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# River City ARCS

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Vol. 28 No. 07  
July 2004

River City Amateur Radio Communications Society

## Proud to be an American . . .

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### From the President:

You will find an article elsewhere in this newsletter about our very successful 2004 field day, but I want to take the space here to offer my special thanks to several people who were instrumental in bringing the event off. First I would like to thank Roy, KD6LLE, who provided the antennas, the tower, and most of the connecting hardware. Secondly, my thanks to Patrick, N6ARO, who hauled a trailer full of gear for us. And, lastly, my thanks to Chuck, W6FT, who arranged for the site and provided the logging and dupe sheets for us. This was my twelfth field day with RCARCS. And, one of the best!

Operators are needed for Eppie's Great Race on Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Each location is manned only from 2 to 4 hours on Saturday morning. If you can help, call me.

Dale Hankins, AD6CT, President

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### 2004 Membership Cards

If you haven't received your River City ARCS 2004 membership card, contact Kay, KF6IZU, who has been appointed membership chairman for the balance of the year

There are still some who had not remitted dues for 2004. Please do so right away so that you may continue to receive the newsletter. Those who are unpaid for 2004 will be deleted from the mailing and e-mail list on August 1.

### VE SESSION RESULTS:

From Ken Hall, WO6J, our "VE Guy": "The next session will be July 17, 2004, at 8:30am at the Carmichael Elks Lodge, corner of Cypress and Hackberry in Carmichael. We have a **new time schedule**: 8:30am to 9:30am. Code testers must be there by 9:00am. We close at 9:30am. The fee is \$12.00. Call the Information Hotline for details: 916-492-6115.

"We had five candidates at our June 19<sup>th</sup> session. Three became Technician and one upgrading to General".

Ken says, "Be sure to bring your ORIGINAL CSCE form and license to the session. Copies will be made to send to the ARRL and the originals will be returned to you.

"We will begin using the new General class question pool (Element #3) starting July 1, 2004. It was released for publication on December 1, 2003. Be very careful about which General Class book you purchase."

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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### You've Got Mail!

If you can receive e-mail, send a message to Dale, [ad6ct@arrl.net](mailto:ad6ct@arrl.net) and your newsletter will arrive *before* the meeting. Great news! Just write "subscription" on the subject line and send!

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### July Guest Speaker

You don't want to miss this exciting presentation. John Cleveland, W3RJC, will demonstrate his EMCOM unit which he used at Field Day 2004, where John worked CW.

### RCARCS Swap Meet – 9-25-04

River City ARCS has scheduled its swap meet for September 25, 2004, at the Sutter Middle School. Vendor slots will be \$10 and admission for buyers is free. Coffee and donuts will be provided for a small fee, and there will be drawings. Tickets will be available from club board members.

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**Fourth of July  
Independence Day**

**Fly the Flag**

## 2004 RCARCS Officers/Board

<b>President</b>	Dale Hankins (AD6CT) (916) 925-1062 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ad6ct@arri.net">ad6ct@arri.net</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Chuck Freas (W6FT) . (916) 332-0927 E-mail: <a href="mailto:cmfreas@ardennet.com">cmfreas@ardennet.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Glenn Gleason (KG6LRX) . . (916) 480-0862 E-mail: <a href="mailto:gleasong@pacbell.net">gleasong@pacbell.net</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Al Auringer (WH6BK) . (916) 344-6700 E-mail: <a href="mailto:alauringer@juno.com">alauringer@juno.com</a>
<b>Membership</b>	Kay Hankins (KF6IZU) . (916) 925-1062 E-mail: <a href="mailto:mkhankins@sbcglobal.net">mkhankins@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>N6NA Trustee</b>	Dane Westvik (KO6YD) . . Club Phone* E-mail: <a href="mailto:dane.n6na.org">dane.n6na.org</a>
<b>Training</b>	Bob Balthrope (KD6WTY)(916) 682-9871 E-mail: <a href="mailto:kd6wty@yahoo.com">kd6wty@yahoo.com</a>
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<b>VE Liaison</b>	Ken Hall(WO6J) . . . . . Club Phone*
<b>Directors</b>	Bob Balthrope (KD6WTY)(916) 682-9871 E-mail: <a href="mailto:kd6wty@yahoo.com">kd6wty@yahoo.com</a> Stelian Viceanu (AE6OR) . . . . . E-mail: <a href="mailto:Steli_hd@yahoo.com">Steli_hd@yahoo.com</a> Ron Boothe (KE6PUG) (916) 334-3527 E-mail: <a href="mailto:hoverking98@yahoo.com">hoverking98@yahoo.com</a> Ruff Gunn (K6DME) . . . (707) 678-5192

### Committees:

**Sound Guy: Paul Grose, KG6KPV**  
**Newsletter Editor: Kay Hankins, KF6IZU**  
**VE Liaison: Ken Hall, WO6J**  
**Education Coordinator: Bob Balthrope, KD6WTY**  
**Holiday Dinner: Kay Hankins, KF6IZU**  
**Repeater Trustee: Dane Westvik, KO6YD**  
**Bylaws: Kay Hankins, KF6IZU, Chuck Freas, W6FT**  
**Jackets, T-shirts & hats: Mary Anne Balthrope, KE6EST**  
**\*Leave message**

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### CLUB INFORMATION:

**DUES: \$20.00 Annually beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**CLASSES:** Contact Bob Balthrope, KD6WTY, for information and scheduling.  
**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](http://www.n6na.org)  
**E-MAIL:** [n6na@arri.net](mailto:n6na@arri.net).

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## 2004 RCARCS Calendar

<b>July 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Club Meeting, 7:30pm</b>
<b>July 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Board Meeting, 7:00pm</b>
<b>August 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Club Meeting, 7:30pm</b>
<b>August 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Board Meeting, 7:00pm</b>
<b>September 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Club Meeting, 7:30pm</b>
<b>September 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>RCARCS Swap Meet – Sutter Middle School</b>
<b>September 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Board Meeting, 7:00pm</b>
<b>October 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Club Meeting, 7:30pm</b>
<b>October 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Board Meeting, 7:00pm</b>
<b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>CLUB MEETING, MONDAY, 7:30pm</b>
<b>November 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>NO MEETING Election Day</b>
<b>November 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Board Meeting, 7:00pm</b>
<b>December 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Club Meeting, 7:30pm</b>
<b>December 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Club Holiday Party (TBA)</b>
<b>December 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>No Board Meeting</b>

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## Area VEC Test Locations

**River City ARCS (Walk-ins okay)**  
Contact Ken Hall at 916-492-6115 (club hotline)

**Folsom (Walk-ins okay)**  
Contact Larry Hodge at 916-361-2476 or  
[larry.r.hodge@intel.com](mailto:larry.r.hodge@intel.com)

**Sacramento ARC (Pre-registration required)**  
Contact Bill Allshouse, KQ6AW, at 916-464-4115

**Yuba Sutter ARC (Walk-ins okay)**  
Contact Eddie O. Ansel at 530-742-2674 or  
[www.users.cwnet.com/ysarc/](http://www.users.cwnet.com/ysarc/)

**Stockton (Walk-ins okay)**  
Contact Mark at 209-465-7496

**Santa Rosa (Walk-ins okay)**  
Hot Line 707-579-9608

**Nevada County ARC (Walk-ins okay)**  
Contact Louis Pelletier at 530-477-2295 or  
[kq6sq@ncws.com](mailto:kq6sq@ncws.com)

**El Dorado Sheriff & Search & Rescue (Walk-ins okay)**  
contact James Swanson at 530-544-2351

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## Gear For Sale

For more information on the following listed gear, contact KD6AV, 725 Sierra Drive, Dixon, CA 95620 or phone (707) 678-5362.

Heathkit HL-2200 Linear Amplifier  
Heathkit SS-9000 Transceiver  
Heathkit SA-2050A Antenna Tuner  
Heathkit PS-2000 Power Supply  
Heathkit SB-614 Station Monitor  
Heathkit HD-8999 CW Keyboard  
Kenwood TM-2570 2 Meter Transceiver  
Kenwood TR-7950 2 Meter Transceiver  
Kenwood TR-7800 2 Meter Transceiver  
Kenwood KPS-12 Power Supply  
Lots of Station Accessories

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## Independence Day? Lest We Forget

Since the Pledge of Allegiance and The Lord's Prayer are not allowed in most public schools anymore because the word "God" is mentioned, A student in Arizona wrote the following NEW School Prayer:

Now I sit me down in school  
Where praying is against the rule  
For this great nation under God  
Finds mention of Him very odd.

If Scripture now the class recites,  
It violates the Bill of Rights.  
And anytime my head I bow  
Becomes a Federal matter now.

Our hair can be purple, orange or green,  
That's no offense; it's a freedom scene.  
The law is specific, the law is precise.  
Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.

For praying in a public hall  
Might offend someone with no faith at all.  
In silence also we must meditate,  
God's name is prohibited by the state.

We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,  
And pierce our noses, tongues and checks.  
They've outlawed guns, but FIRST the Bible.  
To quote the Good Book makes me liable.

We can elect a pregnant Senior Queen,  
And the 'unwed daddy,' our Senior King.  
It's "inappropriate" to teach right from wrong,  
We're taught that such "judgments" do not belong.

We can get our condoms and birth controls  
Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles  
But the Ten Commandments are not allowed,  
No word of God must reach this crowd.

It's scary here I must confess,  
When chaos reigns the school's a mess.  
So Lord, this silent plea I make:  
Should I be shot; My soul please take! Amen.

*Editor's Note: The above poem just scratches the surface of the moral decay we see in our society each day on the television news casts and in the newspaper. For years, we have been told that integrity is taught at home; that the family is the core of our civilization. Perhaps the pundits should take a closer look at the individual. If each person conducts his/her own life with honesty, truth, and respect for the law, seeking to do good not evil, the media would shrink without the sensationalism of violence and corruption. Perhaps the individual would be healthier, physically, mentally, and socially, and the world would be a better place. Perhaps we should take a moment and reflect on the sacrifices of our forefathers and remember why they gave up so much to come to this country. Perhaps "world peace" begins with me!*

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## Field Day 2004 Report

Twenty-two amateur radio operators participated in River City ARCS' Field Day 2004 event at Madera Park in Citrus Heights. Arriving at the site about 8am Saturday morning, antennas went skyward, batteries were placed, and coax abounded. Two stations functioned on the CW bands and two on "voice" bands. Armand, WB2ZEI, made about 250 contacts on 20-meters SSB in about twelve hours.

Those who attended and brought family members (listed in call sign order) were: Dale, AD6CT; Steli, AE6OR; Dale (a new General class operator), KA6JFF; Roy, KD6LLE; Don, KE6GMJ; Ken, KE6RMN; Glenn, KG6LRX, and wife Joan; Gary, KG6SMX, and family; Patrick, N6ARO, and son Michael; Chuck, W6FT, and wife Marianna; Carl, WA6VLS; Armand, WB2ZEI; Dave, WB6YLK, and grand-daughter; Al, WH6BK, and wife Marty; John, W3RJC, and family; Jettie, W6RFF; Gordon, WB6OVH; Mike, K6LQ, and family; Don, KI6HW; Howard, (sorry Howard, I didn't get your call sign), and his wife; Rob, KG6VDR, and his wife; and Kay, KF6IZU.

Special thanks to Rob Ward, a friend of Dale's, who came out Sunday morning to help take down antennas and gear.

The food was superb and plentiful. We dined on fried chicken, barbecued boneless beef ribs, fiesta pasta salad, baked beans, green salad with Vidalia onion dressing, steamed homegrown yellow zucchini, potato salad, macaroni salad, chips and dips, cookies, and Dutch apple pie and razzleberry pie. The club furnished water and sodas.

The weather was warm but pleasant and a light breeze kept everyone comfortable. The only casualty was Chuck, W6FT, who got sunburned on the back of his neck during set up. He finally remembered to use his sunscreen and was fine.

Three operators set up tents and spent the night manning their stations faithfully and logging contacts. Contacts were made as far away as Austria!

If you didn't make it this year, plan to attend Field Day 2005. It's the fourth full weekend in June.

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## And, Speaking of Field Day . . .

Thanks to Guglielmo Marconi, who in December 1901, transmitted the first wireless signals across the Atlantic Ocean from Poldhu, Cornwall (United Kingdom), 2100 miles to St. John's, Newfoundland (Canada). That first transmission was a series of three dits. . . Without his brilliance and determination to prove that wireless waves were not affected by the curvature of the Earth, amateur radio might not have been useful for more than a distance of 200 miles! The following December, Marconi transmitted the first complete message from Cornwall to Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, and later Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Marconi was born in Bologna, Italy, on April 25, 1874, the second son of Giuseppe Marconi, an Italian country gentleman, and Annie Jameson, daughter of Andrew Jameson of Daphne Castle, Wexford County, Ireland. He was educated privately at Bologna, Florence and Leghorn, and even as a boy, he was interested in the works of Maxwell, Hertz, Righi, Lodge and others. In 1895, at the age of 21, he began laboratory experiments at his father's country estate at Pontecchio, where he was successful in sending wireless signals over a distance of one and one-half miles. In 1900 he took out his famous patent No. 7777 for "tuned or syntonic telegraphy." Without Marconi's wireless telegraph,

there would have been no help for the sinking *Titanic* and all would have been lost!

Marconi received honorary doctorates from several universities and numerous international honours and awards, including the Nobel Peace Prize for Physics in 1909 which he shared with Professor Karl Braun. Additionally, in 1914 he was created a Senatore in the Italian Senate and appointed Honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order in England.

Marconi died in Rome on July 20, 1937.

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## **Get Ready**

### **RCARCS Swap Meet**

**September 25, 2004**

**Sutter Middle School**

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### **Got Squash?**

If you have a vegetable garden, and you've got more squash, especially zucchini, and you're wondering what to do with it, I have some suggestions.

Our son presented us with two very large yellow zucchinis just before Field Day. I thought about making soup or tea breads, but in the flurry of preparation for Field Day I just didn't get it done.

Field Day morning I was at home finishing the cooking for the pot luck and thought those zucchinis would be a colorful addition to meal time. So I washed them and sliced them, place them in a large pan with a little salt and pepper, little dots of butter, and a sprinkle of chicken broth. Covered the pan and place them in the over for about one hour.

When the pot luck dinner was over and everyone had eaten all they could hold, there were only about six slices of the zucchini left. Everyone raved about how tasty the zucchini was and few had seen it served at a pot luck picnic.

So, feel free to surprise your family and friends and serve zucchini often this summer. It's healthful, colorful, and if prepared properly, quite tasty.

Zucchini can be used in soups, salads (instead of or in addition to cucumber, tea breads, cakes and cookies. And if you're really creative, pickles. Contact me if you need recipes for any of the above. Now, go fire up your rig and enjoy a rag chew. You have time!

Kay, KF6IZU

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### **RCARCS Roster Coming**

A RCARCS call sign/telephone roster will be printed in a future news letter. If your call sign or telephone number has changed, please contact Kay, KF6IZU, membership chairman/newsletter editor, with the updated information at [mkhankins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mkhankins@sbcglobal.net) or call 925-1062 and leave a message.

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