



THE MONITOR

NEWSLETTER of the
RIVERSIDE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Vol. 12

APRIL 2003

No.4

? Guess Who? ?

"Cruising to Alaska with AA6WV/Maritime Mobile."

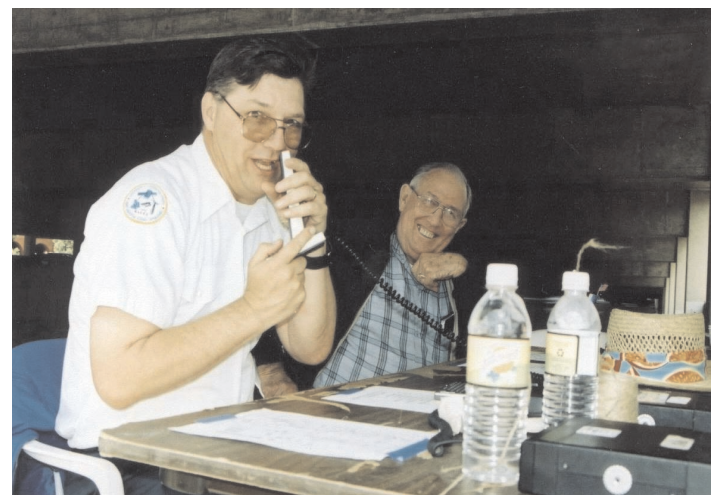
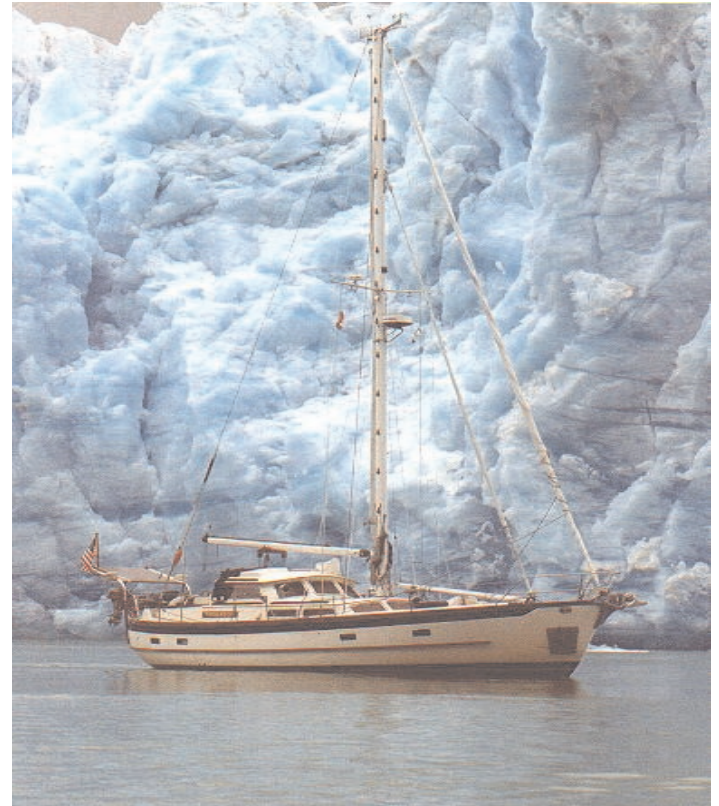
On May 8th at 1930 hours you are invited to take a cruise with Ernie Kapp, AA6WV aboard his 43 foot Cutter, Tangaroa. Ernie will share a slide show journey of his 6 1/2 month round trip cruise from Newport Harbor to Juneau, Alaska. Join in the excitement of cruising the Alaskan Inland Passage, dodging icebergs in Glacier Bay and encountering Killer Whales on the high seas. This is the time to bring a friend to experience the fun of Ham Radio on the High Seas.

FIELD DAY

Field Day is just around the corner -- June 21-22 at Martha McLean Anza Narrows Regional Park. So get your equipment dusted off, the folding chairs and camping gear aired out and plan to join in the fun and enjoy the camaraderie.

INSIDE

Breakfast	3
Calender of Events	7
Classifieds	6
Guess Who?	3
Meeting Minutes	4
Officers	2
President's QSO	2



INSIDE THE GROVE-Robert Randleman, N6CEU and Harold Ellis, KD6MAN staff the dispatch center at the Orange Blossom Festival.

The **MONITOR** is published monthly by the Riverside County Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 1412, Riverside, CA 92502-1412

President · Don Williams, KD6UVT
 780-5199
Vice Pres. · Keith Schaffrath, N6ORS

Secretary · John Davidson, KC6TFS
 785-5065
Treasurer · Harold Ellis, KD6MAN
 684-2626
Dir. Comm. · Ron Braley, KE6RYX
 351-1124
Membership · Frank VanDerpoel,
 K6UIZ
 686-1873
Editor · BettyAnn Merrill, KC6ING

Rptr Trustee · Joe Brown, W6UBQ
 687-8394
PIO &
Hospitality · Steve Evans, KF6BNP
 780-9059
Assist. Editor · Clair Cessna, K6LG
 689-4580
Staff Writer Steve Evans, KF6BNP
& Photographer 780-0959

The purpose of the **MONITOR** is to provide information and news about association activities. Material may be reproduced in whole or in part in any form, provided credit is given to the **MONITOR** and the **RCARA**. Subscriptions are included with membership to the **RCARA**.

All articles submitted for inclusion in the **MONITOR** must be received by the 25th of each month. Items should be sent to the editor by email at: bmerrill@linkline.com.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the La Sierra University Church, Riverside, CA 92501.

The repeater is 146.880 with a negative shift and a PL of 146.2. Packet BBS is 145.030.

ARRL Affiliate Club, No. 1720

President's QSO

I am impressed. Just last month I was relating how some of our more active members were being overworked. Low and behold we had a pretty good turnout for working the communications equipment at the Orange Blossom Festival, not that we couldn't have used more. I believe we had 25 members throughout the weekend (see Steve, KF6BNP's article for details).

Speaking of volunteers, hopefully Ted, KQ6U, will report on a good turn out for the American Diabetes Tour de Cure on Saturday April 26th and Ron for the Hospital Drill on April 30th. Gail and I provide communications at a Safety Check Point on the Tour de Cure for the 50 mile bicycle course. We will report back from Yucaipa to Net Control at Hunter Park in Riverside using the RIM repeater on 440. Gail and I always have a great time working these events and visiting with the volunteers and participants, especially if Gail gets to take our dog Zorro (our daughter substitute while Sarah is away at graduate school).

There is other news of interest to amateur radio operators this month. Not only is the California version of PRB-1, known as Assembly Bill 1228 in the California Assembly but the congress is considering a "PRB" like bill, HR 1478. HR1478 will require that private land use rules, those enforced by home owners associations (HOA) or your neighbors, to be treated as State or local regulations for purposes of certain FCC regulations, i.e. to reasonably accommodate amateur radio antennas as PRB-1 requires of state and local regulations. I saw no co-sponsors yet from California so we should write our local Representatives and request their support of the bill. I can provide a sample letter; please contact me at the meeting, by radio or

email. Lastly, I found this interesting link on the ARRL web site:

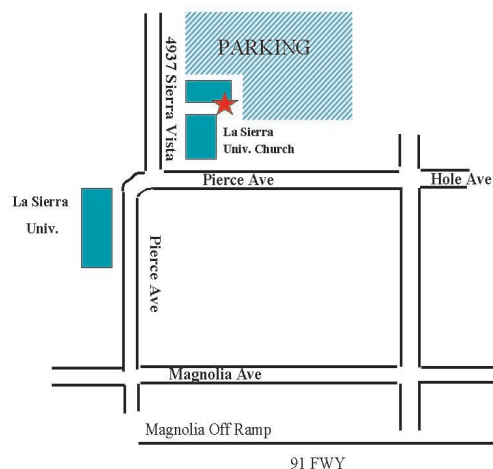
<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2003/04/04/1/>

I hope to see you all at the May Club meeting. Ernie, AA6WV will present his program on marine mobile. His picture of the cutter **Tangaroa** against the backdrop of the glacier should easily convince you to join us, especially if see it in color in the email version of the Monitor.. We will also raffle off as a fund raiser a copy of **Amateur Radio Today** narrated by Walter Cronkite and sent to us by Jim Haynie, W5JBP. This is another great month to bring your wife or friend to enjoy our programs with us.

73's and please join us,

Don kd6uvt

PS send your email address to for a great color copy of the Monitor.





KA6ABL BREAKFAST REPORT

A RCARA MONTHLY EVENT

This month's event was held on Saturday April 19th at the BAKERS SQUARE RESTAURANT in Riverside. The breakfast was attended by the following "AM"s and guests: Andy (W6KPA), Dorothy (K5JWU) and Cliff (W6NSN), Austin (AC6NI) and Shirley (KG6IPJ), Al (K6UHF) and Eunice (KG6ARQ), Bob (WA4NFZ) and Aleda (KA6FHS), Tony (KE6RUT) and Vivian (KF6GZK) and last but not least, Paul (WA6DDL).

Lots of conversation, between friends and new acquaintances, was heard around the table as Austin took pictures of those in attendance with his digital camera. Vivian and I thanked Bob for his help during our week long telephone outage. It was nice to put a face with a ticket and to meet his lovely wife, Aleda. Al had to leave early and Eunice limped in with the aid of a walker to make the breakfast. It was nice to see them. We hope Eunice gets the treatment she needs to heal. Andy and Dorothy were not injured in the freeway accident they were involved in last week. Unfortunately the same could not be said of their car. We were sure

glad to see them and to find out they were not hurt.

Thanks to the great folks at BAKERS SQUARE for providing the place and the good food and service during our monthly events!

NEXT BREAKFAST:
Saturday, May 17 th, 2003

WHERE: BAKERS
SQUARE RESTAURANT
3650 Tyler Avenue
Riverside
(909) 689-2160

DIRECTIONS: From the Tyler Avenue off-ramp of the 91 FWY, north on Tyler Avenue to the SPORT CHALET parking lot. Turn left into the parking lot and turn left again you should be facing the BAKERS SQUARE RESTAURANT.

Your host and hostess: Tony (KE6RUT) and his lovely wife Vivian (KF6GZK). If you have questions about this RCARA monthly event contact us on the W6TJ repeater (146.880 MHz PL 146.2 OS (-))

See you there, 73

TOUR DE CURE

The American Diabetes Association, Tour-de-Cure, fund-raising bicycle ride held Saturday April 26 was of test of our emergency medical skills as well as radio communications. As usual when early morning communication events are scheduled the repeater is active with reports of locations and arrival times by our members. This particular Saturday was a bit unusual when one of our members Ted Hudson KQ6U, advised that he had arrived at Hunter Hobby Park however was not feeling well. Ron Braley, KE6RYX, Loreen Wynja, KF6ACY; John

for the 10, 25, 50 and 100-mile bicycle ride. The circumstances caused minor adjustments in route assignments with Tony Blackwood, KE6RUT and Vivian Blackwood, KF6GZK doing double duty by covering two rest stops consecutively.

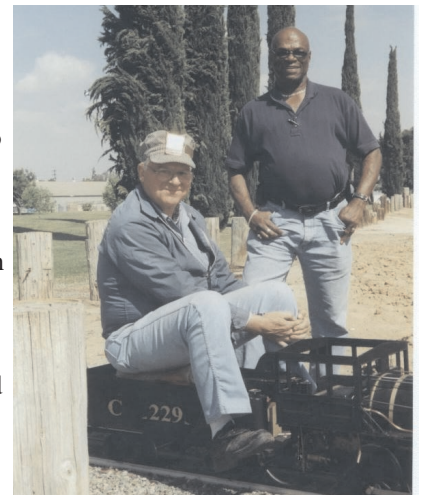
Members of the MARC (Motorcycle Amateur Radio Club) teamed up with our club members by providing mobile monitoring of the course. Members from that organization included John Reynolds, W5JFR of Rialto; John Edwards, KC6ZOZ of **Continued.Pg 4**



TOUR DE CURE - R.C. Lasater, N6WGO; Ron Braley, KE6RYX; and John Hughey providing communications for the American Diabetes Association, Tour de Cure bicycle ride.

Hughey, W6JPH; Steve Evans, KF6BNP and Melva Evans all within minutes of arrival raced to Ted's aid. A quick medical evaluation of Ted's condition by the first responders resulted in getting him immediate professional medical attention. His condition was quickly stabilized and he was given the day off to convalesce.

Ron Braley, KE6RYX, and Steve Evans took over as net control and coordinated assignments



ENGINEER BILL- John Hughey, W6JPH takes a break at the Cure de Tour to talk with an engineer of a scale model of a vintage live steamer at the Hunter Hobby Park.

IN THE REARVIEW MIRROR

At the April meeting four of our members shared their modeling hobbies and runway experiences. No it is not what you might think. It's the radio-controlled hobbies that included boats, cars and planes. The presenters were Clair Cessna, K6LG; Bob Wade, W6RTW; Ken Andrews KF6QR and Mike Mann, KF6FKG each sharing their particular expertise and experiences.

Clair Cessna told us about his powerless soaring gliders, Mike Mann, shared his WW II German fighter and sail boat; Ken Andrews brought with him a handcrafted boat and Bob Wade demonstrated a plane and car which operates on the 6 meter amateur radio band.

The meeting demonstration just one more aspect of how amateur radio fits into our lives.

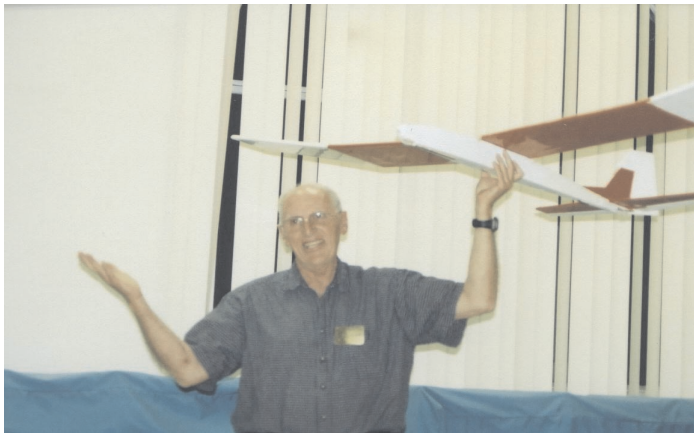
73, Steve, KF6BNP



Clair Cessna demonstrates the radio controlled movements of his slope soaring glider with the assistance of Bob Wade.



Bob Wade, W6RTW holds up one of his gas powered model planes displaying the mini sized 6 meter receiver used to control the plane.



Cessna's Plane-Clair Cessna, K6LG exhibits a radio controlled soaring glider build several years ago from a kit with minimal labor and cost

Tour. . cont.

Anaheim; Jim Keene, WA0FMB of Los Angeles and John Beckwith, N6JCB from Westchester.

Other RCARA members included R.C. Lasater, N6WGO; Joanel Ellis, KD6MAO; Harold Ellis, KC6MAN; John Salley, W0VHV; Don Williams, KD6UVT and Gail Williams.

The event was a huge success primarily because of the many hours of pre-planning by Committee Chairperson Ted Hudson.

73, Steve, KF6BNP



Mike Mann, KF6FKG puts the finishing touches on his Mann size scale model of a German WW II radio controlled fighter plane.

Our VE's Are Back in Town!

After several years of holding our VE testing sessions out at Clarke Training Center, our VE's have a new home....right here in town. We are now meeting at La Sierra University Church, in a classroom behind the hall where we have our regular club meetings. Testing sessions will now be given the first Thursday of each even numbered month at 7:30PM. The next scheduled session is on June 5.

At our first session at the new location, on April 3, Chief Examiner, Frank, K6UIZ, was surprised to have ALL of our VE examiners show up: Van, AA6SD; Fred, W6TKV; Barry, W6DX; Ken, KF6QR; Mark, K6GUK; and Clair, K6LG. Steve, KC5SCG, was our first and only test taker...and must have been impressed by our big VE turn out!

Our VE group is affiliated with the Greater Los Angeles Amateur Radio Group (GLAARG), whose fee for examinations is only \$4....quite a bargain when compared to ARRL VE exams which are now \$12. Upgrading has never been so easy, cheap, and at such a convenient, time and location! Walk-ins are OK, however, it is best to contact Chief VE Frank, at 686-1873, or by e mail at k6uiz@arrl.net to confirm your test session. Bring your license, and any other official document, copies of both, and and \$4. Plan to upgrade soon!

A special thanks, to Van, AA6SD, who again made the arrangements, and to La Sierra University Church for accommodating us for both our meetings and the VE sessions. It's great to have our VE's back in town!

de K6LG

SHORTS

KG6HMF Upgrades! Congratulations to Kevin Webster, who recently upgraded and now holds a General Class ticket. His first HF contact as a General, was with a station in Japan.

KQ6HF Returns. Art Sutorus, and his wife, Alice, have just returned from a two week trip to England. They toured Wales, London, and took the ferry to Dublin Ireland. In addition to visiting Alice's relatives, they also saw Roger, G4SEF, who has been Art's guest here several times.

WA6DDL back. Paul Matthews, just returned from a visit to relatives in Minnesota. Paul has missed a few meetings because of his volunteer police training meetings. You may see him walking the Tyler mall in uniform soon!

Circuit : Andy Collinson

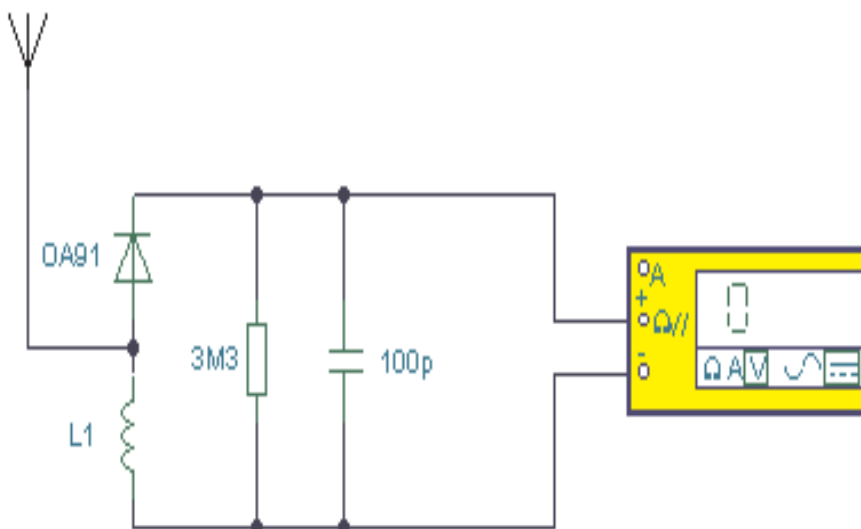
Email: anc@mitedu.freemove.co.uk

Description: This Field Strength Meter is simple and also quite sensitive. It uses an ordinary digital voltmeter to measure RF signal strength up to a few hundred MHz.

Parts List:

1 OA91 Germanium Diode or equivalent
1 3.3M Resistor
1 100p Capacitor
L1 7 turns on a 1/4 inch former (suitable for around 100MHz)

Notes: The multimeter should be set to the lowest dc volts range for maximum sensitivity. This is normally 200mV DC for most meters. The circuit works well at VHF (around 100MHz) and was quite pleased with the results. L1 was 7 turns on a quarter inch former with ferrite slug. This covered the UK FM band. A digital multimeter, as opposed to an analogue signal meter offers several advantages in this circuit. First, the impedance of a digital meter is very high, around 10Meg/Volt on most meters. This does not shunt the tank circuit unduly. Second, compared to an analogue meter, very slight differences in signal strength can be more easily observed. Thirdly, a digital meter will have better linearity, responding well to both weak and stronger signals.



MAY BIRTHDAYS



- 6 Bob, WA6KER
- 7 Dean, KG6YS
- 8 Gwyn, KE6JOF
- 9 Bonnie, KD6UVP
- 11 RBE., KD6ZJE
- 20 Kory, KC6INH
- 26 Bud, AA6JO
- 27 Lowell, K6QXQ
- Art, AC7GT

Meet the sunrise with confidence. - Alonzo Newton Benn



Ken Andrews, KF6QR carries in a hand constructed radio controlled scaled model ship. Wife Kathleen Andrews, KA6ABK is in the background.



CHECKING OUT THE GROVE - Ron Braley, KE6RYX and Bob Mann, W6LKN at the Orange Blossom Festival.

Editor's Note



Say, it looks like I really missed a great meeting last month. I always enjoy Clair's presentations and am

totally amazed at all the diverse hobbies our club members are involved in. Our family also enjoys the RC spectrum and in fact, have been involved in the engineering process for remote control devices for "Team Losie." Kory has raced several times and it's a lot of fun. I'm sure that the crew mentioned that remote control devices range from the size of small "MatchBox" toys (found at local supermarkets and RadioShacks) to larger scale models. They are both battery and gas powered and come in all sorts of subjects like cars, airplanes, boats, submarines, helicopters, etc. Cost varies and they come as kits or ready to operate. Ironically, one of Huell Houser's shows which aired on 04/24/03 was a trip to Orange County's William R. Mason Regional Park, 18712 University Dr., Irvine, CA. It featured the Orange County Model Sailing Club which meets every Wed/Sat & Sun at 10:30 - 2:30 at the park. For more info about this club: <http://www.SIPE.com/OCMSC/index.html>.

Also this week on one of the satellite stations, we watched Inside RC which was about the big competition events (\$50K prize for the 2002 Las Vegas event) for aerial acrobatic competition in the plane category. Impressive! Those guys have played way too many video games and are quite good with the controllers. More info at: www.insiderc.com.

There is also a regular weekly hobby show on satellite that I can't remember the name of but is all about building RC kits with helpful tips and how to hints.

So maybe we'll be seeing a few more of you out at Field Day or the annual club picnic sporting a few "toys" to play with and have a competition of our own.

In the meantime -- a big "Get Well" to TED HUDSON, KQ6U. Hoping he's back in the swing of things soon!

73, KC6ING

License Renewal on Line Easy

If you need to renew your license, it can be done easily on line. Just go to the FCC web site: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

Follow the directions and you can renew in a few minutes. You can then check your call sign listing on QRZ.com, to see the new expiration date.

If you have problems call our Chief VE Frank Van Derpoel for assistance.

Calendar page



The MONITOR is published monthly by the
RIVERSIDE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 1412
Riverside, CA 92502-1412
ARRL Affiliate Club No.: 1720

