



# Squelch



Volume 48 ~ Number 4

July 24, 2009

**Official Publication of the Anaheim Amateur Radio Association ~ An ARRL Affiliated Club  
Squelch is published bimonthly on the Friday preceding the General Meeting**

## ~ Upcoming Events ~

**Anaheim Amateur Radio Association**  
Post Office Box 2242  
Anaheim, CA 92814-0242

### AARA Club Officers and Volunteers

**President:**

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**Refreshments:**

Jim Edds, KA6G

Margaret Signorelli, WA6PZO

**Web Master:**

Bob Krause, KI6K

**Aug 1:** Club Breakfast at Keno's, 8 AM

**Aug 15:** Elmer Workshop 10 AM

**Aug 20:** Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM

**Aug 25:** General Membership Meeting 7 PM

**New Meeting Location!**

Following Months Calendar on Page 3

## AUGUST 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



*~ Membership Corner ~*

*By Margaret Signorelli, WA6PZO*

We are now past the renewal deadline. There is still be time to send in your renewal. A new roster will be sent out shortly after the cut off date. Cut off to be in the roster will happen September 1<sup>st</sup>.

We have a new meeting place and hopefully, that will spur members interest to attend the meeting. Please check the map on page 3 and it is also on our web site. I hope to see everyone there. My schedule has not changed much over the past 4 months.

Hope to see you all in August.

Margaret WA6PZO

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*~ Prez Sez ~*

We were not able to secure a key card for entrance to the UOC but were offered the use of the City of Anaheim Fire Dept., North Net Training Center. This facility is across the street from Anaheim Stadium alongside the Santa Ana River.

New address for the General Club meeting

Anaheim Fire Training Center  
2400 E. Orangewood Ave.  
Anaheim CA. 92806

Our first meeting will take place on Aug. 25 with the gate opened from 6:45 to 7:45PM. The gate is off of Rampart St on the West side of the Center.

The guest speaker will tentatively be Gordon West with a subject to be announced.

73 Dennis KI6IPH

## ~ Monthly Events ~

**CLUB BREAKFAST:** 8:00 AM First Saturday of each month at Keno's Restaurant, 2661 W. La Palma Ave, Anaheim, CA 92801.

**BOARD MEETING:** 6:30 PM Thursday before General Meeting of each month (except December) International House of Pancakes Restaurant — 2250 Lincoln Avenue, Anaheim, CA.

**ELMER (Mentor) WORKSHOP PROGRAM:** Third Saturday of the month (except March and December) Lutheran Church, 12301 Magnolia St, Garden Grove. (in North Hall) Time: 10AM. Visit <http://www.aara.org> for more information & Map.

**MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING:** Fourth Tuesday of the Month. (except December) **NEW MEETING LOCATION!** 2400 E. Orangewood Ave, Anaheim, CA. (Anaheim Fire Training Center) The entrance is off of Rampart St. which is on the West side of the Facility. Starts at 7 PM.

## ~ Upcoming Events ~

SEPTEMBER 2009						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

### ~ AARA Repeaters: K6SYU/R ~

**2M Repeaters 146.19/146.79**  
 Long Beach, PL-1A/13 - 103.5 HZ  
 St. Jude, Fullerton PL-2A/16 - 114.8 HZ

**220 Repeaters 222.9/224.5**  
 Long Beach, PL-5A/25 - 156.7 HZ  
 St. Jude, Fullerton PL-5B/26 - 162.2 HZ

#### Notes:

2M Repeaters Transmit a 103.5 CTCSS Tone on the output. Long Beach 2M & 220 Repeaters are linked.

Frequency format is: input/output



Squelch is published bimonthly (in odd numbered months) and is delivered via e-mail attachment. Please keep your Editor updated on any change of e-mail address you may have.

Submissions for Squelch are welcome. The Editor reserves the right to refuse to publish any articles deemed as not suitable and articles will be edited if required.

Send Articles and address updates to the Editor at: [waltrqt@earthlink.net](mailto:waltrqt@earthlink.net)

All submissions are due not later than the 3rd Tuesday of the month in which Squelch is published but may be submitted at any time prior to that day. Submissions submitted late may be used in the following issue. An e-mail reminder will be sent to the membership one week prior to the due date.



CQ FD

CQ FD

CQ FD



## AARA Field Day 2009



## *~ Field Day 2009 ~*

Field Day in 2009 was like no other one I have attended. First off, we worked 2D and did it in Jim's (KA6G) back yard. This was the first time doing Field Day that I didn't spend most of Friday setting up, getting exhausted in the process. So we showed up at Jim's back yard on Saturday morning and set up our (sideband) operating structure (a two room family tent). Once the structure was in place, and with the addition of a table, we were ready to set up our electronics. So after several trips out front to the car, we set up a radio (with boom mike and foot switch). Next the power supply was connected up connected to commercial power so we could test it. So we powered up the power supply, turned on the radio and waited the ten seconds the radio takes to initialize the DSPs and filters and then .. nothing. Well you can't expect everything to be just peachy keen can you? Well at least we had lights on the radio, but no sound. After fiddling around for about 20-minutes, started looking for an alternate sound source. Scrounging in Jim's shack, we found an old set of cans (earphones to you neophytes) and plugged them in to the radio. And guess what, they worked, so planned to go that way.

Now for our logging computer. Talked to Jim about it and he said that they had two of them, one of which didn't want to work, and the other one was not booting. Hearsay told us that Ruth (Jim's XYL) took it inside and worked some magic and got it to work. He also informed us that the monitor was not up to our expected normal standards. Well you really need a computer to do logging, so we pushed ahead. The computer and monitor were connected up powered on. The monitor displayed its power light and blank screen as you would expect. Next the PC - an ancient one, probably an XT - was powered on and after a short while, there was a dim image on the monitor. Adjusting the brightness and contrast knobs got us a readable display. It sure did not look like what I expected, as there were random zeros (0) scattered around the screen (about 25 or 30 of them). About this time Tom Smith made his appearance and we were informed there was probably a problem with the display card in the PC (more on this later). Any way the PC booted up and low and behold here came our logging program. As usual at the start of Field Day the date and time needed to be set - so - exited the program and saw a C:> prompt. Hey anyone know what that is all about? Oh yeah, I remember now that is MS-DOS, which none of us have had to deal with for a long time. So pushing aside the cobwebs in the brain, remembered how to set the time, you use the TIME command. Well that got us to a prompt to set the time. After many attempts using different formats, and getting no where, exited back to DOS and used the HELP command and looked up how to set the time. Well one of the formats I had been using was the one the HELP program said we should use. It also showed setting the time by typing TIME followed by the correct time. Tried this and the time program came up and the time looked OK, but it kept asking me to enter the time. Finally I got back to DOS and - whew - the time was correct. Next used the DATE command along with the correct date to set the date. Boy are we making progress now. So back to the logging program and ready to go. Sure enough about 2 minutes later it was start time, and the first CQ went out.

The first contact was made and entered into the logging program and we were off and running. At least we thought we were, but looking at the entry logged, noticed that the call sign was incorrect, no problem, the logger has an edit capability so it was invoked and the call sign changed and the ENTER key hit and the entry was updated, only problem is that the one showed in the working area and in the log were different. Ah well we are in the midst of Field Day, would worry about fixing later. So away we went having lots of fun making contacts. After a few hours, one of the other folks there noticed that the date was incorrect, at least the year was, it said 1999. Boy I may have trouble typing, but not that much. So out of the logger I went and again entered the date. Although I tried both 2- and 4-digit year numbers it kept coming up 1999. Then the old brain kicked in again, remember this is DOS, and I remembered that MS-DOS was never patched to display proper year after Y2K. Ah well guess we will have to fix that later.

Slowly the number of contacts increased, and several different operators worked stations - Linda, Tracy, Sean, Dennis and Bob. So the sun went down we worked into the night, but now being of the ancient age (if you don't think so, just ask my boys), we called it a night around 2200 (10 p.m.). Planned to come back in the morning and pick it up again. That blankity blank monitor was getting to be a royal pain. Not only that but every half hour or so, the keyboard to the computer would freeze up, or maybe it was the computer itself, and it would have to be powered down and started again, and yes you guessed it, the date and time had to

*(Continued on page 6)*

*(Continued from page 5)*

be set again.

So it is now Sunday, we are back and working again. After a short while, Jon stopped by, took one look at the monitor and made a non-repeatable comment about the "wonderful" display. Well we had not been getting many contacts, and Jon suggested that perhaps the contacts on the display card might be dirty and suggested we open up the PC and take a look - told you we would get back to it. So we scrounged up a screwdriver (sort of) and opened the case. Boy you would not believe what we found. First thing we had to do was remove the blanked from off of the innards. Well it was about a ¼ inch thick and covered the entire insides - oh yes it was dust. This thing hadn't been opened for quite a while. So Jon did his computer best, pulled the display card out, erased the contacts (actually cleaning them with a pencil eraser) and reseated it. He also speculated that the lock up problem might have been due to excessive heat. So first thing he did was remove one of the circuit card slot covers in the back then with the cover off, fired it up. Well when he did that, it became clear that the cooling fan for the power supply was not turning. I told you it was really dusty in there. With a little fooling around we got the fan spinning, slowly at first, but faster a short while later. And you guessed it, there was no change on the monitor, the zeros were still there. Tom speculated that the problem with the call signs was probably a stuck bit in the display card, and it might have been as on different line on the log call signs were displayed correctly sometimes and not others. So we buttoned up the case around the PC and went back to making contacts.

Well the end time got closer and we were all about talked out, so we decided we had done enough and it was time to tear it down for another year. So we all pitched in and in a surprisingly short time everything was down, and packed up ready to go back home. Boy, I never finished tear down and ready to go before lunch, in fact it is usually mid- to late afternoon before then.

This was sure a different Field Day, problems never before encountered, but also one of the most enjoyable, even if we didn't make a thousand contacts. Sure looking forward to next year and hoping more folks will be able to join us.

- Bob Krause KI6K

## *~Field Day Summary 2009 ~*

Jim KA6G an Ruth graciously hosted Field Day in their back yard. Participants included Dennis KI6IPH (AARA President), Clancy WA6HNQ, Bob KI6K, Linda KE6QFL, Sean, Tracy KF6VTL, Tom KB6A, Rob W6GRV, and Jon AF6AU. We were in Class 2D, having two transmitters on the air, operating from commercial AC power and using Jim's permanently installed antennas. We also set up a VHF station for 2-meters. We made a grand total of 440 QSOs, of which 376 were not other class D stations. This results in a claimed score of 1274 points. I submitted our entry and log file a few days after the contest. QSOs per band (with/without class D QSOs):

2m FM: 57/44  
40m SSB: 101/85  
20m SSB: 12/11  
40m CW: 41/34  
20m CW: 225/199  
15m CW: 4/3

The score is computed as { (140 voice contacts \* 1 point/each) + (236 CW contacts \* 2 points/each) } \* (2 power multiplier) + 50 points bonus for using the Internet to submit the score. The power multiplier (2) results from using less than 150 watts.

Since we were operating in Class D (home station, commercial power) we cannot count contacts with other class D stations. The computation above takes this into account.

And a good time was had by all.

Tom Smith KB6A

## *~ HDSCS AARA report ~*

The most enjoyable event for HDSCS, like many clubs in June, was Field Day. We again had the opportunity to do our Field Day exercise with Huntington Beach Hospital. The hospital not only provided their grounds but set up surge capacity tents and brought out their two portable generators for us to use. It's a great collaboration with hospital and both entities benefit. In addition to the typical Field Day activities, HDSCS members also put on a scout radio merit badge class, technical test prep session, and examination session. In addition to the ARRL visitors, SW Division Director Dick Norton and Orange Section SM, Carl Gardenias, we had special visits from a St. Jude physician, the OC EMS medical director who now has a General Class license and operated overnight, the OC EMS program manager, the OC Hospital Preparedness Program Manager, the EMS Medical Disaster Management Coordinator and the operations manager from Care Ambulance. We had an excellent turnout of members, good teamwork, outstanding food, great camaraderie, and a terrific collaboration of community resources. Check out our website for a great photo collection

Prior to Field Day though we did have some educational and training opportunities. On June 18, 31 HDSCS members responded on behalf of 16 hospitals and EMS to a Pandemic Flu drill scenario. This was originally scheduled as a statewide drill but after the real development of the H1N1 flu many hospitals felt they'd already been dealing enough with plans for this type of scenario. The state cancelled the drill, but numerous hospitals decided to continue with their drill plans to meet Joint Commission standards as well as to practice aspects of their disaster plans that they hadn't had to do. So EMS said they would support those hospitals wanting to drill and that meant HDSCS ended up involved as well. The drill was an excellent practice for the hospitals in testing the activation procedures in their Hospital Incident Command System and most communicators got a pretty good taste of what it was like to deal with messages involving supply requests to other local hospitals and Emergency Medical Services.

On June 24 two HDSCS coordinators and two Certified Hospital Communicators attended a Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness class. This class was provided by Orange County Emergency Medical Services staff with material provided by Homeland Security. It was a good overview and an opportunity to interface with not just hospital folks, but staff from ambulance companies, community clinics, Red Cross, and city/county emergency management.

On August 29, HDSCS will hold a mini-workshop for new members. If you are interested in this type of public service, this is a good time to get involved. Contact April if you would like to know more.

For more info on HDSCS checkout our website [www.hdscs.org](http://www.hdscs.org)

73

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