

SEPTEMBER 2001

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



Member Profile

Jim Maxwell W6CF

It is a challenge to write a profile of Jim without taking up this entire issue of Short Skip. I was prepared for the spectacular view from Jim's QTH perched way above Summit Rd in the Santa Cruz Mountains, the impressive beam antennas, 5 Band DXCC and #1 Honor Roll awards—enviable to be sure but not exceptional. Jim's interest in Ham Radio qualified him first as a Radio Operator in the Merchant Marine and then in the army, this career path parallels that of many "Old Timers" from the 1950s. Jim's professional education lead to degrees in mathematics and aeronautical engineering and a career principally with Lockheed in Sunnyvale, all would mirror many success stories in the Bay Area.

What I was not prepared for was Jim's passion for the history of wireless communications and of course Ham Radio in particular. Just as I departed Jim asked if I would like to see his library. What he showed me is beyond belief; shelves full of every imaginable publication from the early days to the present. With great pride Jim showed me his collection on the Maxim family which of course included Hiram Percy Maxim one of the founder of the ARRL. Jim showed me a copy of QST Volume 1, #1 December 1915 among his treasures.

Jim of course is our ARRL Pacific Division Director and congratulations are in order for his recent re-election. We talked at length about the value of ARRL membership. What is often overlooked is the fact that the League provides essential value in protecting the ham radio that many enjoy at a local level — ARRL efforts over CC&Rs is but one example. Jim receives very many communications from both members and non-

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CHRISTMAS BRUNCH



The festive season will soon be upon us and Chaminade in Santa Cruz has once again been selected as the site for our Christmas lunch!

Thanks to NOUJR for permission to use his wonderful sense of humor

Last year 64 or more members and their guests attended and we had a great meal in an elegant setting. Please mark your calendars for noon to 2:30 PM on December 8th and bring your HTs. The cost per head is \$20 and thanks to all for participating in our various fun fund-raisers during the year which help the club subsidize fine events like this.

Club Potluck Barbecue

Saturday, October 27, 1:00 - 6:00 PM — QTH: Jim Welty's, KF6YRD

Take Highway 1 to Freedom Blvd. Exit and head North on Freedom Blvd. Pass through the light at Aptos High School and proceed 1 mile to McDonald Road. Turn left on McDonald and go to end (approx. 1/2 mile). Look for Ham Radio sign and turn right on Day Valley Road. Proceed 500 feet to first left: Cox Road. Proceed 500 feet on Cox Road to the Welty's: 2200 Cox Road, on the left. There will be flag or banner marking the entrance: Welty residence is the Brick House back in the woods.

Talk in on KI6EH, 147.945 Welty's phone: 688-3111
RSVP to kq6dv@k6bj.org, or (831) 464-3120.

CLUB MEETING FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 7:30P.M.



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Free to members.

Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 238

Santa Cruz, CA 95061-0238

Editor and Publisher

Ron Baldwin, K6EXT

(831) 419-1025

K6EXT@fireclay.com

Columnist: Art Lee, WF6P

Writer: Ron Skelton, W6WO

Distribution: Elaine Pennell, KE6FRA



Prez Sez

Mark these dates on your calendar:

Saturday, October 27th, 1:00 - 6:00 PM.

Club Potluck BBQ at Jim, KF6YRD, and Norma Welty's. Chef YRD will prepare the main course - attendees please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert. This is a great opportunity for camaraderie and also for introducing interested friends to Ham Radio. We will have a Fox Hunt and an operating HF station to demonstrate Amateur Radio in action. Thank you Jim and Norma for extending your gracious hospitality once again: last year a great time was had by all at this event.

Saturday, December 8th, 2:30 PM.

Holiday Brunch at Chaminade: Cost \$20. Per person.

Be there or be square!

—73, KQ6DV



By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

This was a good month. Propagation on 40 meters wasn't bad and my regular morning schedules on the Baja Net came through in readable fashion. I have been on that net for nearly 20 years now, although it doesn't seem that long. One of the original net controllers, Gene, K6HQ (SK), used to run phone patches for me to a friend in Westminster, CA. I have known her since she was 5 years old. That was quite a while ago. Her father went down with his ship, the USS Arizona, on December 7th 1941. On the night prior to the attack, he was to come to our house for dinner as our overnight guest. His plans changed. Tragically, he returned to his ship instead.

A friend of mine is taking a computer class and came up with something I had not tried. Just type your own name in for a web search on the Internet. I did. Several of my articles were listed but one was of particular interest. My "Three Minute Tip" piece appeared in the February issue of Popular Communications Magazine. Somehow, my check failed to arrive in my mailbox. I contacted the editor and he said that the accounting department was a little bit behind. Eight months? Incidentally, the "Three Minute Tip" piece

was written as a suggestion when Leon Fletcher, AA6ZG, was our club president in 1988. One technique Leon used to stimulate participation was to have one or two of us stand up on meeting nights and present a helpful hint. I wrote up my tip dealing with code learning and mailed it off.

Sadly, I have to report that Leon, AA6ZG, is not doing well, health-wise. Suffering from diabetes, he was hospitalized after collapsing some 2 months ago. Now he suffers from fatigue and the effects of chemotherapy. He asks that no one call or send cards but will welcome short e-mail well-wishes (<mailto:leonflet@aol.com> leonflet@aol.com).

I was happy to see a little piece I wrote, "Fix It, Don't Toss It," appear in the September issue of Monitoring Times. The article describes a few cases where a couple of minutes of simple trouble shooting resulted in easy repairs.

Went over to see Dan Anderson, AA6GD, the other day. Am trying to get my beam back in service so Dan presented me with some rotor cable and coax. He gave me two lengths of rotor cable saying, "You wanted 77 feet. Here's enough, but you will have to do some splicing." The price was right. It was a gift. I assured Dan that my years of sweeping floors for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company in Hayward qualified me to solder those 8 conductor cables together.

I finally got back on the air with my CW pal, Marsha, AB7RJ, in Washington. She has a grueling work schedule but we managed to get in a couple of good QSOs.

EVENTS

- Foothill Flea Market - 2nd Saturday of each month from March through October at Foothill College, Los Altos.
- Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, 7:00 AM to noon,
- 1 Sept. 2001, Vaca Valley RC & Western States Weak Signal Society swapmeet. 7372 Paddon Road, Vacaville, 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Contact Larry Hogue, W6OMF, w6omf@cwnet.com.
- 2 Sept. Sonoma County Radio Amateurs swapmeet. Doors open at 7:00AM at the Lewis Adult Education Center, at the Corner of Lomitas Ave and Lewis Road, Santa Rosa, CA. Contact: Rick Reiner, K6ZWB, k6zwb@cads1.net
- 27-30 Sept. Microwave Update 2001, sponsored by the 50 MHz and Up Group of Northern California. Located at the Four Points Hotel, Sunnyvale. <http://microwaveupdate.org>
- 19-21 Oct. ARRL Pacific Division Convention, Concord, at the Sheraton Concord (Airport) Hotel, Concord. See <http://www.pacificon.org/> for details.

My brother-in-law, Frank, KB6TZA, visiting Donna and me, shared my rig to join our little chat. Frank, a great professional guitar player, is still mourning the loss of his idol, Chet Atkins, WA4CZD (SK).

EMERGENCY COOMMS: HAM RADIO ON ALERT AS TERRORISTS STRIKE THE USA

Amateur radio took to the airwaves to provide assistance in the wake of apparent terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, DC the morning of September 11th. More than 300 died in the four high-jacked airliner crashes. The number of dead and injured on the ground is still being assessed. Amateur Radio Newline's Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ, in near the scene and has this report:

"The city remains completely shut down. No access to any bridges, tunnels or subways. F-16 Aircraft are flying very noticeably in New York airspace -- patrolling. We are literally under

military and federal control and the governor has mobilized the National Guard."

Those were the words of one New York area ham familiar with emergency communications. He was describing by e-mail the situation late in the morning of Tuesday September 11th after what are believed to be terrorist launched attacks against the New York City and Washington DC.

Almost immediately after the apparently coordinated assaults, President George W. Bush has announced that the US military was put on high alert here in the United States as well as abroad. At about the same time the Department of Transportation issued a nationwide notice closing off all domestic air traffic.

As we go to air, the FCC has not issued an emergency declaration or other special instructions to the Amateur Radio com-

munity but the American Radio Relay League has asked amateurs to stay alert to instructions from local authorities. And the ARRL says that hams ARE ready to assist in any way that they can. This is what we know so far, courtesy of the American Radio Relay League and its webpage:

Here in the Metro New York area some ARES and RACES organizations opened emergency nets in response to the disaster. According to ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator Tom Carrubba, KA2D, a net was set up on the WB2ZSE repeater with Guy Richman, KC2AYG, as its control station. The net handled emergency traffic and provided hams to shadow some New York City officials. Meantime, Kenneth Goetz, N2SQW, reported that a New York State RACES nets were operational on 7.248 MHz and 3.993 MHz. Both nets handled emergency and government-related traffic.

In the Washington area, Maryland and D-C Section Emergency Coordinator Mike Carr, WA1QAA, told the ARRL that RACES groups were activated in Montgomery County and put in standby in Howard County. Montgomery County Deputy Radio Officer John Creel, WB3GXW, reported that county's RACES team was activated and under full tactical alert. Also, Virginia SEC Tom Gregory, N4NW, asked everyone to monitor the emergency frequencies and to keep a full tank of gas. The Old Dominion Emergency and Virginia Emergency networks were said to have been active.

At times like this, one group the nation always turns to is the Salvation Army. That organization reports its Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network activated its High Frequency net on 14.265 MHz. SATERN also handled health-and-welfare inquiries sent in via its website.

Meantime, the FCC's Riley Hollingsworth suggested that the amateur community remain calm but to be ready. He also recommended that amateurs monitoring any suspicious communications tape it and contact him. Hollingsworth says that he will relay relevant information to the FCC duty team.

The FBI also has set up a toll free number for those with leads or other information on the terrorist attack. It's at area code 866-483-5137. Leads can also be sent via a special website at

www.ifccfbi.gov.

Reporting from the Metro New York area, I'm Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ, for the Amateur Radio Newline.

One question on the minds of many hams is what will happen to the hobby if our government declares war in retaliation for this terrorist act. The American Radio Relay League advises that should a state of war be declared, Amateur Radio would not automatically be shut down. The League says that this requirement was eliminated prior to the Gulf War. (ARRL,

ARNewline(tm), K2SSQ, WB3GXW, FBI release, others)

Jim Maxwell continued

members alike and is diligent in attending to all their issues. Jim made mention that an effort to maintain a strong membership now includes a financial award to clubs who bring in new members. What better way is there to raise funds for our club! Watch out for more news from Jim on this.

A turning point in Jim life came as a result of the '89 earthquake. It was wife Trudy who discovered local hams handling emergency traffic and lead to her becoming as KC6NAX. For Jim it opened up a whole new

area of interest in emergency services and the fine bunch of hams who do not chase DX or work contests. Throughout the interview one is struck by his personal achievements in the



hobby but more so in his selfless work as a tireless ARRL Director to give something back. We have much to thank Jim for so tell him so next time you meet.

SCCARC Officers - 2001

President	Tom Johnson	KQ6DV	464-3120
Vice President	Richard Trebbien	KG6AXD	426-0169
Secretary	Cap Pennell	KE6AFE	429-1290
Treasurer	Elaine Pennell	KE6FRA	429-1290
Board	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	
	Bill Walters	W6PAD	688-0557
	Allen Fugelseth	WB6RWU	475-8846
	Mike Doern	KF6UXB	477-1161
	Ron Skelton	W6WO	477-1021
K6BJ Trustee	Royce Krilanovich	AC6Z	475-4798

MONTEREY BAY ACTIVITY

K6BJ / K16EH (Linked) • SCCARC Net Monday 7:30 PM 146.79- /147.945- 146.79- /147.945-

K6BJ / UHF • SCCARC Net Monday 8:30 PM 440.925 (PL 123)
 • SC ARES Net Monday 8:30 PM 146.835-(PL 94.8)
 • Watsonville ARES Net Thursday 8:30 PM 147.945-

K6LY (Monterey) • Monterey ARES Net Wednesday 7:30 PM
 146.97- (PL 94.8) • NPSARC Net Wednesday 8:00 PM
 444.700+ (PL 123) • Monterey Bay Traffic Net Nightly 9:00 PM
 (Linked) • Monterey Bay Swap Net Wednesday 8:15 PM
 • Newsline (Ham News) Broadcast Wednesday 8:30 PM
 N6IYA (Felton) • SLVRC Net Thursday 7:30 PM
 146.745- (PL 94.8) • SLV ARES Net Monday 7:30 PM
 • Newsline (Ham News) Broadcast Sunday 9:00 PM

6 Meter Local Net 52.8 MHz (PL-114.8) Sunday 8:00 PM
 SCCARC 10 Meter Net 28.308 MHz USB Monday 7:00 PM
 Mont. Bay Chapter 191 QCWA :Tuesday, 7:30PM, AA6T repeater, 146.700-(NO PL).

SCCARC Calendar of Events

SCCARC Board Meeting 6:30	Friday	Sep. 21
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Sep. 21
SHORT SKIP deadline	Monday	Oct 8
Santa Cruz ARES	Tuesday	Oct. 9
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Oct 19

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The SCCARC Meets at 7:30 PM, on the THIRD FRIDAY of the each month (except December). Meeting are at Dominican Hospital, 1515 Soquel Drive, Santa Cruz.

Visit the SCCARC Website at -

www.k6bj.org

CLUB E-MAIL: yourcall@k6bj.org



TRADE or SELL TABLE at AUGUST MEETING

Bring your surplus radio gear to sell or trade. The table will be set up before the club meeting. Put a price on your goodie and have fun trading or selling: mics, connectors, handhelds and related equipment, receivers, transmitters, etc. Let's have fun!
 —Dan AA6GD



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
 P.O. BOX 238
 SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0238

Meeting: Sept. 21, 7:30PM

First Class