



# County of Orange RACES

# NetControl

May 1998



Newsletter of the County of Orange Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

## Top Story A Beautiful Day by John Roberts/Joe Selikov

Despite the weatherman's predictions, April 5th was one of the nicest days we have had in a long time. Crowds at the Persian New Year Festival held in Mason Park were between 15 to 20 thousand, down from the usual 30 to 40 thousand, which probably is a result of the clouds that rolled through the area about mid day which produced some sprinkles for about 5 minutes. OCRACES members along with volunteers from other RACES organizations supported the Ranger's staff in providing a virtually trouble free environment within the park. Only 4 lost children were reported but were reunited with their families within a short period of time. We also had direct contact via our primary talk channel with the Irvine Command Post located on a nearby street. This helped reduce Irvine PD response time to a minimum. The Irvine CP was manned by members of

IDEC whom we would like to thank for all there help. In addition OCRACES would like to thank the following volunteers:

John Roberts, W6JOR, Coordinator

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Susan Atkinson, KE6YIP | Harvey Packard, KM6BV  |
| Al Baird, KC6TWI       | Amish Parashar, KE6EZM |
| David Boehm, KD6IOV    | Joe Selikov, KB6EID    |
| Jim Carter, WB6HAG     | Neil Simmons, WA6MMT   |
| Nancee Graff, N6ZRB    | Steve Sobodos, KN6UX   |
| Ray Grimes, W6RYS      | Al Toll, W6JNU         |
| Steve King, KE6WEZ     | Edna Toll, KC6TXB      |
| Mike Krueger, KC6ZSF   | Tom Tracey, KC6FIC     |
| Ken Leake, KB6EVR      | Dan Welch, KF6IZO      |
| Ken Mirabella, KM6YH   |                        |

In addition , the following was received:  
Dear Mr. Stoffel:

I want to personally thank you and RACES volunteers for making the 1998 Persian New Year celebration at Mason Park so successful.

This years success depended greatly on individuals, such as yourself, who helped

## May Meeting

May's General Meeting (May 4) will be devoted to a critique of the Baker to Las Vegas Challenge Cup. All participants are invited to attend. The meeting will be at the usual location of OCSD Communications, 840 N. Eckhoff St., Suite 104, in Orange. The meeting will start at 1930 hours.

to plan and organize the event. Communications is so important at a major event and your volunteers did an outstanding job throughout the day. The cooperation, dedication and professionalism displayed by your volunteers is truly remarkable.

On behalf of Harbors, Beaches and Parks, I extend my sincere gratitude to you and your volunteers for the outstanding contribution. Please congratulate them for me.

Very truly yours,  
Tim Miller, Manager  
Harbors, Beaches and Parks

## Upcoming Events

<b>May 4</b>	General Meeting, Critique of Baker to Las Vegas Race
<b>May 6</b>	Brea Mass Casualty Drill (9:30 a.m. to 12N)
<b>May 11</b>	OCRACES Staff Meeting
<b>May 15-17</b>	Westminster Blessed Sacrament Festival, Mutual Aid
<b>May 20</b>	Newport Harbor Drill (9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)
<b>May 25</b>	Memorial Day – <b>NO NET</b>
<b>May 29</b>	OCSD/EM SONGS Decontamination Drill, Orange Coast College
<b>Jun 2</b>	Primary Election
<b>Jun 6&amp;7</b>	City of Orange, COPS Expo
<b>Jun 27&amp;28</b>	Field Day, Craig Park
<b>Jul 12</b>	OCRACES Day at Orange County Fair (July 10-26)

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## Captain's Corner By Ray Grimes

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### GOING FORWARD

It's appropriate that I open this column with a remembrance to our dear friend and mentor Stan Harter, KH6GBX, State of California Office of Emergency Services Chief Communications Officer. Stan passed away on April 2 in Sacramento. Stan was an inspiration to those of us who knew him. He worked hard to overcome health problems which followed him through much of his life, but managed to live a full and productive existence. He contributed greatly to the emergency communications programs of Hawaii and California, pioneering Amateur Radio disaster communications services programs in government. We are grateful to have known him and to have learned from the best.

You will note that in the short time I have been your Chief Radio Officer there have been many changes in the OCRACES structure and procedures. When I agreed to assume this position, I asked for your

support and suggestions in steering OC-RACES in the new directions you prefer. I trust you are satisfied with those changes so far. I know that some people don't like change. The status quo is comfortable and predictable (though sometimes boring). Change for the sake of change can also be wasteful. I think it is safe to say that through change we have made some significant improvements in OCRACES procedures and have strengthened our administrative ranks with recent lieutenant and sergeant appointments. We now need increased general member interest and energy to manage and implement all of the projects and events you as members enjoy. There are new opportunities for all OCRACES members to contribute to the success of this fine organization and to attain personal recognition and satisfaction from your contributions. In keeping with Stan Harter's legacy, each of us can strive to reach our maximum potential by setting personal goals and working toward their realization.

In keeping with our goals of expanding OCRACES programs and delegating responsibility to capable people, I congratulate the following members on their promotions and new assignments. Lt. Mike Krueger, KC6ZSF is the new OCRACES Training Officer. This is a key position in OCRACES which will set the pace for future training and meeting programs. Sgt. Jim Carter, WB6HAG is promoted to Squad Bravo assistant leader. Jim will also assume responsibility as Visual Communications committee chairman. Visual Communications encompasses ATV, FAX, and video documentation services. Sgt. Dave Wilson is the new Digital Communications committee chairman. Digital Communications supports packet, BBS, APRS, paging systems, and computer services modes. Sgt. Al Baird is the new Squad Charlie assistant leader. And last but certainly not least, Sgt. Marty Mitchell has accepted the position as Squad Alpha assistant leader.

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## City Watch

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This is a new section of **NetControl**. It is dedicated to fostering relations between city RACES groups and OCRACES. City ECCs and Radio Officers are encouraged to submit articles about events held within their city. Mutual aid requests will also appear in this column.

### FOUNTAIN VALLEY

Check out their new web page:  
[www.fvpcd.org/fvraces.html](http://www.fvpcd.org/fvraces.html)

### CITY OF ORANGE

The City of Orange Police Department and Neighborhood Watch will be hosting their annual Expo at the Mall of Orange. This year's event will take place on Saturday, June 6th from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 7th from 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. The event serves to heighten awareness about crime, safety, health matters, substance abuse and the criminal justice system.

### NEWPORT BEACH

Newport Beach RACES is requesting mutual aid from all RACES organizations for participation in the March of Dimes "Walk America," that is being held on Sunday May 3, 1998. There are 24 RACES operators needed for this event.

Contact Person: Ed Karagozan, K6JGN

Phone: (Home): (714) 646-3330  
(Work): (714) 851-2300

Date of Event: Sunday, May 3, 1998

Time: 0530 – 1500

Location: Fashion Island, Newport Center

Event: March of Dimes "Walk America"

Equipment: 144/440 MHz HT

### WESTMINSTER

The City of Westminster RACES is requesting mutual aid from all RACES organizations in conjunction with the Blessed Sacrament Festival being held on May 15, 16 & 17, 1998.

Hours of operation:

Friday May 15 1700-2300 hrs

Saturday May 16 1200-2300 hrs

Sunday May 17 1200-2200 hrs

There will be 8 shifts each being 3 to 4 hours in duration. Seven RACES operators are required for each shift. A 2 Meter handheld is required.

Please contact Edna Toll, KC6TXB.  
Home phone (714) 898-5939.

Response required by May 4, 1998.

Al Toll, W6JNU  
Radio Officer

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## ECC News and Views by Robert Stoffel

I'd like to thank everyone involved in Baker-to-Vegas for another successful event. I would like to especially recognize three key players for their efforts in the coordination of this massive activity for OCRACES. Mike Krueger, KC6ZSF did an outstanding job as RACES event coordinator, working with over 50 RACES communications operators and 23 teams who participated in the OCRACES communications system this year. Ken Mirabella, KM6YH, kept us on the right path as we proceeded through the planning process, and Walt Wilson, N6VYB, produced the extensive Communications Manual. Beyond the extraordinary efforts of these three, a number of OCRACES members donated a lot of their time and talent towards this effort. On behalf of OCSD/Communications, thanks to every-

one for their assistance and contribution.

With Baker-to-Vegas behind us, things may slow down a little, but we have a number of activities and events on the horizon. Under the leadership of Chief Radio Officer Ray Grimes, W6RYS, an OCRACES steering committee meeting was held last month, setting the course for our organization. Significant changes included the restructuring of our squads, several new sergeant appointments, and redefining the role of the sergeant. The appointment of our new training coordinator, Mike Krueger, KC6ZSF, will bring several field training exercises and opportunities for our members in the coming months.

Lastly, OCRACES will be involved in several upcoming activities and events.

Over the next two months, OCRACES personnel will participate in the North/Green Net disaster drill in Brea on May 6, the SONGS Decontamination Drill on Friday May 29 and Friday June 26, the Primary Election on Tuesday, June 2, and Field Day on June 27 and 28, 1998. Craig Park in Fullerton has been secured for our Field Day use. OCRACES will also staff the Amateur Radio booth at the Orange County Fair on Sunday, July 12, 1998.

Support from our membership is necessary to meet the above commitments. Please let us know if you are able to participate in any of these events. Your involvement in our organization is appreciated. Until next month, the frequency is now clear for routine traffic!

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## April Meetings Amateur Television (By Nancee Graff OCRACES P.I.O)

### APRIL GENERAL MEETING ATV and KENWOOD VC-H1

Thanks to two guest speakers from Kenwood, Paul Middleton, National Marketing Manager, Amateur Radio Products

Group, Kenwood Communications, and Clifford Uyeda. They demonstrated the new Kenwood VC-H1 video communicator unit. In their demonstration we realized how easy it would be to use in a situation such as the Iranian Festival at Mason Park to find lost family members. The size is compact and easy to travel

with on foot. We also had two of our own RACES members, Ray Grimes, W6RYS and Jim Carter, WB6HAG present us with an informative program on Amateur Television, or ATV. We would like to offer our thanks to all of our speakers for a very informative evening.

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## Event Coordination

### Primary Election, June 2

On June 2, 1998 OCRACES will again assist in the collection of Election Ballot Boxes throughout Orange County. RACES personnel will update the Vote Tally Center with the total number of ballot boxes collected at each site every 15 minutes. This will enable the Vote Tally Center personnel to evaluate van deployment and expedite ballot pickup at the Regional Collection Centers. A former member now living in Las Vegas, N6BG, Byron Garrabrant developed a PC based program that tracks the status of each collection van including the number of boxes being carried. In addition, the program stores informa-

tion about the number of boxes waiting for pickup at each Collection Center. This information has proven vital to the collection process. Twenty three (23) operators are required to staff the collection centers. In addition, two operators are needed to operate in Control 2, located at the Vote Tally Center, and at least two people are required to handle Van traffic control, also at the Vote Tally Center. Last years traffic control was added by a radio controlled traffic light developed by OCRACES member Marty Mitchell. Members should call Walt Wilson to sign-up for this worthwhile event.

### Field Day

We are confirmed for Craig Park in Fullerton. This is the same park as last year and the same location inside the park as last year. Site #2 is reserved in our name from 0630 Saturday June 27 until 12 noon Sunday June 28. Our newest member, Dick Higgins, has agreed to use his organizational talents and accept the job as event coordinator. Dick will need help so please volunteer as an assistant event coordinator. Any takers? This is always a fun outing, but it takes your participation to make it successful.

# Training

## Critical Incident Stress

By Joe Selikov

This article defines Critical Incident Stress (CIS) and identifies some of the major symptoms. The intent is to provide OCRACES members with a general understanding and a means of identifying CIS in yourself or others. Once identified members are encouraged to seek professional help. Also provided are some Things to try within the first 24 – 48 hours after the incident and a check list that each person can use to rate how he/she cope with stress.

These articles are reprinted by permission of the International Critical Incident

Stress Foundation, Inc. A special thanks to Ms. Donna Coker, R.N. for providing the source material.

**W**hat causes Critical Incident Stress? It is any incident that causes emergency service personnel to experience unusually strong emotional reactions which have the potential to interfere with their ability to function either at the scene or later. Even though the event may be over, you may now be experiencing or may experience later, some strong emotional or physical reactions. It is very common, in fact quite *normal*, for people to experience emotional aftershocks when they have passed through a horrible event.

Sometimes the emotional aftershocks (or

stress reactions) appear immediately after the traumatic event. Sometimes they may appear a few hours or a few days later. And, in some cases, weeks or months may pass before the stress reactions appear.

The signs and symptoms of a stress reaction may last a few days, a few weeks or a few months and occasionally longer depending on the severity of the traumatic event. With understanding and the support of loved ones the stress reactions usually pass more quickly. Occasionally, the traumatic event is so painful that professional assistance from a counselor may be necessary. This does not imply craziness or weakness. It simply indicates that the particular event was just too powerful for the person to manage by themselves.

### Here are some very common signs and signals of a stress reaction:

Physical	Cognitive	Emotional	Behavioral
Fatigue	Blaming someone else	Anxiety	Change in society
Nausea	Confusion	Quilt	Change in speech patterns
Muscle tremors	Poor attention	Grief	Withdrawal
Twitches	Poor decisions	Denial	Emotional outbursts
Chest pain*	Heightened or lowered alertness	Severe panic (rare)	Suspiciousness
Difficulty breathing*	Poor concentration	Emotional shock	Change in unusual communications
Elevated BP	Memory problems	Fear	Loss or increase in appetite
Rapid heart rate	Hyper-vigilance	Uncertainty	Alcohol consumption
Thirst	Difficulty identifying familiar objects or people	Loss of emotional control	Inability to rest
Headaches	Increased or decreased awareness of surroundings	Depression	Antisocial acts
Visual difficulties	Poor problem solving	Inappropriate emotional response	Nonspecific bodily complaints
Vomiting	Poor abstract thinking	Apprehension	Hyper-alert to environment
Grinding of teeth	Loss of time, place or person orientation	Feeling overwhelmed	Startle reflex intensified
Weakness	Disturbed thinking	Intense anger	Pacing
Dizziness	Nightmares	Irritability	Erratic movements
Profuse sweating	Intrusive images	Agitation	Change in sexual functioning
Chills	etc.	etc.	
Shock symptoms*			
Fainting			

*\*definite indication of the need for medical evaluation*

### Things you can try:

#### FIRST 24 - 48 HOURS

- Periods of strenuous physical exercise, alternated with relaxation will alleviate some of the physical reactions.
- Structure your time- keep busy.
- You're normal and having normal reactions - don't label yourself crazy.
- Talk to people - talk is the most healing medicine.
- Be aware of numbing the pain with

overuse of drugs or alcohol, you don't need to complicate this with a substance abuse problem.

- Reach out: people do care.
- Maintain as normal a schedule as possible. Spend time with others.
- Help your co-workers as much as possible by sharing feelings and checking out how they are doing.
- Give yourself permission to feel rotten and share your feelings with others.

- Keep a journal, write your way through those sleepless hours.
- Do things that feel good to you.
- Realize those around you are under stress.
- Don't make any big life changes.
- Do make as many daily decisions as possible which will give you a feeling of control over your life, i.e., if someone asks you what you want to eat - answer them even if you're not sure.

## Training (continued)

- Get plenty of rest.
- Reoccurring thoughts, dreams or flashbacks are normal - don't try to fight them -they'll decrease over time and become less painful.
- Eat well-balanced and regular meals (even if you don't feel like it).

### For Family Members ~ Friends

- Listen carefully.
- Spend time with the traumatized person.
- Offer your assistance and a listening ear if they have not asked for help.
- Reassure them that they are safe.
- Help them with everyday tasks like cleaning, cooking caring for the family, minding children.
- Give them some private time.
- Don't take their anger or other feelings personally.
- Don't tell them that they are "lucky it wasn't worse" - traumatized people are not consoled by those statements. Instead, tell them that you are sorry such an event has occurred and you want to understand and assist them

### How do YOU cope with stress?

*Directions:* There are many ways to cope with the stress in your life. Some coping techniques are more effective than others. The purpose of this checklist is to help you assess how effectively you cope with the stress. Upon completing this checklist, you will have identified many of the ways you choose to cope with stress, while at

the same time, through a point system, ascertaining, the relative desirability of the coping techniques that you now employ. This is a health education survey not a clinical assessment instrument. Its sole purpose is to inform you of how you cope with the stress in your life.

In order to complete the checklist, simply follow the instructions given for each of the 14 items listed below. When you have completed all of the 14 items, place your total score in the space provided.

Now that you've calculated your score, consider that the higher your score, the greater your health-promoting coping practices. A "perfect" score would be around 115. Scores in the 50-60 range are probably adequate to cope with most

common sources of stress.

Also keep in mind that items 1-10 represent adaptive health-promoting coping strategies, and items 11-14 represent maladaptive, health-deteriorating coping strategies. These maladaptive strategies are self-sustaining because they do provide at least some temporary relief from stress. In the long run, however, their utilization serves to erode one's health. Ideally, health-promoting coping strategies (items 1-10) are the best to integrate into your lifestyle and will ultimately prove to be an effective preventive program against excessive stress.

This exercise was developed by Dr. George S. Everly, Jr. through a grant provided by the U.S.H.E.W.

___ 1. Give yourself 10 points if you feel that you have a supportive family.	___ 9. Give yourself 10 points if you have some place in your home that you can go to in order to relax and/or be by yourself.
___ 2. Give yourself 10 points if you actively pursue a hobby.	___ 10. Give yourself 10 points if you practice time management techniques in your daily life.
___ 3. Give yourself 10 points if you belong to some social or activity group that meets at least once a month (other than your family).	___ 11. Subtract 10 points for each pack of cigarettes you smoke during the course of an average day.
___ 4. Give yourself 15 points if you are within five pounds of your "ideal" bodyweight, considering your height and bone structure.	___ 12. Subtract 5 points for each evening during the course of an average week that you take any form of medication or chemical substance (including alcohol) to help you sleep.
___ 5. Give yourself 15 points if you practice some form of "deep relaxation" at least three times a week. Deep relaxation exercises include meditation, imagery, yoga, etc.	___ 13. Subtract 10 points for each day during the course of an average week that you consume any form of medication or chemical substance (including alcohol) to reduce your anxiety or just calm you down.
___ 6. Give yourself 5 points for each time you exercise 30 minutes or longer during the course of an average week.	___ 14. Subtract 5 points for each evening during the course of an average week that you bring work home; work that was meant to be done at your place of employment.
___ 7. Give yourself 5 points for each nutritionally balanced and wholesome meal you consume during the course of an average day.	_____ TOTAL SCORE
___ 8. Give yourself 10 points for each time you do something that you really enjoy, "just for yourself," during the course of an average week.	

## ESP May '98



### Tsunami

A tsunami is a series of waves most commonly caused by an earthquake below the ocean floor. More than a dozen tsunamis with waves three feet high or more have struck California since 1812.

Six of them caused damage.

Preparing for tsunamis isn't as difficult as it might seem. First, determine whether you live in a danger zone. If you live or work within a mile of the coast, identify a location at least 100 feet above sea level to go if a tsunami strikes. Develop a family plan and assemble an emergency supply kit. If you feel an earthquake or learn about a tsunami watch or warning, move inland or to higher ground immediately.

Stay away from the coast. Waves may continue for several hours and travel several times faster than people can walk, run or drive.

The Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management has a program called ESP which stands for Earthquake Survival Program. As part of that program they supply a set of articles which focus on a different hazard each month. **NetControl** will publish each month's hazard through the end of the year.

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# State OES News

## Regrets by Dave Larton

It is with a tremendous sense of sadness and loss that I must relate the passing of a dear personal friend, mentor and colleague, Stanly Easton Harter KH6GBX. Stan had a massive heart attack and died Thursday evening near his home in Sacramento, California.

As you know, Stan created the ACS program here in California. All that we have done this far, we owe to the vision created by Stan. He leaves a tremendous

void in several emergency services organizations statewide. We are all in shock and disbelief at the news of his passing.

We have created a condolence web page at <http://www.garlic.com/oes/harter.htm>

Feel free to leave any thoughts you may have to Alicia, Mitchell and Annette. We will see that your entries reach them. It's also pretty much impossible not to mention Stan's name and not smile and relate a good story; we'd appreciate it if you would share some of your memories of Stan with us on the page, so that we may

all remember all of the good things he did for us.

## Emergency Response Institute

Ken Bourne has been selected as Incident Commander for the Emergency Response Institute - South. Ken is in the process of selecting his ERI Staff, and we're looking forward to bringing the ERI learning experience to Southern California.

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# Committee Reports

## Visual



## Communications

Coordinator: Jim Carter (WB6HAG)  
Web page:  
[http:// www.qsl.net/wb6hag/](http://www.qsl.net/wb6hag/)

**New Name** - The ATV Committee name has been changed to "Visual Communications Committee", since it now encompasses the HamFAX activities. This new name became effective at the April 13<sup>th</sup> OCRACES staff meeting. Next months report will include information about the HamFAX activities.

**Persian Festival** - The Visual Communications Committee supported activities at Mason Park in Irvine during the annual Persian Festival. A special thanks goes to Costa Mesa RACES member Ken Leake (KB6EVR) who was able to provide video within the park after Jim Carter's (WB6HAG) portable experienced technical problems. A big THANK YOU also goes to Ray Grimes (W6RYS) who brought both his base station and portable system. Jim was able to use Ray's portable and continue operations while Ray manned the base station located in the park Ranger's office. This experience has now prompted us to carry backup equipment for future events.

**Brea Drill** - Jack Barth (AB6VC), Al

Baird (KC6TWI), and Jim Carter (WB6HAG) will support the May 6<sup>th</sup> exercise. This exercise will enable us to improve our operating skills while providing a service to the Brea Fire Department.

**GPS Video Integrator** - Presently, we are still awaiting delivery of a GPS video integrator to be used for displaying a field cameras Lat./Long information onto a video display. RMD Technologies, the supplier, is behind schedule due to the heavy demand for their product. Our evaluation should be completed by the end of May.

**General Meetings on Video** - If you missed a general meeting and wondered what you missed, the Visual Communications Committee tapes each meeting for our OCRACES member Gary Stirrat (K6OE). This tape is available for OCRACE members upon request. Please contact Jim Carter if you are interested.

**Members Needed** - We are looking for additional members. If you would like to learn about ATV or provide assistance with the HamFAX project. Please contact Jim Carter (WB6HAG) for additional information.

## Direction Finding

Direction Finding Coordinator:  
Robert Barris (KD6IFZ)  
Email: [rbarris@quicksilver.com](mailto:rbarris@quicksilver.com)

This month's T-Hunt took place on Sunday, April 19. Participating hunters included Mike KD6SNE (mobile), Rich WD6ESZ (mobile), Richard N6UZS (base station), and WB6HYI (base station).

This hunt was in the mobile-fox format, and the fox was not allowed to drive on freeways. After a couple of hours of aimless driving through the communities of Buena Park, Santa Ana, Anaheim, and Fullerton, the fox was finally located in a mall parking lot in Santa Ana by Mike KD6SNE.

Mike has a superb Doppler setup in his pickup truck that is worth checking out, it is concealed under the camper shell and is very stealthy. Mike says it "works great!" and he certainly has the results to back it up.

Thanks to all that participated, either mobile or by giving base station bearings, the combination made the hunt more interesting and fun. Next month's hunt will be on the third Sunday in May at 1PM. Mike,

*(Continued on page 7)*

*Direction Finding (Continued from page 6)*  
KD6SNE has tentatively agreed to be the fox next month, but the format has not yet been pinned down as of this writing. Comments, questions and suggestions are all welcome, my email address is rbarris@quicksilver.com.

## Public Relations/ Membership

### New Member

OCRACES is pleased to welcome Mr. Richard (Dick) Higgins, KC6ZNT. Dick lives in Brea and is employed by the Boeing company as a Software Configuration Management, Technical Writer, Technical Editor Engineer. He is a longtime friend of both OCRACES member Nancee Graff and former member Rusty Curr. Dick is eager to get involved with OCRACES activities and wants to learn about new technologies. He is willing to share his organizational talents so let's make him welcome and put him to work.



### Congratulations

OCRACES Lt. Steve Sobodos, KN6UX has just become an OCS D Reserve Deputy. Steve will be assigned to a Technical Services Unit (TSU) which will allow him to continue his excellent work in Video production.

### Orangewood Response

In December, OCRACES members remembered the children at Orangewood by delivering gifts to the home. The letter inserted to the right speaks for itself.

### OC Fair

OCRACES is signed up to work the Amateur Radio Booth at the New Permanent Home in the Orange County Building, on Sunday July 12, 1998. The Fair runs from July 10 through July 26. Additional details to follow in future issues.

## County of Orange Social Services Agency ORANGEWOOD CHILDREN'S HOME 401 THE CITY DRIVE ORANGE, CA 92868 (714) 935-7584

December, 1997

County of Orange - RACES  
Robert Stoffel  
840 N. Eckhoff St. # 104  
Orange, CA 92868-1021

Dear Friends at County of Orange - RACES:

While the hustle and bustle of the holiday season may be over, it is impossible for Orangewood Children's Home to look ahead to the new year without taking a moment to reflect on all of the generous support we received throughout 1997. That support was never more evident than during the Christmas holidays.

On behalf of everyone at Orangewood Children's Home, thank you very much for helping to make our 1997 holiday season so special. Your generous donation of Christmas gifts assisted us in making a memorable Christmas for the children at Orangewood.

We are often asked what Christmas morning is like at Orangewood Children's Home. In some ways it is very similar to any other home where children are waking up to the anticipation of Santa's arrival. The atmosphere is filled with smiles, laughter and expressions of "Look what I got? Our home is unique in that we also have children expressing relief that Santa was able to find them. Thank you for making this possible.

Again, thank you for taking the time to remember the children of Orangewood Children's Home.

Sincerely,

Mike Ryan  
Program Manager II  
Orangewood Children's Home

## Digital Communications

Coordinator: Dave Wilson  
ke6afr@pobox.com  
(714) 668-0100 daytime

Dave Wilson (KE6AFR) here reporting as your newly elected (well.... Actually I volunteered) Digital Communication Coordinator.

Now that Baker to Vegas is over, and you are fully recovered from the experience (har har), I would like to have a brainstorming/planning session. I have spoken with Gary Stirrat and he has of-

ferred the use of his home for this meeting during the day on a Saturday or Sunday. His schedule is open and I will be soliciting responses from the committee members at the general meeting as to a meeting date. Please look at your schedule before then. Some things I have been thinking about:

- Amateur TCP/IP network
- Use of 440/1200 to increase baud rate
- Custom messaging software

Well, that's all for now, all comments are welcome.

**Next Meeting Date:**

Monday, May 4, 1998  
1930 hours

**Meeting Location:**

OCSD/Communications  
840 N. Eckhoff St. , Suite 104  
Orange, Ca. 92868-1021

**County RACES Frequencies**

6 m: 52.62 MHz output, 52.12 MHz input, 103.5 Hz PL

2 m: 146.895 MHz output, 146.295 MHz input, 136.5 PL; (primary net Mondays, 1900 hrs.)

2 m Packet: 145.07 MHz (1830 – 1900 hours)

1.25 m: 223.76 MHz output, 222.16 MHz input, 110.9 Hz PL

70 cm: 449.175 MHz output, 444.175 MHz input, 110.9 Hz PL (private)

**OCRACES Web Page:**

<http://www.flo-bin.com/ocraces>

**OCSD/Comm's Staff:**

Emergency Comm's Coord.  
Robert Stoffel, KD6DAQ  
(714) 704-7919

Chief Telecomm. Engineer  
Gary Gray, W6DOE  
(714) 704-7911

OCRACES Chief Radio Officer  
Ray Grimes, W6RYS  
(562) 594-0065

Assistant Chief Radio Officer  
Ken Mirabella, KM6YH  
(714) 990-6656

Assistant Radio Officers  
Mike Krueger, KC6ZSF  
John Roberts, W6JOR  
Joe Selikov, KB6EID  
Steve Sobodos, KN6UX

Sergeants  
Al Baird, KC6TWI  
Jim Carter, WB6HAG  
Marty Mitchell, N6ZAV  
David Wilson, KE6AFR

**NetControl Editor:**

Lt. Joe Selikov, KB6EID  
[jalsel@earthlink.net](mailto:jalsel@earthlink.net)

## Editor's Notebook

**S**orry for not having this column in last month's issue but we had so many news stories that something had to give. In this column you will find items of interest that just do not fit into any particular category.

As an example I would bring your attention to the preamble which all OCRACES members receive with their mailing. There have been some changes to the text with regards to encouraging prospective applicants to contact Robert Stoffel. Along with the preamble you also receive the Net Assignments, a Roster, a Roll Call sheet and the Squad sheet. These too have been changing on a monthly basis. Upon receipt of **Net-Control**, you should make a copy of the aforementioned sheets and keep them handy. Please use the new sheets especially when it is your turn to call the roll.

### FEMA Courses

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers a series of self-taught courses that might be of interest to amateurs involved in public service disaster response. Course titles include Emergency Program Manager: An Orientation to the Position; Emergency Preparedness, USA; Radiological Emergency Management; Hazardous Materials: A Citizen's Orientation; A Citizen's Guide to Disaster Assistance; and

Basic Incident Command System. Course materials are provided as Adobe Acrobat PDF files. See <http://www.fema.gov/em/ishome.htm> for details on how to enroll.

### NASA Prepares for Hurricanes

Your editor participated in a simulated emergency drill sponsored by the Johnson Space Center (JSC) and the City of Houston. I provided communications on the 15 and 20 meter Amateur bands between the Boeing Amateur Radio Station, located in Anaheim and the JSC. Third party traffic was passed between NASA Emergency Coordinators from both locations. The name of the exercise was called Polly98 which was also the name of the factitious hurricane. Several lessons learned were passed along. One of the suggestions was the use of pre-existing Amateur hurricane nets. Here is a comprehensive compilation of hurricane HF frequencies as well as many USA mainland hurricane nets that may also be used during other WX related emergencies. Kudos to the Puerto Rico Hurricane net as well as the independent team of Bill Snyder and Roger Pettengill, who compiled much of the information. Go here for the lists:  
<http://skywarn.isla.net/freq/hurricane.stm#interest>

## Did You Know?

**W**hile the weather in Southern California seems to be getting better lately, with fewer rain storms, we are not yet free from the effects of El Nino according to the National Weather Service. Are you aware that mortgaged properties in high-risk flood locations are required by law to have flood insurance? Did you know that federal assistance is only available in a presidentially-declared national disaster, and that only about 10% of all floods qualify? You may also find it informative that of all presidentially-declared U.S. disasters, 90% are flood related. Statistics show that of all U.S. busi-

nesses experiencing loss of financial records (fire or flood), 44% close their doors forever, and 30% fail within 3 years. A flood insurance policy averages about \$300 per year, or less than a dollar a day. Business records on computers should be backed up with diskettes stored safely off-site. Paper documents should be photocopied, with backup copies stored in a safe, dry location offsite. Survival comes from planning. No planning is preparation for disaster.

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