



County of Orange RACES

NetControl

April 1999



Newsletter of the County of Orange Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

Top Story

Operation Boysenberry II

By: Lt. Mike Krueger

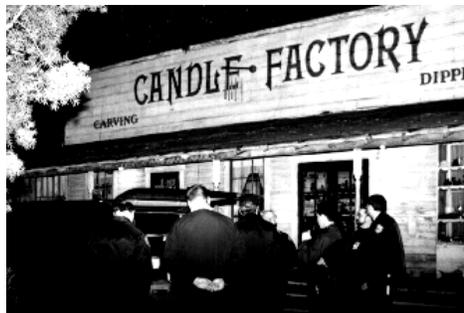
OCRACES members got the chance to go "behind-the-scenes" at Knott's Berry Farm for the second time at Operation Boysenberry Part II. Operation Boysenberry Part II was a follow-up to "Part I" held last year.

The March Staff meeting was turned into a fun exercise at Knott's Berry Farm after it had closed and guests had gone home for the day. OCRACES members were separated into squads and sent out into the park to learn about ATV and Packet.

This year, the OCRACES command post was set up in a backstage area using Ken Mirabella's (KM6YH) Ford Expedition as the incident command vehicle and Ray Grimes' (W6RYS) GM Suburban as the ATV command vehicle. OCRACES members staged here and were dispatched by squad

into the park.

Jim Carter (WB6HAG) drove his ATV equipped Suburban into "Ghost Town" and established a link back to the command post and to Jack Barth (AB6VC), who was



Charlie Squad Learning ATV

walking inside the park with his ATV unit. Dave Wilson (KE6AFR) set up a portable packet station using a laptop computer, HT and a gel-cell battery near the Main Gate.

(Continued on page 7)

Apr. Meeting

There will be two meetings in April, both related to the Baker to Las Vegas Challenge Cup. April 3rd will be the last coordination meeting prior to B2V. All participants should attend this meeting. April 10 will be the B2V debrief and equipment return. All are invited. Both meetings will be held at 840 N. Eckhoff St., suite 104, Orange. The meetings will start at 1930 hours.

March Meeting Highlights

OCRACES member Chris Storey, KA6WNK received an award from the Civil Air Patrol for his assistance with an HF antenna project. Afterwards, Chris presented a comprehensive session on message handling. Chris drew from his experience as a professional dispatcher and his position with the Military Amateur Radio System. Thanks Chris for an informative evening.

Upcoming Events

Apr. 4	Persian New Year, Mason Park, Irvine
Apr. 5	General Meeting, Alternate EOC, Baker to Las Vegas
Apr. 10-11	Baker to Las Vegas Challenge Cup
Apr. 12	B2V Debrief and Equipment return, Alternate EOC
Apr. 15	CPRA Dispatcher Dinner, Montebello
Apr. 23	Deadline for <i>NetControl</i>
Apr. 24	Xmas in April, various locations
May 3	General Meeting, Aternate EOC
Jun. 26-27	Field Day, Craig Park, Fullerton

Inside this issue:

Top Story	1
Upcoming Events	1
Captain's Corner	2
ECC News and Views	2
Training	3
Technical Interest	4
ESP	4
Earthquake Chk List	5
City Watch	5
Committee Reports	6
Did You Know ?	7

Visit the OCRACES Web Page @ <http://www.ocraces.org>

Captain's Corner By Ray Grimes

This marks the conclusion of another busy month for OCRACES. You, the members, asked for more action, and you've got it! Now we have to meet the challenge by supporting several additional important and exciting events. March brought Operation Boysenberry II, the Huntington Beach RACES tour of the Loma Ridge facility, the ATV Training meeting at Loma Ridge, the County of Orange Leadership Development Workshop, plus lots of Baker to Vegas and Mason Park planning activities. There was also the CPRA/APCO Regional Confer-

ence in San Diego. April promises to be an equally busy month starting with the Persian Festival, Baker to Vegas, the CPRA/APCO Dispatcher Appreciation Banquet, and Christmas in April program.

The membership asked to minimize the number of meetings per month by consolidating both the general and staff meetings into one general meeting. I am willing to try this, but it will mean longer meetings, requiring careful planning and attention to the clock, so that we may cover all necessary items efficiently. It will also mean that every member makes it his or her re-

sponsibility to attend the one monthly meeting so as to not miss the month's happenings. Speaking of clocks, in a few weeks you will be able to check the time using the new OCRACES digital wall clock. This is the one that Marty requested a while ago. It'll be mounted on the wall right near the new TV monitor that Jim requested. I hope you will enjoy the benefits of the new equipment you requested which was purchased by the County.

ECC News and Views by Robert Stoffel

It has been another busy month for OC-RACES. The highlight was another successful field exercise at Knott's Berry Farm. Operation Boysenberry Part II saw 21 members participate in the evening exercise on March 8th. Thanks to Mike Krueger for coordinating the drill, and to Jim Carter for conducting ATV training and Dave Wilson for the Packet training. We plan on several other drills like this throughout the coming year.

On Tuesday March 9th our Chief Radio Officer, Ray Grimes, was recognized by County of Orange Supervisor James Silva and the other members of the County Board of Supervisors during their regular weekly meeting. Ray received a proclamation from the Board recognizing him for his volunteer contributions to our RACES program. OC-RACES will be in the spotlight again this month in conjunction with National Volunteer Recognition Week. Volunteers from all areas of County government will be recognized at the Board meeting on April 20th. I am happy to report that Ken Mirabella, our Assistant Chief Radio Officer, will receive recognition for his outstanding contributions to the RACES program. All OC-

RACES personnel are welcome to the reception at 0745 that will precede a formal



presentation at the Board meeting.

April is one of the busiest months for OC-RACES each year. Baker-to-Vegas is just around the corner. Our final planning

meeting is Monday, April 5th at 1930 hours at the usual Eckhoff meeting location. The actual event is April 10th and 11th, with an open critique and equipment return session on Monday evening, April 12th at 1930 hours at Eckhoff. These meetings are open to all city and County Baker-to-Vegas RACES participants. OC-RACES will also provide assistance at the CPRA dispatcher appreciation banquet April 15th and communications support for the Christmas in April event on April 24th. Please contact Mike Krueger and Ken Mirabella, respectively, if interested in providing support to these events.

And finally, the National Weather Service would like to invite interested Amateur Radio operators to their next Skywarn meeting. This will be an organizational meeting for the Skywarn program being organized for the NWS San Diego office area of responsibility which includes Orange County. The meeting will be held on April 24, 1999, at 1:30 p.m. in the Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive. Please contact Ed Clark at the NWS with any questions at (619) 675-8700 extension 223.



Training

How do they do it?!

Tricks of the “Net Control Operator” Trade Pt.2

By: Lt. Mike Krueger, N6MIK

This month, the focus is on a dispatcher's personal readiness and some tricks of the trade that may help you operate more efficiently. There are many factors that contribute to your personal efficiency. The most important is the one you will have the least control over. Your environment or workspace during an emergency could be anywhere - a car, a basement of a hospital, the mobile command post. All of these places will have qualities that can 'cramp your style'.

It is important to have rosters, message forms, traffic logs and a note pad within reach. Message forms are most often "fill-in-the blank" forms used to record and pass messages between the dispatcher and the recipient. The traffic log is a form where all radio traffic is recorded, along with status changes and dispositions of the events. This becomes your chronological record of the incident, and also allows you to quickly go back and fetch data. Take note of addresses, phone numbers, amounts etc. even if you process them right away.

During a long incident, numbers can start to run together, and if someone asks you to quickly recall old data, you may do so incorrectly without proper notes. Use the note pad to record your actions that are not related to a field unit. Keep any notes you take; they will help you reconstruct the event later if needed. Try to keep the traffic form neat and concise, in case someone else needs to locate an entry you made.

On Air Procedures: As a Net Control operator, you are the commanding officer of the air. Your attitude will set the attitude of others on the air with you. In addition to the radio codes, phonetics and proper ways to transmit numerals and descriptions (covered last month) there are ways articulate common phrases that in-

crease the understanding and maintain the professional, business-like on air environment. Here are a few of the more common ones:

Yes	Affirmative
No	Negative
Want	Desire
Can't	Unable
Buy	Purchase
Get	Obtain
Send	Forward
Wait	Standby
Do you want	Advise if
Find Out	Ascertain

Rate Of Speech: The rate of your speech is a personal trait that is very hard to change. However, rate of speech is an important component of radio communications, and can make or break the delivery of a message. The average individual speaks at 90-100 WPM. The average individual can correctly copy speech at only 30 to 50 WPM - using abbreviations. Because of the need to copy information in the field,

Your rate of speech should be no more than 40 WPM.

Some other points to consider:

- Know the incident. If you are relieving another dispatcher, get a report on the current status of the field. If you are the first dispatcher on duty - try to get a report from the incident commander before you start.
- Know your role and what is expected of you as the Net Control Operator. In emergency situations, Net Control Operators are often given more decision-making ability.
- Speak clearly, in a monotone voice, but avoid over-enunciation, as it can be seen as bad attitude on the air.
- Be Brief. There maybe someone with an emergency waiting for you to stop transmitting.
- Never Guess - If you receive a message to broadcast, make sure you understand every detail. When you receive a message over the air, never say "copy" unless you know you received it.
- Arrange all information in a logical se-

quence prior to transmission. Longer messages should be written out in order to eliminate hesitation and omission of pertinent facts.

- To eliminate hesitation - think before you speak. Reading messages to yourself before transmitting them can eliminate the "Umss" and "uhhs" on the air.
- Use codes only when you are sure the receiving party knows them. If there is any doubt - use Plain English.
- Echo back important parts of received messages to ensure that the message was received as it was meant. Echo procedures are used for 3 reasons: to confirm or clarify important information from mobile units, give field units a second chance to hear the message, and to give you time to write down additional information.
- Be flexible and able to adapt to the operating styles of others. Some radio operators are not as skilled as others, but we are all working for the same goal. Keep a cool head even if the situations get frustrating!
- Do not chastise operators on the air. There may be circumstances at the scene that you aren't aware of that have bearing on the situation.

A good Net Control Operator will always respond promptly. Acknowledge the calling unit and ask them to standby if needed. Write down the units that you have standing by, and call them back promptly. If a particular situation requires heavy radio interaction between a Net Control Operator and a field unit, such as a life saving effort, or serious criminal activity in progress, units not involved in that incident should not transmit. This leaves the channel open for the dispatcher and the involved unit(s) only. Additional priority traffic is the only exception.

As RACES Net Control Operators, there will be times when you are asked to pass sensitive information over the radio. It is important that messages of this nature be handled tactfully, and without any unnatural inflections. In general, names of in-

(Continued on page 7)

Technical Interest

More Y2K

by: Ray Grimes W6RYS
Chief Radio Officer, OCRACES

Though the federal government had stated that the Y2K problem was minimal and that Y2K compliance programs were in place to effectively identify and resolve any issues, it has now done a reversal of its earlier position. In a report issued recently by a special Senate committee headed by Chairman Robert F. Bennett, R-Utah, and Vice Chairman Christopher J. Dodd, D-Conn., warnings are now forthcoming about imminent problems in all segments of the economy. The Senate report states that while industry and the government have worked hard to correct the Y2K problem, their efforts began late, remain insufficient, and consequently some incalculable level of economic disruption is inevitable. If that didn't get your attention, then this will! The Senate panel's co-chairman warned in a letter to their colleagues that "Make no mistake, this problem will affect us all individually and collectively in some profound ways. It will indeed impact individual businesses and the global economy. In some cases, lives could even be at stake."

The authors of this Senate committee report try to not appear too alarming, and

temper their message with a "good news/bad news" scenario. For example, they conclude that while local electrical blackouts could occur, a breakdown in the national electrical power system is quite unlikely. The study points out that most small businesses have yet to make Y2K repairs and many of America's worldwide trading partners are far behind in taking corrective action, posing the risk of worldwide ripple effects.

If you are still not fully convinced that Y2K is a problem, consider this. Per the Senate panel's findings, only 50% of electrical utilities had repaired Y2K problems as of last December. 64% of hospitals had no plan to test their Y2K compliant systems before the end of the year. Some 90% of doctor's offices do not appreciate the reality of this problem in affecting their working environments. The Medicare system is behind schedule for Y2K repairs. Some good news is that 95% of telephone systems are expected to be Y2K ready, though little data is available to assure compliance from data networks, cellular carriers, and satellite systems. The report further states that the nation's 670 domestic airports started their Y2K compliance programs too late, with flight delays and cancellations probable. Air travel abroad is

expected to be significantly affected in some areas.

Some more good news is that banks and insurance companies and other federally regulated entities are expected to function well and to have enough cash. The Federal reserve intends to expand its available currency by one-third during this period. Some federal agencies are fully Y2K compliant, while the Department of Defense is the least prepared, so the report states. The DOD reported that only 72% of its mission critical systems are Y2K ready. The Department of Transportation (DOT) is only 53% ready. Relative to international commerce, Venezuela and Saudi Arabia together supply 30% of all US. oil imports. These countries are 12 to 18 months behind US. Y2K compliance programs.

Exercising my personal opinion, I foresee three possible large scale Y2K situations occurring. For one, while individual Y2K compliance efforts are being made aggressively throughout the U.S., no one is talking about inter operability. What happens when two or more supposed Y2K compliant systems are operated in modes not Y2K compliance tested? Secondly, we have become very interdependent on

(Continued on page 7)

ESP

Apr. '99



Earthquake

California is earthquake country!

On average, a damaging earthquake strikes somewhere in California every two years. Since 1987, however, Southern California alone has been hit by at least nine damaging quakes.

Seismologists believe that a major earthquake—magnitude 7 or larger—is likely

to occur somewhere in Southern California within the next 30 years.

Because the San Andreas Fault is the longest fault in the region, it produces the largest earthquakes. Scientists estimate that large earthquakes on the San Andreas occur about every 130 years. The largest earthquake on the southern portion of the San Andreas in recorded history occurred in 1857. The fault ruptured all the way from Parkfield in southern Monterey County to Cajon Creek in San Bernardino County. Scientists estimate Its magnitude at 7.8.

Recent events have shown that earthquakes on other faults can have considerable impacts. The Northridge earthquake in 1994 caused 57 deaths, more than 9,000 injuries and \$40-42 billion in property losses. Sci-

entists estimate that more than 200 faults in the area are capable of causing an earthquake of magnitude-6 or greater. Most everyone in Southern California lives within 30 miles of one of these faults.

No one knows when or where such a quake will occur, but everyone can reduce their risk of death, injury and property loss in an earthquake by using the recommendations outlined in the check list on page 5 wherever they live, work or play.

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.

Earthquake Check List

Before the Earthquake

- Update or assemble your emergency supply kit. Include the following supplies:
 - Nonperishable food and drinking water (one gallon per person, per day)
 - Foods for people with special needs (infants, seniors)
 - Additional food, water for pets
 - First aid kit and special medications
 - Flashlights
 - Battery operated radios
 - Extra batteries
 - Sturdy shoes, extra clothing, blankets
 - Sturdy work gloves
 - Emergency cash
 - Adjustable wrench and other tools
 - Whistle
 - Manual can opener
- Choose an out-of-state contact.
- Identify the safe spots in each room:
 - Sturdy desks and tables
 - Interior walls
- Identify hazards in each room:
 - Windows
 - Mirrors
 - Hanging objects
 - Fireplaces
 - Tall unsecured furniture

- Reduce hazards:
 - Check chimney, roof and foundation.
 - Bolt the house to the foundation.
 - Strengthen cripple walls.
 - Brace water heater and other appliances.
 - Secure hazards identified in hazard hunt.
 - Place heavy and breakable objects on lower shelves.
- Hold practice drills.
- Learn first aid and CPR.
- Learn how and when to turn off utilities.

During the Earthquake

- If you're indoors, stay inside. Duck, cover and hold. Avoid windows and outside walls. Do not use elevators.
- If you're outdoors, find an open area. Avoid trees, buildings, walls and power lines.
- If you're driving, pull to the side of the road and stop. Avoid overpasses, signs and other hazards. Stay in the car until the shaking stops.

After the Earthquake

- Check yourself and those around you for injuries.
- Prepare for aftershocks.
- Check for utility problems:
 - Gas leaks
 - Water leaks
 - Broken wiring and sewage lines
- Turn off utilities only if there's damage.
- Check your supplies.
- Use the phone only to advise your "out-of-state" contact of your condition and to report immediate, life-threatening emergencies.
- Check your house for damage.
- Listen to the radio for information and instructions.
- Avoid unnecessary driving.
- Leave a written message indicating where you are headed and your physical condition if you evacuate your home, work place or car.

HDSCS

HDSCS Frequency 1 (146.790 -) has two PL tones, one for the repeater at St. Jude in Fullerton and one for the repeater in Long Beach. The St. Jude PL has changed from 103.5 to 179.9. Please update your Official RACES Guidebook (yellow) and other lists as appropriate.

City Watch

Laguna Beach

A recommendation was presented to the Chief of the LBPD to make LARES an organization along the lines of the Laguna Beach Explorer Scout Volunteers and the Laguna Beach Senior Citi-

zen Volunteers. If the Chief approves this proposal, all LARES members will require background checks and will be issued identification cards by LBPD. The possibility of procuring other identification means (e.g., appropriately marked vests or caps) was also discussed.

Committee Reports

Visual Communications

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

Tri-Agency Update - The Tri-Agency program remains on hold. Our application with SCRRBA is in a state of suspension until we receive their assistance.

ATV Training and Demonstration - OCRACES members Jack Barth (AB6VC), Ray Grimes (W6RYS), Robert Stoffel (KD6DAQ) and Jim Carter (WB6HAG) presented an introduction and overview for using ATV for Public Safety last month at Loma Ridge. RACES members from Anaheim, Brea, Crypress, Fullerton, Huntington Beach, Hemet, LADCS and OCRACES were in attendance. This training provided an insight as to what Public Safety ATV is all about.

LOMA RIDGE MONITOR - Have you been in our Loma Ridge RACES room lately? If not, you have missed seeing our new ATV monitor/TV that the County bought for us. A special thanks to Jack Barth (AB6VC) who spent many long hours designing, fabricated and installing the means for attaching it to high ceiling beams. Jack, you did a fantastic job! We also thank his wife Carolyn, who assisted him at loma and for allowing his time off

from their home remodeling projects. Thanks also goes Steve Sabodos (KN6UX), Ray Grimes (W6RYS) and Mike Krueger (K6MIK) for helping to lift the monitor into place. Some worked with Jack until after 2400 hours one evening. Our thanks also go to Ken Mirabella (KM6YH) for obtaining the bracket material to hang the monitor and to Robert Stoffel (KD6DAQ) for obtaining the monitor from the County.

Jack and Jim Carter (WB6HAG) completed the monitors interconnections to our ATV receivers late one Friday evening. It is now operational and the monitor really enhances our ATV capabilities. We are also planing to connect the monitor to an outside antenna for obtaining local Broadcast stations. Later, we plan to tap into the EOC's cable system for receiving OCN (Orange County News) channel. This function will allow us to see outside news during a disaster.

Baker to Vegas - The ATV link between Las Vegas and our Santiago ATV repeater still remains non-operational with a slight chance it may be up soon. However, we will assist San Bernardino RACES with our 2.4 GHz and 900MHz transmitters by providing ATV feeds to the Las Vegas ATV repeater. This serv-

ice will provide video to our command post at stage 11. We will provide video from the race course during daylight hours and at Stage 11 which has lights. Las Vegas ATN members will cover the finish line early Sunday morning.

We will not post race pictures to the web like last year because of associated costs.

GPS Video Integrator - We have completed the APRS GPS video integrator project. Chris Oesterling (N8UDK), owner of Intuitive Circuits LLC, in Troy Michigan, was very supportive for programming the device to meet our needs.

ATV COM FREQUENCY INTER-FERENCE - We are allocated two VHF communications channels for coordinating video feeds. These frequencies are 144.345MHz and 146.43MHz and should not be used for QSO's. We have recently experienced amateurs using the ATV's 146.43MHz frequency for drills and rag chewing. This frequency is repeated throughout Southern California over UHF video/audio feeds. Thus, many people hear both sides of the conversation. When you QSY to a simplex frequency, please refrain from using the ATV com frequencies as a common courtesy.

OCRACES establishes EOC Mutual Aid Procedures.

When major events such as wildfires occur in Orange County, OCRACES is often activated to staff the EOC, fire command posts and staging areas. Depending on the time of day, season of the year and other variables OCRACES staffing could fall short of what is needed. To this end OCRACES has established EOC Mutual Aid Procedures for all City RACES units activated by *Mutual Aid* to assist OCRACES at the EOC.

On March 13, 1999, Lt. Mike Krueger, N6MIK, OCRACES Trainer Officer, pre-

sented the first session of EOC Mutual Aid Procedures to Huntington Beach RACES. Course subjects included were: Responding to the Loma Ridge EOC, Access to EOC, EOC Parking, Signing-in to the EOC, ID and identification, OCRACES radio room equipment, EOC Staffing and command structure, Levels of activation, Possible assignments for RACES personnel, EOC and OCRACES message forms, OCRACES status "White Board", OCRACES room phone numbers, securing equipment, Signing-out of the EOC, Speed limits to observe on the EOC road.

The presentation was well received by all

HBRACES members. Mike was assisted by OCRACES Assistant Chief Radio Officer, Ken Mirabella, KM6YH.

One requirement of any RACES member wishing to be utilized at the County EOC is the successful completion of a SEMS course. All HBRACES members that attended this course have completed SEMS training by the City of Huntington Beach.

OCRACES would like to extend an invitation to any RACES organization interested in receiving the in-depth orientation to the Loma Ridge EOC. Please contact Mike Krueger at N6MIK@ocraces.org for additional information.

Meetings:

General: First Monday of Month
(open to public) @ 1930 hr

Staff: Second Monday of Month
(members only) @ 1930 hr

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, 107.2 Hz PL (private)

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<http://www.ocraces.org>

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(Boysenberry II from page 1)

Each squad spent about 20 minutes at each station, learning the basics of setting up and operating ATV and packet equipment. The Incident Commander role was changed as each squad rotated into the Command Post. In addition to working with OC-RACES response forms, the Command Post also had to give directions via radio to a "lost" member in the park using a large map.

Several important lessons were learned as a result of this event:

- During the initial stage of the drill, members were asked to check in with the Staging Officer. It was often difficult to locate the Staging Officer due to the number of people in the staging area. OCRACES would benefit from using "ICS Po-

(Tricks part 2 from page 3)

jured parties are not given over the air. This varies on a case by case basis, however during major incidents, there are several people listening to scanners including the families of public safety personnel. It is not uncommon for them to tune in a ham frequency. It is for this reason that damage reports, body counts, property values etc. should be prefaced by "This is unofficial, reported by a passerby" or a similar disclaimer if needed.

See you on the Net! 73, *Mike*

(More Y2K from page 4)

world commerce. A domino effect is likely if our major international commodities suppliers falter. The third likely Y2K disruption is something not widely publicized yet. What will be the impact of the largest, and possibly most unruly block party in modern times when the world celebrates the new millennium? Public safety resources may be strained in ways never before experienced. OCRACES members, start packing your duty bags, and don't forget the party hats!

source: Long Beach Press Telegram, Wednesday, February 24, 1999, from a syndicated report by Robert A. Rankin, Knight Ridder Newspapers

sition Vests" during future activations.

- Command vehicles are convenient and easy to set up, however little "working room" is provided on the tailgate. A table and chairs could be used to provide additional room. Power and heat from the vehicle were welcome benefits during the drill.
- UHF ATV signals seemed to cause interference with operations on the 449.175 repeater. This could impact future activations, as UHF voice radios were not usable during some ATV transmissions. Also, a very strange wideband signal was present on the input to the 2M repeater, making it almost useless from the park. Its source was not determined before it magically disappeared!

In all, it was a great drill, and a lot of fun. OCRACES would like to thank Knott's Berry Farm and the several employees that acted as liaisons.

Did You Know?

Orange County Fire Authority

OCFA, the Orange County Fire Authority provides fire protection and emergency services to the unincorporated areas of Orange County and the cities of Buena Park, Cypress, Dana Point, Irvine, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Lake Forest, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Mission Viejo, Placentia, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, Seal Beach, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park, Westminster, and Yorba Linda. OCFA also provides rescue firefighting resources for the John Wayne Airport. The OCFA was formed March 1, 1995 and is governed by a 21 member Board comprised of representatives from the 19 cities it protects and the Orange County Board of Supervisors. OCFA is one of the largest regional fire service organizations in California, staffed with 785 career and 728 paid-call firefighters. OCFA serves an urban population of 1,202,850 in an area of 511 square miles, plus an additional 178,000 acres of wildland.

source: Orange County Fire Authority information pamphlet

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