 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 the Club and another group of radio amateurs 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.

What The Campsite Provides

At approximately 3,000 feet above sea level, the campground has water and restroom facilities, no hookups, but nice spaces for trailers, tents and motor homes. There are three large barbecue pits available at our site as well as a large recessed pit for a grand campfire. There are plenty of trees as well as open space for stringing a G5RV and a double extended zepp for your HF station if it is your desire to bring one. However there are plans for at least one active HF station from WA6UHA (weather permitting). We will be using the club call, W6PW. Tentatively our stations will be active on 40 and 75 meters, during the day on 7253 khz and the Noon Time Net frequency of 7268.5 khz (Friday afternoon and all day Saturday) and at night (Friday & Saturday) on 3908 khz (the [WARFA](#) frequency). It's time to pack up and enjoy the great outdoors and warm up for Field Day coming three weeks later. VHF and UHF paths for both Bay Area and Sacramento television and FM stations are quite good even with simple antennas. Obviously, working 2 meters and 440 into Sacramento and the Bay Area repeaters is not difficult especially during the early morning hours when path conditions are ideal.

The Sugar Pine Lake is just a 1/2 mile from the campsite. A hiking trail leads to the water and connects to another trail that follows the perimeter of the lake. The main swimming area is located on the opposite side of the lake and is accessible by hiking or by a 10 minute drive.

A Chronological Look At The Planned Activities

Friday, June 10

Between 12 noon and 1 PM, the forest ranger will arrive to unlock the gate for access to our site. The gate will remain open through out our stay. Also during this time and throughout the afternoon and the early evening the 145.43 repeater (PL 162.2hz), K6MDD-B D-star, and 146.49 simplex will be monitored. When you arrive, park at any of the available spaces. There are plenty.

That evening, you are on your own for dinner. Use your Weber or the barbecue pits provided at the site.

Saturday, June 11

In the morning, you are on your own for breakfast after which, if you desire, join us for a hike to and around the lake. Weather pending, the view will be picture postcard as we make our way around. We will pass the swimming area and cross the dam as we make our way back to Rocky Ridge. The hike should take approximately 2 hours.

After arriving back at the campsite, you are on your own for lunch if you desire but most of us would probably settle for a tall cold one. Later on you can scrounge around for wood for the campfire that night. Around 4:30 the full socializing begins and the bar is open. Bring out the appetizers and munches which is part of the pot luck. Also during this time, the host supplied charcoal will be prepared and the barbecue pits will be lit. However, before dinner as an idea conceived by Fred Townsend AE6QL, we will have a champagne cork popping contest. To participate in this event, bring your own champagne ...**AND NO BOTTLES WITH SCREW-ON CAPS...CORK ONLY.**

As for dinner that follows, the hot coals will be provided for cooking your choice of meat. Please bring out a side dish, salad, rolls for dinner and dessert to share, and don't forget there will be great music for everyone's taste provided by Dave, WA6UHA.

After dinner, the camp fire will be started so bring your own marshmallows. The sticks will be provided by the campsite. Enjoy the fire as we sing, chat, or whatever you would like to do at this time. Plus we will have a real space odyssey with a few astronomical telescopes set up.

Sunday, June 12

At approximately 8 am, preparation will be underway for the host provided barbecued pancakes. Two kinds will be provided, plain and Oregon Blueberry. After many years of research we were able to come up with a process that prevents the pancake batter from seeping through the grill and on to the charcoal. Supply your own beverages and sides and share if you like.

In the late morning, it's cleanup time and we say our good-byes until next year.

Looks Great...Now How Do We Get There??

From San Francisco, drive east on Interstate 80 through Auburn and exit at Foresthill. Head east on Foresthill Road crossing the mile long panoramic American River Bridge. Continue heading east for about 20 miles and you will reach the town of Foresthill. After passing through town continue east for another 10 miles and turn left at Sugar Pine Dam Road. There should be sign just before you reach the junction. Once you are on Sugar Pine Dam Road (Route 10), follow the road carefully, there are a few turnoffs that can possibly throw you off course. If you have any questions while on Foresthill or Sugar Pine Dam road, you should be in simplex range. Monitor 146.49. The 145.43 (PL 162.2) Auburn repeater should also be available and it will be the primary talk-in to get you to the site. In any case, stay on the blacktop. Eventually you approach a junction with the main road going slightly to the left and a road going slightly to the right with a gate which should be open for us. This is also the junction where route 10 ends as indicated by a sign even though the road continues. As you go past the gate, there is a sign posted there marking the reserved group campsites. Follow the signs for the Rocky Ridge site which will be reserved for us. The total drive time from San Francisco to the campground should be approximately 3 hours if you avoid the Bay Area and Sacramento rush hours.

Cost To You

Just \$40 per family!! The more the participants...you might not have to dig so deep into your wallet...

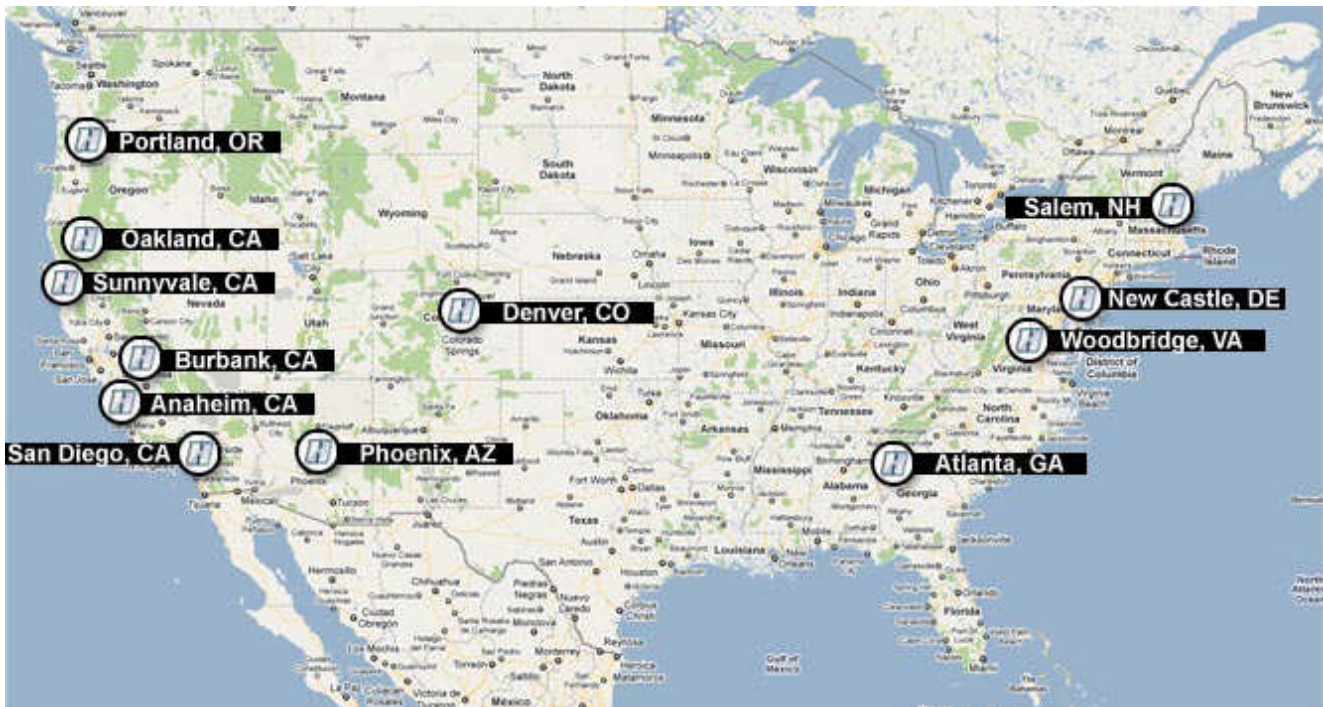
How To Make Reservations

E-mail your name, home QTH, type of vehicle, and number in your party to Dave, WA6UHA at youha@pacbell.net .



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Please do not e-mail more than one HRO location in your e-mail, as e-mails sent to multiple locations may be rejected by our spam filter.



The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
www.mdarc.org

FIRST CLASS

W6CX Nets

Monday 7:00 pm Washington High School Net 147.060+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm General ATV Net 1241.250+

Tuesday 7:30pm Fat City 10 meter SSB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

FM 147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz - EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057
224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

ATV Input: 1289.25 MHz AM/FM. Outputs: 1241.25 MHz AM, 919.25 MHz AM

ATV Internet Stream: <http://www.w6cxatv.net/live>

Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets

Every Thursday, 7:00 pm

Central County 145.680 Simplex

East County 146.535 Simplex

South County 146.355/+ (100 PL)

West County 145.110/- (107.3 PL)

HF Net 8pm First Thursday of each month 3.890 MHz LSB

April — May 2011 Club Calendar

Friday April 15, 2011	7:30 pm	MDARC General Meeting <i>Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette</i>
Monday May 2, 2011	7:00 pm	MDARC Board Meeting <i>Buttercup Bar & Grill 660 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek</i>
Saturday May 7, 2011	9:00 am	MDARC Technical Committee <i>Environmental Center, 2581 Harbor Street, Pittsburg</i>
Friday May 20, 2011	7:30 pm	MDARC General Meeting <i>Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette</i>