

MAY 2007

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SPACE TOURIST ON THE AIR

It cost him an estimated 20 million dollars to get there, but Space tourist Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, is on the air from the International Space Station Amateur Radio Newsline producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in our Los Angeles newsroom with the audio of some of his first contacts:

Simonyi: "November Alpha One Sierra Sierra. CQ, CQ, CQ."

As we go to air space tourist Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, has only been on the International Space Station for a few days. No matter because he seems to have really taken to the idea of talking to people back on mother Earth using Amateur Radio and does it like a pro. Take a listen:

Simonyi: "Kilo Echo 7 please repeater your callsign. Kilo Echo 7 Mike Henry George this is Charles. I hear you loud and clear. And a big 73 for you. Thanks for the contact. QRZ."

The Whiskey 6 stand-by. Whiskey 6 Mike Echo Uniform, my name is Charles and I hear you loud and clear. 73 to you."

One of the first stations contacted by KE7KDP was Scott Avery, WA6LIE, in Salinas, California. Avery had his recorder running as KE7KDP sent a message of thank you to the ham community which worked with him to get him licensed in time for the flight:

Simonyi: "Well I just want to congratulate the (ham radio) community for the great job that they are doing in performing their charter. As we learned about it (in training) and to thank everybody who helped me to get into the community and helping me along. It is not easy for me and I do the best that I can. So, thanks a lot guys, and I hope I can talk to as many people as possible. Over."

We also got the chance to ask Avery what it was like to talk to Charles Simonyi and relay his message to the ham radio world:

Avery: "Being one of the first to talk to Charles on the International Space Station was definitely an honor and a surprise. I feel very lucky to have had this opportunity and I hope that others enjoy their contacts as much as I did. Its pretty awesome and a once in a lifetime experience."

After they chatted for about a minute, KE7KDP said 73 to Avery and went on to work station after station, almost as if he was on a DX-pedition. In some ways he was and Avery kept tape rolling until the I-S-S faded from view:

Audio of KE7KDP making rapid-fire contacts. Hear it in the MP3 version of this newscast downloadable from www.arnewline.org

KE7KDP has since gone on to make numerous of random QSO's using the call sign NA1SS. Most U-S hams report that they heard him on 145.8 MHz and made contact by calling him split frequency on the 144.490 I-S-S uplink channel. The frequencies used in other parts of the world vary. Most of the information you need and a blog by those who have made contact with Simonyi can be found on-line at www.issfanclub.com

Charles Simonyi will be on board the I-S-S until April 20th. That's when he returns to Earth with Expedition 14 crew members of Michael Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, and Mikhail Tyurin, RZ3FT, both of whom who have been in space since last September. So until then, keep an ear open for Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, operating mainly as NA1SS from space.

Field Day June 23-24

SCCARC Members:

Field day is coming June 23-24 this year. We are probably already behind in planning this event. I am interested in forming a Field Day committee, and would like to get a list of those persons who plan to participate. In the committee will be the persons who take the lead in securing the site, coordinating site use, getting the food and cooking equipment for the bar-b-que (if we have one).

I hope some hams who will reply to this message to say they want be part of the planning committee or the event. I know it's a lot to ask.

Also, I suggest we those of us who want to plan a Field Day meet at the next club meeting May 18.

--Chris Angelos, SCCARC Pres.,
kg6doz@k6jb.org



You can follow KE7KDP's space and ham radio adventure on-line at www.charlesinspace.com (ARNewslineT with audio supplied by WA6LIE)

—from Amateur Radio NewslineT Report
1548 - April 13, 2007

CLUB MEETING FRIDAY MAY 18, 7:30 P.M.

ROYCE KRILANOVICH, SR AC6Z, SK K6BJ Trustee

After a long, fruitful and boisterous life, passed away on March 22, 2007. He was 86 years old. Royce is survived by his wife Donna, his brother Raoul Pollock, and his children Mara, David, Martin, Stephen, Kevin, John, Eric, Lorraine, Nancy, and Marla. He has among his children several accomplished educators, musicians and artists. Royce is also survived by 26 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews who kept him young at heart with their vitality. Royce and Brian, two of his sons, passed away prematurely in 2001 and 2003 respectively.



Royce was born on November 28, 1920 on Bixby Street in Santa Cruz. He graduated as the high school valedictorian from Chaminade-Whitney in 1939, at the time an all-boys Catholic school. Royce was an active Catholic at St. Joseph's Catholic Church as a Eucharistic minister, usher and lector.

A life-long resident of Santa Cruz, Royce briefly lived in San Francisco while working on T-2 tankers and Liberty Ships for the WWII effort. He joined the army's 65th division when he was old enough. As a staff sergeant and communications specialist, his duties took him to Germany, Austria and Hungary.

For most of his life, Royce worked in the construction industry and on many Bay Area projects including the Stanford Linear Accelerator and buildings at the UCSC campus. A life long learner and patient teacher, Royce also taught construction and ham radio at Cabrillo College and sailing for O'Neill's.

An avid sailor and ham radio operator, he also enjoyed tennis, softball, volleyball, bowling and fishing.

—From Santa Cruz Sentinel March 25, 2006

APRIL CAKE

Greetings to all. I hasten to correct the report of a donated Tee shirt in the previous session. This was donated by Eric K6EP and not as previously stated. Dave K06RS was very pleased to receive it Eric. The session today was as well attended and as vigorous as usual. We welcomed Robert a guest introduced by Mikey (N6IL) Mikely may soon transition from student to tax payer and we wish him well even though it might mean we do not see him as often. It was a pleasure meeting David (WA6MVK) for the first time and he has already added considerably to our understanding of internet connectivity.

Dave (W8FLL0) is always a source of innovative products. This time it was an antenna analyzer that finds the best match to 50 Ohms and spits out the frequency in Morse code. It was good to have Tom (WB9VXY) at our session today. He brought a section of damaged power (as in many KV and amps) cable that once literally blew up in his face. The copper in such a cable is worth serious money these days.

Dave KI6HST offered an HP printer to the club. Thanks for that and I understand it will soon reside in the HF shack. Ron (W6WO) exhibited a short section of flat twin conductor cable, often called zip flex. You can find details of its characteristic impedance, loss and velocity factor in ARRL antenna handbooks. Contrary to the popular notion that it is good for 75 Ohms it is much closer to 100 Ohms. Ron intends to use this as a phasing line in a two-band (20/17 m) Yagi designed by K06RS. Stay tuned for reports from KY.

Allan (KC6VJL) reported that recent email problems might be the result of a Trojan virus, so be alert to this cause. Thanks for the tip about sound card conflicts Alan

Some discussion on wide band gap diodes needing to be forward biased clearly shows that we have some scientists in our midst. Did you know that all diodes produce some light? See also the picture on our club web site.

Once again it was hard to capture all the discussions taking place and especially today. It was a good opportunity to discuss details of what it will take to get our repeaters connected to the internet. David

Common Battery Phone

Reading this month's Short Skip reminded me of another pinch point in emergency communications that many of us might not know about. For more than 100 years, we've been accustomed to being able to use a "common battery" telephone that needed only a copper pair to the central office to keep working. Do you know where your phone line comes from? If you're within a mile or two of the CO, it's likely that you still have actual copper. But further away than that, particularly if your phone line has been installed within the last ten years or has DSL on it, it's possible or even likely that you're actually served by a remote terminal unit or "digital pair gain". You'll find these all over Santa Cruz; they are typically powered by commercial power with backup batteries for short outages. For longer outages, at&t must send someone with a generator to power it. Perhaps their plans for this are foolproof.

—David WA6NMF

From Kentucky

Here,s a brief report from KY ifmy lousy modem line permits.

I am pleased to report that my tower is now vertical and cranking up and down nicely. Work on the beam has been completed and I hope to get it up in the air in the next few days , also the 135 ft dipole.

I will message Bob K6XX when I am able to arrange a sked.

Lokkoing forward to Dayton

—73 to all Ron W6WO

and Tom offered very valuable suggestions.

As most know I am trekking due East in a few days and will not be back until mid July. As before I encourage you all to continue in my absence and I hope to be able to connect in one way or another . Don't forget the club meeting next Friday and I know that you will enjoy the Peter 1 Island expedition movie .



By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

Thanks to Chris, KG6DOZ, for setting up the CAKE meeting on Saturday, 5 May. We had plenty of attendees, so many in fact, that there was a danger of running out of tables in the main dining section. (I think we had them all!) The CAKE meetings at Gigi's serve to get us all together for a social hour as well as a technical "See what I've made," or "What the heck do you think this is? session." I think we all enjoy the relaxed atmosphere no speakers, no minutes, just fun. The talk runs heavy to computers. When I questioned a few members about my problems with software they advised me to buy a new computer. This is good advice, but as long as the old clunker still works, why not just ignore its idiosyncrasies and push on? I have backup disks so when the 6 year old hard drive gives up the ghost, I'm still OK. We all face the same problems. I actually replaced the computer with a nice laptop, but hate the flat keyboard. I spend half my time backtracking to correct wrong (double) key hits.

Do want to congratulate Mikey, N6IL for bringing his robot vehicle for us to play with. It was a class project for his Computer Science degree at UCSC. Nice job, and made from a Leggo toy. The robot moves about under its own power, when it encounters an object, it recoils. Has a light-sensi-

tive search feature also. With our robots roaming freely about the surface of Mars, it is nice that we are generating folks who can do this sort of thing.

Met new ham and member, John Harris, KI6IFA. Turns out that John was a USAF aircraft electrician working on the F4 and other fighter aircraft out of Udorn AFB in Thailand. During my one year tour in Vietnam I always tried to get my 3 or 4 days unofficial R&R at Utapao AFB. Our navy P3 squadrons operated out of there and we could go with them for a couple of days away from Cam Ranh Bay. There was no shooting going on in Thailand so sleeping was uninterrupted by the bad guys. John and I were old aircraft fixers on the same type aircraft. Navy squadrons operated the F4s from carriers (We had tail hooks, they didn't!).

At the last club meeting or on the K6BJ repeater, the call went out for code tapes and keys. Seems there is a lingering interest in learning the code from new hams. Some still think it is a fun part of the hobby, me too.

The May issue of Monitoring Times Magazine carried my article "Getting The Rig Back On The Air." It was a short piece about Gary Baker, N6ARV, helping me repair my ICOM IC 761. With his help I was able to do minor work on the rig myself until it failed for another reason. I saved the original box so will pack it up and ship it off to ICOM for repairs. The rig is nice, too nice to relegate to the scrap pile.

If you are up in Brandon, Oregon, on July 21st, you might want to take in the Hamfest and Swapmeet put on by the Coos County Radio Club. Pat Henry, WA6PKM, our club member in Gold Beach, Oregon, mailed me a brochure on that event. For info contact: Ron Oliver, W7VU. W7vu@arrl.net.



W6WVO and KE6AFE install link to club repeater

Ops Need for Fly-In

Amateur Radio Operators are needed for this year's Watsonville Air Show and Fly-in. The event is right around the corner and sign-ups are requested. Here are the details:

WHAT: Watsonville Fly-in and Air Show
WHEN: 25 - 27 May TIME: See the web page for schedule (<http://k6rmw.net/airshow/>)

Safety Walk 1 (on field - new layout/field changes) 05-MAY-07 09:30 hrs 11:30 hrs

Safety Walk 2 (on field - new layout/field changes) 19-MAY-07 09:30 hrs 11:30 hrs

We have two safety field walks scheduled before the event, for new operators that are interested but would like to check things out first, and for the vets to get a refresher in walking around airplanes with props spinning. It is also to give everyone an idea of where things have changed and are different from previous years. This is good to help you find your exact location on the field in an emergency situation. Please attend as they are for your safety and help!

This year's event is going to include the Marine Corp. AV8B Harrier jets, some fly-by's by F18 Hornets, several Mil helicopters and a lot more aircraft. There will be several car clubs on both Saturday and Sunday that will be showing off their cars as well.

Please send me an email to sign up, or if you are interested and have never worked the event before. You can fill in the following text and reply to this one if you like or send a new email with your Call sign, First and last names and the days you can work. Please take a look at the web page frequently for the latest information and updates to the schedule and documents that will be available for you use at the event.

Thanks for your help and this year should prove to be a bigger than ever event. A great place to come out and learn what it means to be "outstanding in your field" of Amateur Radio.

—73... Bob Wiser K6RMW Coordinator, Safety and Security Communications Watsonville Air Show and Fly-in, 2007

SCCARC Board - 2007

President	Christopher Angelos	KG6DOZ	688-3562
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	Ron Skelton	W6WVO	477-1021
K6BJ Trustee	Allen Fugelseth	WB6RWU	475-8846

MONTEREY BAY REPEATER ACTIVITY

Santa Cruz County ARC	K6BJ 146.790- PL 94.8 Santa Cruz KI6EH 147.945- PL 94.8 Watsonville K6BJ 440.925+ PL 123.0 Santa Cruz
	• SCCARC Net Monday 7:30 PM 146.79- /147.180+ /440.925+ linked • SCCARC 10 Meter Net 28.308 MHz USB Monday 7:00 PM
San Lorenzo Valley ARC	WR6AOK 147.120+ PL 94.8 Ben Lomond
	• SLVARC Net Thursday 7:30 PM
Loma Prieta RC	WR6ABD 146.640-(PL 162.2)
	• LPRC Net Tuesday 8:00 PM
Naval Postgraduate School ARC	K6LY 146.97- PL 94.8 / 444.700+ PL 123 (Linked) Monterey
	• NPSARC Net Wednesday at 8 PM on K6LY/R • Monterey ARES Net Wednesday 7:30 PM K6LY 146.970- (PL 94.9)
ARES Nets	SC County Wide ARES Tuesday 7:15 PM on AB6VS 440.550- W6WLS 147.180+ AE6KE 146.835-(Linked repeaters / PL 94.8)
Followed directly by	• SLV ARES W6JWS 146.745-(PL 94.8) & WR6AOK 147.120+(PL 94.8) on alternate Tuesdays • South County ARES K6RMW 147.00+ (PL 94.8) • LPrieta ARES AE6KE 146.835- / AB6VS 440.550+ (Linked /PL 94.8) • Santa Cruz ARES K6BJ 146.79- / (PL 94.8)
	• Newline (Ham News) Broadcast Wednesday at end of NPSARC Net • Santa Clara Valley Section Traffic NET Tuesday 9:00PM 146.640- (PL 162.2)

FOR MORE INFO SEE: <http://www.k6bj.org/freq.html>

SCCARC Calendar of Events

SCCARC Meeting	Friday	May 18
Board Meeting	Wednesday	May 23
Short Skip Deadline	Monday	Jun 4
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Jun 15

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

The SCCARC Meets at 7:30 PM, on the THIRD FRIDAY of the each month (except December). Meetings are at Dominican Hospital, 1555 Soquel Drive, Santa Cruz.

SHORT SKIP

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Free to members.

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Treasurer's Report

At the April 2007 Board of Directors meeting, Treasurer Kathleen McQuilling, KI6AIE, reported that the SCCARC treasury had \$5939.88 in cash and bank accounts.

Don't Need Short Skip In Your Mailbox?

If you're getting Short Skip by postal mail but would rather just read it on the Club's web site, just let me know at ki6aie@k6bj.org and I'll take care of it. If you're on the K6BJ email reflector, you'll get notification when each month's Short Skip has been posted to the Club web site.

HRO Discount for Club members

SCCARC members are eligible for a 5 percent discount at HRO in Sunnyvale on any purchase over \$20 excluding radios. Show them your current membership card once and they will update their database for future discounts.

--Kathleen, KI6AIE