

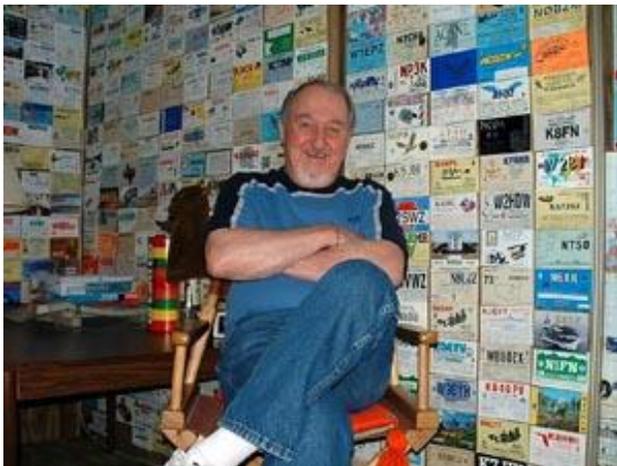


"THE READOUT"

Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association

April 2009

AL - WG6M MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



I was born in Turlock, CA in 1930. We lived on the family dairy on Lander Avenue.

We moved to Modesto in 1935 where my father gained employment with the City of Modesto as a greenskeeper at Muni Golf Course. He later became a firefighter with MFD and retired after 26 years service.

I began my education at John Muir Elementary School, then transferred to Washington Elementary School. I attended Roosevelt Junior High School for 7th and 8th grades, then to Modesto High School where I graduated in 1948.

I joined the Navy in 1948 and went to Naval Aviation Technical School in Millington, TN. I was stationed at Naval Air Station Alameda until 1952 then was transferred to Naval Air Station Barber's Point in Hawaii until 1953 when I was discharged. I spent the next year in the Veteran's Hospital in Oakland CA.

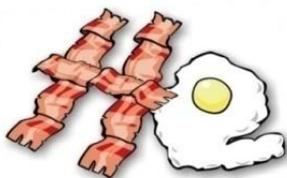
I attended Modesto Junior College from 1954 to 1956 and graduated with an A.A. Degree. I transferred to College of the Pacific in Stockton and graduated in 1958 with a B.A. Degree in Education.

I began my teaching career at Fremont Elementary School in Modesto in 1958, and remained there until my retirement in 1987.

My wife and I will celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary in October. We have a son and a daughter both living here in Modesto. We have a grandson living in Montana, a granddaughter who is attending UC Irvine and will graduate with a B.S. Degree in May and begin Graduate School in the Fall. We have a great-granddaughter and a great-grandson living in Montana.

I received my Novice callsign KB6WLG and my Technician callsign N6SAE in 1988 in Modesto. I took and passed my General written test in Stockton and that was my incentive to learn Morse Code. I passed the Advanced test and the 13 wpm code test in Merced. I passed my Extra test in Jackson, CA in 1989. I became a VE with the Tri-County testing team and administered tests for several years.

My favorite mode for hamming is CW, although I do use SSB HF mode also. My shack equipment consists of a Yaesu FT-900 HF transceiver, Yaesu FT-5200 Dual Band 2m/70cm transceiver, and a Yaesu FT-530 Dual Band Hand-Held transceiver. HF antenna is a Windom Dipole. My mobile HF rig is a Yaesu FT-890 and the antenna is a Hustler.



Ham & Eggs

by Paul
W6UHF

This month I have decided to work a bit more on an article that seems more appropriate to a "Ham & Eggs" column. Perhaps some of you are not aware that I really like food, especially Italian cuisine. Some may call it a passion, others an addiction. Mostly, I like to eat good food! If a new restaurant opens in the area – I make it a point to try it out.

Probably my second favorite restaurant in Modesto is Bella Italia Ristorante at 2625 Coffee Rd. This is a rather small restaurant that I find cozy, romantic, intimate and very Italian. Don't let the size fool you because the ambience allows for expert table wait service. Once inside and seated and after your first sip of wine washing down the garlic and butter focaccia bread you will think you're in San Francisco rather than Mo town. If you're in a hurry you better arrive early or prepare to wait sometimes as long as 30 minutes. No reservations accepted, but I can say the wait is worth it!

Bella Italia Ristorante boasts 22 plus years of delivering quality dishes to the general public. Chef Fernando Flores who by the way is the owner does an excellent job on preparation and presentation. His staff provides excellent service and always willing to chat with you in Italian.

Their menu boasts a very good selection of Italian favorites and the soups, salads and desserts should not be overlooked. My favorite is the grilled chicken breast and shrimp fettuccini alfredo. First, I like their minestrone soup followed by a Cesar salad. Of course for those who like to imbibe I suggest a Napa Valley merlot.



I have never been disappointed in the food or service and highly recommend Bella Italia for your next dinner out on town. I would rate Bella Italia between four and five stars. I'm sorry but Galletto's gets the fifth star!

Bon appetite de Paul W6UHF

NEXT MONTH – How do you like your Ham & Eggs?



Single Sideband Transceiver



FOR SALE OR TRADE!

Swan 500 Transceiver w/117c Power supply external speaker and Shure microphone.

It belongs to the radio loan program and is WAY too much for a new Ham so would like to trade it for two Mobile radio's or a couple good handy talkie's, Would even consider selling it outright for a good price and we could buy a couple more used radio's. Make offer to al@kf6fir.net.



DATES AND EVENTS

The Mount Diablo ARC is not sponsoring Pacificon 2009, the ARRL Pacific Division Convention this year due to circumstances beyond their control.

However, there will be a Pacific Division Convention in 2009. It will be May 1-3, 2009, at the Circus Circus in Reno NV. This is also the location of EMCOMM West. For information go to www.emcommwest.org. You can also go to www.pacificon.org and follow the links for information on Pacificon 2009.

March of Dimes

Saturday - April 25, 2009
Graceada Park in Modesto (401 Needham)
8:00 a.m. --Registration
9:00 a.m. - Walk starts

Walk is 3.5 miles. It finishes around noon. They have four rest stops and one four mile route.

Crop Walk

Saturday - April 25, 2009
Rally - 9:15 a.m. / Walk - 10:00 a.m.
Modesto's Geneva Presbyterian Church (at the corner of Coffee and Fairmont. This have two small routes and can probably be handled with four operators if necessary.

Just Around the Corner

- **March 14, 2009** Covered Bridge Classic Bike Ride
- **March 17, 2009** Next Meeting
- **April 18, 2009** [HAMCRAM](#) One day licence class and exam
- **May 2, 2009** Turlock Auction the Turlock Amateur Radio Club holds an Auction at the Turlock Youth Center, this Auction is for anyone to sell Ham Radio equipment and related Ham Radio accessories. For information please e-mail Grady Williams at gradyw@elite.net

HAM STORY OF THE MONTH



During a recent trip my wife and I were on, we drove around the back woods of East Texas.

On one back road I saw a sign in front of a broken down shanty style house: "Talking Dog for Sale."

Well I needed a break so I stopped to see what the deal was. I went into the backyard and see a nice looking Labrador retriever sitting there WARS Newsletter January 2009 Page 7. "You talk?" I asked. "Yep," the Lab replies.

Well after I got over the shock of hearing a dog talk, I asked, "So, what's your story?" "Ah shucks there ain't much to tell. Is that a VUU screwdriver antenna on your truck out there?" "How did you know that," I asked? The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I'm a ham radio operator. I got my Ticket when I was a young pup and in no time at all I had my 5 band DXCC in Phone and CW.

The CIA heard about me and asked me to do some spy work for them. I would hang around the communication centers and with my keen hearing I could copy the transmissions. Because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping, I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years. Copying high speed CW all day really tired me out and I knew I wasn't getting any younger. So, I decided to settle down. I retired from the CIA (8 dog years is 56 CIA years) and joined a ham radio club.

In fact I won first place in the Oklahoma QSO Party two years in a row. Then I had a mess of puppies and got away from Ham Radio for a while. I sure miss my radio."

"Why don't you buy me and I'll be your CW operator in the Texas QSO Party?"

I said "let me see what I can do." I went back in and asked the owner what he wanted for the dog.

"Ten dollars," the guy says.

"Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?"

"Because he's a liar. He never did any of that stuff. He's just a No Code Technician!"

Joe WB6AG

A new Free Ham Radio Podcast for Ham's by Hams'



Dear Fellow Amateur,

I wanted to tell you about a new free Podcast (broadcast), by amateur operators for amateur operators—The ICQ Amateur / Ham Radio Podcast.

If you don't know what a Podcast is, it's an audio file which has been compressed into MP3 digital format. These files can then be played on a MP3 Player, a computer, or some CD players that can read this format direct from a disc.

My son Colin and I have decided to record a fortnightly Amateur Radio Podcast called ICQ Podcast. The aim of the podcast is to help new entrants to the hobby like Colin to learn and understand the technical detail to attain their licence, while providing experienced operators with a combination of news, reviews, opinions, upcoming events, features and reports. **The podcast is recorded for amateurs and including amateurs.**

Previous episodes have covered topics including operating on holiday in Cyprus, an introduction to building an 80m SSB Kit and microphone modifications and new product reviews. We have also hosted roundtable discussions reviewing 2008 for Ham radio and a newbie roundtable discussing their enjoyment of their new hobby. We are looking for other contributors to become involved. If you are interested, please e-mail info@icqpodcast.com.

If you would like to find out more please visit our website at <http://www.icqpodcast.com> or search iTunes for "icqpodcast" (or add to iTunes - [http://phobos.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id\(4922000\)](http://phobos.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id(4922000))) and download an episode or two.

Thank you for your time.
Martin Butler

WHAT HAVE OUR HAMS BEEN UP TO?



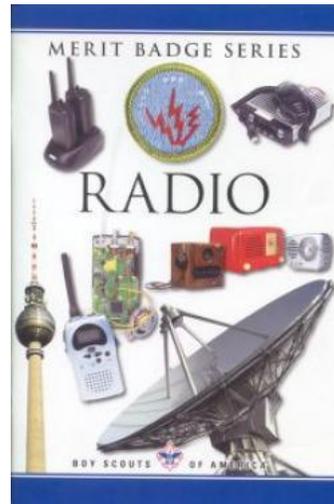
**Dick - SUU
Visiting Elko**



LEW! LEW! LEW!



ARLX003 BSA Updates Radio Merit Badge Requirements



The new BSA Radio Merit Badge Pamphlet includes color pictures and updated charts and text. The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has updated the requirements needed to earn the Radio merit badge. The new requirements became effective with the publication of Boy Scout Requirements 2009. While no new content has been added to the program, the new merit badge pamphlet features lots of new information -- including color pictures and updated charts and text -- that reflects the changes in the Amateur Radio Service since the last pamphlet update in 2002. Approximately 4000 Radio merit badges are earned each year.

According to ARRL ad hoc Scouting Committee member Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, the new Radio Merit Badge pamphlet had been in the works for some time. "BSA has been replacing all merit badge pamphlets with new booklets using color graphics and more modern presentations," he said. "With attractive color photos and clear text explanations of the requirements, the new merit badge pamphlet is a pleasure for the Scouts to read. The new text is due in large part to the efforts of longtime Radio Merit Badge Counselor and K2BSA National Jamboree Staff member Mike Brown, WB2JWD.

I am looking forward to using the new pamphlet to teach Radio merit badge at our Council's Merit-Badge-O-Ree this spring, and to having a supply of the new books available for Scouts during the 2009 summer camp season."

Wolfgang said that the requirements for the badge have been shifted around: "The old Part 4 of Requirement 7(b) Broadcast Radio was pulled out and placed in the main body of the requirements as Requirement 8. In addition, the old Requirement 8 (to visit a radio installation and discuss what types of equipment, how it was used, what types of licenses are required to operate and maintain the equipment, and the purpose of the station) was moved up to Requirement 7, so that now the three options appear as Requirement 9. The main result is one additional full requirement."

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director and Chairman of the League's ad hoc Scouting Committee Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, called the Radio Merit Badge "a perfect avenue to introduce Scouts and Scouters to the wonderful world of ham radio."

Ham clubs across the nation should locate a local Boy Scout Troop, secure permission from their Scoutmaster and/or committee to teach the merit badge and deliver an exceptional Radio merit badge class. What the boys -- and their leaders and parents -- will learn in the process is a fair amount of what is part of the Technician license exam, so the next logical step after a merit badge class is an all-out recruiting effort to get that Troop involved in Amateur Radio. They'll meet new friends and have a great way of communicating while in transit to and from the field, as well as additional peace of mind through an effective means of emergency communications while in the backcountry."

Additional information -- which includes the new 2009 requirements -- can be found on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/02/24/10667/?nc=1>

S.A.R.A.

Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association 2009 Membership Form

Check one: New member__ Renewing Member__ Family Member__ Returning__

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Name_____ Call sign_____ ARRL__ RACES__ ARES__

Address_____ City_____ St_____ Zip_____

Phone-(____) _____ - _____ Unlisted—Yes__ No__

Pager or Cell Phone (____) _____ - _____ Unlisted—Yes__ No__

Email Address_____ Webpage address_____

*Additional Family Members (At same mailing address)

Name_____ Call_____ ARRL__ RACES__ ARES__

Name_____ Call_____ ARRL__ RACES__ ARES__

S.A.R.A annual dues are \$20.00 per year (Jan.1, 2009 to Dec. 31.2009)

*Additional family members \$5.00 each (max \$10.00) 3rd Etc free

Total dues paid \$_____