
River City ARCS

Vol. 27 No. 11
November 2003

River City Amateur Radio Communications Society

Election of Officers: November 4, 2003

From the President:

At our monthly meeting in October we had an outstanding white elephant sale. Club members donated the items for sale, and \$214.60 was collected at the end of the evening. Among the items sold were Morse code tapes, binoculars, computer speakers, microphones, meters, gloves, head phones, tubes, soldering irons, a paper shredder, a projector, and a 49er's coffee mug. All proceeds go to the club. Thanks to everyone who donated equipment and thanks to those who bought all those elephants!

November will be club elections, so if you are interested in running for an office, contact Bob, KD6WTY, Ron, KE6PUG, Glenn, KG6LRX, or Al, WH6BK. They are the election committee and will be happy to receive your call. Their phone numbers are listed on the next page.

Annual club dues will be due for renewal soon, so pick up a membership application and renew your club membership for the coming year.

The Holiday Dinner Party is tentatively planned for the weekend of December 13-14, 2003. Keep an eye on the website for details.

See you at the meeting, Tuesday, November 4, 2003 at 7:30pm. "73"

Chuck Freas, W6FT, President

VE SESSION RESULTS:

From Ken Hall, WO6J, our "VE Guy": On August 16th, we had four test takers. Two became "Generals" and one "Technician." There were no code test takers. Thank you to all eight VE's who showed up. The next session will be November 15, 2003, at 8:45am at the Carmichael Elks Lodge, corner of Cypress and Hackberry in Carmichael. The fee is \$12.00. The new Technician test began July 1st.

Larry Hodge will hold test sessions on the first Saturday of the month. For more information, contact Larry at <larry.r.hodge@intel.com>

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not necessarily reflect the opinions of the individual Board Members, the editor, or the membership in general.

RACES

If you're interested in becoming a member of RACES, contact Dale, AD6CT, at (916) 925-1062, for more information. You may also tune in to the Monday night net on 147.195 at 7:00pm.

E-mail is Faster!

About half the club members are receiving the monthly newsletter by e-mail. You can receive your newsletter faster and cheaper than snail mail. It costs the club about \$.75 for each "hard copy" newsletter mailed each month. If you can receive e-mail, send a message to Dale, ad6ct@arrl.net and your newsletter will arrive *before* the meeting. Great news! This saves the club postage, paper, and ink (toner, to be precise!)

Just write "subscription" on the subject line and send! Do it today.

Silent Key . . . Keith Crandall, K6QIF

Keith Crandall, K6QIF, entered into rest October 12, 2003, at the age of 78. Keith was a longtime ham radio operator who devoted his time to emergency communications and helped start a citizens surveillance program, SHARP, with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department. He installed the ham system for the Sacramento Blood Bank, the first radio system for the City of Roseville and the Roseville Telephone Company, and emergency communications for his church in the Sacramento area.

Keith will long be remembered for his devotion to ham radio and his enthusiasm for emergency communications. A good friend will be missed.

Happy Thanksgiving

2003 RCARCS Officers/Board

President	Chuck Freas (W6FT)	(916) 332-0927
Vice President	Dale Hankins (AD6CT) . . .	(916) 925-1062
Secretary	Glenn Gleason (KG6LRX) .	(916) 480-0862
Treasurer	Al Auringer(WH6BK)	(916) 344-6700
Membership	Anne Bowman (AD6UY)	(916) 991-6578
N6NA Trustee	Dane Westvik (KO6YD)	Club Phone*
Training	Bob Balthrope (KD6WTY)	(916) 682-9871
Editor	Kay Hankins (KF6IZU)	(916) 925-1062
Directors	Bob Balthrope(KD6WTY)	(916) 682-9871
	Ken Hall(WO6J)	Club Phone*
	Ron Boothe (KE6PUG)	(916) 334-3527
	Ruff Gunn (K6DME)	(707) 678-5192

*Leave message

CLUB INFORMATION:

DUES: \$20.00 Annually beginning January 1st

CLASSES: Class schedules, tests to license or upgrade, and general information are available by calling the RCARCS Hot Line at (916) 492-6115.

MEETINGS: Club meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, 7:30 pm, at the Sacramento County Corporation Yard, (formerly SMUD), corner of Don Julio and Elkhorn Blvds.

Board of Directors meetings are held the fourth Tuesday at 7:00 pm.

CLUB PHONE: (916) 492-6115

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 215073, Sacramento, CA 95821

WEB SITE: www.n6na.org.

E-MAIL: n6na@arrl.net.

2003 RCARCS Calendar

November 4th Club Meeting, Elections, 7:30pm

November 25th Board Meeting, 7:00pm

December 2nd Club Meeting, 7:30pm

December 13 or 14 Holiday Dinner (tentative) - TBA

December 23rd No Board Meeting

Event Chairmen Needed

Your club needs volunteers to act as chairmen and/or coordinators for events in 2004. If you have special interests or talents and would like to participate in your club activities, please contact any of the Board members and volunteer. Following is a tentative list of the kinds of assistance needed:

Publicity Chairman:

Newsletter Editor: Kay Hankins, KF6IZU

VE Liaison: Ken Hall, WO6J

Education Coordinator: Bob Balthrope, KD6WTY

Antenna Committee:

California State Fair:

Prevention 2004:

Elmer Committee:

White Elephant Night:

Holiday Dinner:

Club Representative for ARRL (EMCOM):

Greeters:

Coffee Chairman:

Repeater Trustee: Dane Westvik, KO6YD

Club Representative for RACES:

Door Prize Chairman:

Drawing Chairman:

Nominating Committee:

Bylaws Committee:

Field Day General Chairman:

Pot Luck Lunch Chairman:

Set Up/Take Down Chairman:

Publicity Chairman:

Historian:

Club Picnic Chairman:

Jackets, T-shirts & hats: Mary Anne Balthrope, KE6EST

We are developing job descriptions for these positions and welcome your input. Please contact one of the Board members if you would like to volunteer.

Thank you from ARRL

The River City Amateur Radio Communications Society has received national recognition for the funds donated to support Spectrum Defense, including the special campaigns for WRC-3 and against Broadband over Power Lines (BPL). See page 10 in the November issue of QST. We also received a certificate of appreciation from the ARRL. Thanks to all who contributed.

Be Prepared: "Blackouts"

(Thanks to Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club Newsletter Valley Ham News for the following article.)

Gary Wilson, K2GW, Southern New Jersey Section EC, sent some excerpts from an article that appeared in the Monday, August 18, 2003, issue of the Wall Street Journal.

The WSJ points out: "the unreliability of cell phones in a major emergency," of which we are all aware. But they also point out some interesting things that you may not realize:

Automatic toilets and sinks don't work without power.

Many gas stoves have no pilot lights and need power to operate.

While the landline phone network stayed up, PBX's and many fancy home phones need power to operate. Make sure you have one old-fashioned analog phone and line that doesn't need a power supply.

Electronic locks in hotels don't let folks into their rooms.

Electronic phone directories don't work.

Even if you can make a purchase with cash at a store with malfunctioning electronic cash registers, you may still need a mechanical scale to weigh things.

Gas pumps need electricity.

Pay phones can't accept credit cards without power.

Conclusion: Look at each device that uses electricity and ask "how can I continue without it." One pizza place in New York City had a gas stove, analog phones and flashlights, but they couldn't make pizza because they only had an electric cheese grater!

Editor's Note: A few weeks ago, our neighborhood suffered a three hour power failure in the wee hours of the morning. No coffee, no television, no microwave, no computer, no telephone, no hot water for a shower, no hair dryer. I grabbed a flashlight and a portable AM/FM radio and waited. I was late to work!