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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OH MY where has this year gone? It is hard to believe that it is already October. I guess it is true that the older you get the faster time goes. I have enjoyed the past year as president of the club. Everyone has made the job easy and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who got involved in the Field Day event in June and the various public service events throughout the year.

The latest event was the Youth Expo in Garden Valley. Though I was not able to participate I am sure we were well represented by those who were able to make it. The weather seemed to cooperate this year, best I could tell while out of state. I think these types of events only enhance the image of our hobby. If you were not able to participate in any of these events this year I would encourage you to volunteer for at least one next year.

I mentioned last month that it is time for nominations for officers for 2010. Please give some thought to serving as an officer or board member next year. The time commitment is minimal and you get a better sense of how we get things done. I am sure most of you have ideas on how to make your, and our, experience with the club more rewarding.

We will be taking nominations at the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October.

We are beginning to hear more of the newer members on the weekly net. Good to hear them, and all of the visitors who check in. This would be a good time to thank Nancy, KG6PNP and Jay KE6GLA and Robbie, KI6HDR for their skill in keeping this event alive and well on Tuesday evenings.

We will be planning our annual holiday party at the board meeting this month and will announce the particulars at the general meeting.

Until then, 73s, and I will see you all at the meeting or talk with you on the air.

**Don, KG6YST**

## OCTOBER MEETING

**THURSDAY**

**10/21**

**7:15 PM**

**Frank Yost**

**El Dorado County  
Communications**

## Submitting Material to the Circuit

Material may be submitted for publication by sending it directly to the editor. This can be done by US Mail, or via the Internet (preferred). The deadline for each issue is the **Thursday**, one week before the monthly meeting.

by mail  
Bob Hess, W1RH  
5020 Glory View Drive  
Placerville, CA  
95667

## El Dorado County ARC Horizons

**October 21st - EDCARC Club Meeting  
7:15 PM, Federated Church, Placerville**

- Nov 3 - River City ARCS—7:30 PM—Sac County Corp Yard**
- Nov 11 - Amador County ARC - 6:30 PM, Agriculture Building on Airport Road**
- Nov 11 - Sacramento ARC—7 PM—Sac Blood Source, Mather**
- Nov 11—Sacramento QCWA—11 AM, Dennys, 50 & Howe**
- Nov 13 - Sierra Foothills ARC—7:30 PM—Auburn Library**
- Nov 14 - Mother Load DX/Contest Club - Colima del Oro in Shingle Springs**
- Nov 17 - North Hills ARC - 7:30 PM - North Area Corp Yard**

## EDCARC BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

Rosa, KD6CUM  
Alternate Secretary

President Don Brooks called the meeting to order at 6:30P.M.

Two board members absent.

Treasurer's report - \$992.39, with no bills due.

Bill Osment's idea of the Show and Tell segment is well received and will be a part of the General Meeting henceforth.

Vice President, Dave Cole, is the coordinator of guest speakers.

The scheduled speaker for this month is Frank Yost, (Eldorado County Communications).

The Christmas party will be held in December at the Church. No set date as yet.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

## EDCARC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

Rosa, KD6CUM  
Alternate Secretary

President Don Brooks opened the meeting at 7:15 PM and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by introductions.

The meeting had 23 members and 5 non-members in attendance.

Elections will be held in November so start thinking about what office you would like to hold.

No need to be present in November Just let your interest be known.

The meeting in November is the 3rd Thursday and no meeting in December.

The Christmas Party will be at the Church in December. No date at

this time.

Show and Tell Segment:

Hand Held Radios, Bill Ozment ( W6LSW)

Hold the radio vertical when talking. Most important: **Always and Always** use your mounted antenna when transmitting in your vehicle, not the rubber duck.

Reason is: 5 watts in = 1 watt out inefficient and runs down the battery quicker. When using the rubber duck, it is ideal to add the tiger's tail to finish the dipole antenna.

The tiger tail is an alligator clip attached to a 19 1/2 in long wire. Therefore, getting maximum wattage out (efficiency).

Program talk on Broadcast Towers was given by Bob Hess (W1RH). The difficult challenges Bob encountered engineering the antenna upgrades on existing Towers. Go to [www.cbs13.com/blogs](http://www.cbs13.com/blogs) for more of Bob's adventures: antennas on the Sutter Buttes.

Golden Bear Amateur Radio Net meets every Tuesday on 3975 KHz. This Net has been on going since 1936 except for a short break during WWII. Frank Sharit (N6GP) runs the Net with an average of 80+ check ins.

No raffle held.

Don closed the meeting at 8:40 PM..

## OBITUARY — Don Hansen, KD6DTD, 1936 - 2009

Bill Ozment, W6LSW

Don was a member of the El Dorado County Amateur Club over 10 years ago. Unfortunately, our records are not detailed enough to provide information about when he joined, but we have been able to verify him from membership lists in 1996 through 2004. Don lived "up country" from Georgetown for many years. During that time, I was the Ham Coordinator for the VIP pro-

gram and Don was one of my group that participated in the many Fire Patrols that we did for the California Department of Forestry (now called Cal Fire). Because of his home location in the North part of the County, Don was generally always available and ready to participate. He participated in many of the other activities of our Club. Don was well known to those who live in the Georgetown Divide area. A list of his other activities is extensive and much too long to include here. Don and his wife, Eleanor, began to travel extensively and was not available in recent years. My memories of Don have always been great and I must add that I have missed seeing him.

## DID YOU SEE IT?

From Sierra Static, the Amador Radio Club Newsletter

The recent issue of Popular Mechanics was focused on Survival and Self Reliance. There are a number of articles about how people have survived and how to be prepared. One suggestion/observation strikes very close to home – but then we all knew that. "One underappreciated resource is the amateur radio community. Acquire a ham license and you can become a major resource if a major disaster strikes. It's fun, too." Thanks PM.

## ARRL SACRAMENTO VALLEY SECTION NEWS

Ron, W6KJ

Reading the El Dorado County ARC Circuit (Newsletter) reminds me of a tale told by ASM Rich, KJ6RA, during my visit to the Mt. Shasta Club on Field Day this year. Lots of clubs now use pneumatic antenna launchers, a way to shoot a golf ball or tennis ball way up in the air to get an attached antenna line into a tree or over an obstruction. Care must be exercised with these devices not to exceed the strength of the material used, usually PVC tubing. The problem is with the reservoir of compressed air. Too little strength and it will fail...make that 'EXPLODE.' However, there is a website with information on these devices.

C h e c k o u t

# HAM RADIO LICENSING TEST

**November 14, 2009**

**AT  
RADIO SHACK**

**4615  
MISSOURI FLAT  
RD  
STE #5**

**IN THE  
DEPOT JUNC-  
TION COMPLEX**

**STARTING AT  
9:45 AM**

**Test fee \$14.00  
Subject to change**

**CONTACT**

**KEN  
W6KWV  
642-9523**

## TUBE OF THE MONTH

Norm, N6JV, [www.n6jv.com](http://www.n6jv.com)

[From the Mother Load DX/Contest Club Newsletter]

### F-328A

In the 1920s, the ham community was small and everyone knew who the “big guns” were. Dxing was popular, but the equipment was mostly home made especially for the higher short waves. QST would run stories about working Europe from W6 on 40 meters. Don Wallace, 6AM, was one of the most famous DXers of the day. When Don’s old triode (a UV206) was getting soft, he contacted 6EX in the San Francisco area. 6EX ran the National Radio Co. who made rectifiers and did some tube rebuilding. Don was sent a Federal F-328A that may have been rebuilt and an arc rectifier to power it. Don constructed a water jacket to cool the tube and had rubber hoses for tap water input. The output ran outside onto the driveway. The circuit was a Hartley oscillator and when conditions were good, the water came out steaming. This tube had a dissipation of 5 KW and there was much speculation as to the output power. I believe this rig was the origin of the expression “A California kilowatt”. The tube was damaged in the big earthquake of 1933 and was retired. About 45 years ago, I met W6AM at a convention and the conversation led to the water-cooled tube of 1927 that seemed to be one of Don’s favorite yarns.



## SACRAMENTO VALLEY SECTION NEWS

(Continued from Page 2)

[www.pneumaticantennalauncher.com](http://www.pneumaticantennalauncher.com)  
on the Comcast.com website. Thanks,  
EDCARC.

Jay, W6HHT, writes, ‘I am an ARRL member from way-back-then, and have created an e-book ‘Recollections of a Radio Receiver’ that tells the story of Ted Crosby W6TC (SK) and his homebrew double-superhet designs (the HBR series from 1956 through 1959).

This 580-page book is on a CD-ROM, details are on my web page [www.w6hht.com](http://www.w6hht.com) that is devoted entirely to the book.’ The HBR series receiver was, and is, a popular homebrew project.

A new South African satellite has attained orbit on September 16 thanks to a Soyuz rocket launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. The payload contains an Amateur Radio FM repeater with an uplink at 145.880 MHz and a downlink on 435.350 MHz. A yet to be announced CTCSS tone frequency will be required. More informa-

## QSL OF THE MONTH

Bob, W1RH

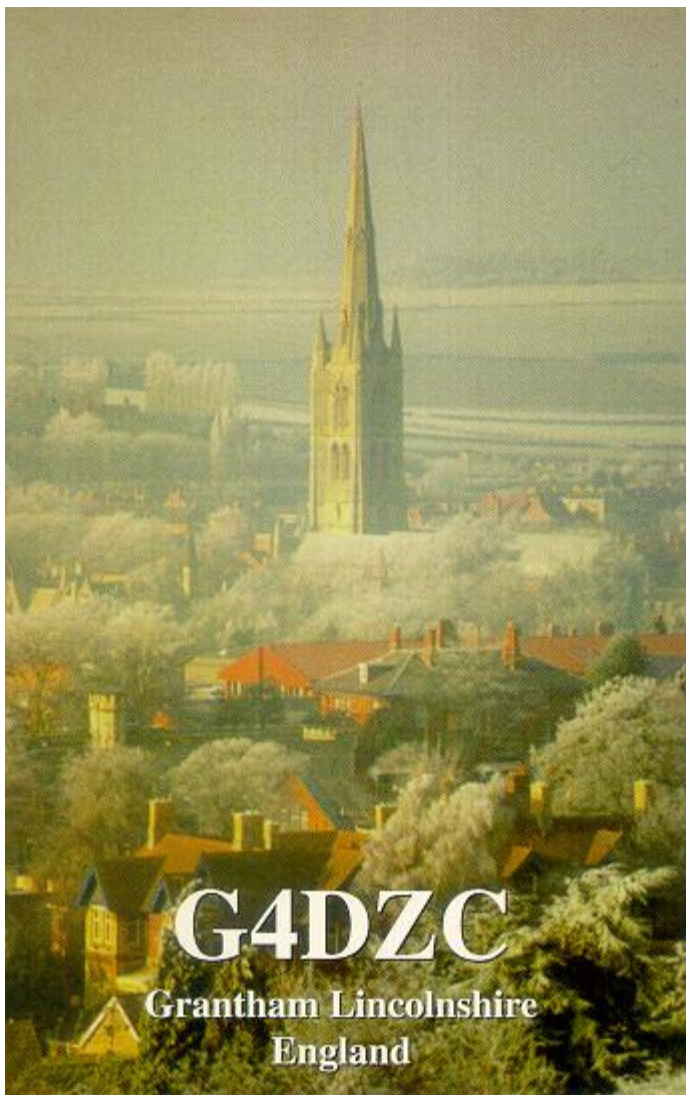
I have a very good friend, Martin, who lived fairly close to us in Hopkinton, Massachusetts. He has a few call signs including AA1ON and G4DZC. He commutes between Boston and Hong Kong, where he uses the call, VR2/AA1ON.

Martin planned his commute back to Boston with the California QSO party in mind, the first weekend in October. We kept my station going for 30 hours straight, working over 2000 stations around the world. Martin and I are both into contesting and DXing so combining those two that weekend in October was a lot of fun for both of us.

Martin was born and raised in Grantham, England. His English call sign is G4DZC. You can learn a little about a ham in the UK just by looking at his call sign. The prefix, "G" is assigned to England. The "4", and the suffix tell you that the license, in this case, was issued between 1971 and 1985 and originally issued to amateur radio class A licence holders.

All UK call signs start with either a "G", an "M" or a "2". The prefixes you are most apt to hear would be "G", "M", or "2E" for stations located in England; "GW", "MW", or "2W" for stations located in Wales; "GI", "MI", or "2I" for station located in Northern Ireland; and "GM", "MM", or "2M" for stations located in Scotland.

*To have your favorite QSL card featured in the Circuit, just email me an electronic copy or trust me with a hard copy and I will scan it and return it to you in same the condition I received it.*



## SACRAMENTO VALLEY SECTION NEWS

(Continued from Page 3)

tion in ARLS007.

I know you are really interested in having more DX contacts and therefore that you would like to see more sunspots. Right! So read the propagation forecasts and click on the links to STEREO, a recent pair of orbiting solar observatories aiding our understanding of what happens on the sun. ARLP038 from K7RA is available on the ARRL website. If you haven't already read it, this bulletin will lead you to a fascinating discussion of the sun's impact on our communications.

Interest in 900 MHz Repeaters coincided with the virtual ouster of Northern California ham operations from 440 MHz by Beale AFB's PAVE PAWS radar. One club making the switch is the NC9RS group (Northern California 900 MHz Repeater System.) Greg, KJ6KO, is the president of the new club, and was present at the W6OMF hosted swap meet September 5th. Greg and Norm, KC6ZWT, demonstrated an operational 900 MHz linked repeater from the tailgate of his pickup truck. There is a lot more information at: <http://users.innercite.com/kj6ko/> Thanks, Greg, KJ6KO.

Upcoming is the October 24, 2009, Boy Scout Capitol March. Bill Ragsdale, K6KN, is the point of contact for this huge event. He needs help with the 15,000 scouts expected to attend and operators for the demonstration station, W6BSA. A few years ago, we had just 5000 scouts out at Beale AFB for an event. I know Bill is going to need help with this event. Contact Bill if you think you can help with the march from Raley Field to the State Capitol, or the demo station at: [Bill@BillRagsdale.cc](mailto:Bill@BillRagsdale.cc), phone 530-867-6241, or at his mail address: PO Box 1500, Woodland, CA 95776.

### **EDCARC Weekly Net**

Is held Tuesday evenings at 8:00pm

AG6AU repeater

147.825

CTCSS/PL tone of 82.5

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Without  
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El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 451  
Placerville, CA 95667

**Club Information 2009**

President	Don Brooks	KG6YST		drbjfb@hughes.net
Vice President	Dave Cole	KG6YBE		dave_cole@att.net
Secretary	Jay Harmor	KE6GLA		jharmor@comcast.net
Treasurer	Loretta Ozment	N6NQH		lwozment@comcast.net
Board Member	Michael Csicsery	KN6XJ		mountainman7@mindsync.com
Board Member	Merv de Haas	WA6LYE		w6lye@arrl.net
Board Member	Ken Decker	W6IZU		
Board Member	Rosa Rogers	KD6CUM		
Board Member	Bill Ozment	W6LSW		w6lsw@arrl.net
Newsletter Editor	Bob Hess	W1RH	530-350-3843	w1rh@arrl.net
Webmaster	Jay Harmor	KE6GLA		jharmor@comcast.net

- ◆ Meeting: Club meetings are normally held on the 4th Thursday of each month (except for June and November), 7:15 PM, at the Federated Church, 1031 Thompson Way, Placerville
- ◆ Club Nets: Tuesday evenings, 8:00 PM, on the AG6AU repeater, 147.825 MHz
- ◆ Mailing Address: El Dorado County ARC, P.O. Box 451, Placerville, CA 95667
- ◆ Club Web Site: <http://www.edcarc.net>