



Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association

MARCH 2011

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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - Dick Decker - K6SUU

DICK DECKER!
MEMBER AT LARGE
(TOO LARGE!)



Time flies when you are having fun! That certainly is true for me as I have been a ham for 50 years this year! When I was 14 years old I got involved in Boy Scouts to keep out of trouble while I was growing up in the big city of Chicago. Boy Scouts introduced me to ham radio and that changed my life forever. Ham radio led to a technical high school for electronics. In my senior year a company called IBM came to the school testing for potential new employees and I was hired part time while I was still in high school. After graduation, IBM put me on a project at the University of Chicago to help develop a new communications system using satellites in space. While on the project IBM sent me to Perdue and also the Illinois Institute of Technology to complete my electrical engineering degree. Four years later the project handed the new communications systems design over to "Uncle Sam" and he decided to send it to California to be prototyped and tested.

I agreed to move to Southern California with the project and ended up living in Manhattan Beach working with TRW Space Systems and Hughes Communications. After three years of testing we started to shoot satellites up out of Vandenberg Air Force base and “Uncle Sam” decided to start installing the system in all of the US embassies around the world. I was “tapped” to manage the worldwide installation effort and so began my travels to more countries than I could ever count. You name the country and I went there.

After five years of travel, not being able to tell my family where I was going or when I was coming back, it was time to change my life and start spending time with my young children. I left the organization and moved to Oakdale to raise my kids. The funny story was that the Oakdale newspaper had a story on the front page where the high school principal said his biggest problem was not drugs in the schools; it was kids spitting chewing tobacco on the sidewalks. After drug infested Southern California, I decided that was the kind of town I wanted to raise my kids in. I moved to Oakdale and lived there for eight or nine years. In the late 80’s I moved to Turlock while I worked for ConAgra. I am amazed to realize I have been living in Turlock for 21 years now. Oh, I almost forgot, while in Oakdale and Turlock for those short 30 years I managed to complete a Master’s and Doctorate in Business Administration. After all, if I could pass the ham radio license test, there wasn’t anything I couldn’t do.

Amateur radio can change your life! It certainly did mine. When I studied and passed the Novice license at 14 years old, I gained a confidence in myself where I knew, without a doubt, there wasn’t anything technical I couldn’t learn and master. That opened doors for me that never would have happened without ham radio. It is for this reason I got involved in VE testing to try and get more people involved in ham radio. If just one of the kids, or persons, in the VE testing sessions gains the confidence I did as a kid, they might just go out and change the world! Then all my efforts will have been worthwhile.

**Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association Monthly Meeting
March 15, 2011 - 7:30 p.m.
Modesto Police Department Northeast Area Substation
3705 Oakdale Road - Modesto**

Green Eggs and Ham



[GREENS MARKET \(MODESTO, CA\) NOW OPENS!](#)

[Greens Market](#) in Modesto, CA is now open! Ann, Amanda, and Henry are great people to work with, and they've brought all the wonderful products available in San Francisco, and made them available in Modesto.



Enjoy tasting an array of products with the team, but Greens Market uses [Buyer's Best Friend](#) (BBF) to order their products.

The shelves are really well merchandised with some great products, including [Madecasse](#), [CC Made](#), [Clarine's Florentines](#), [Danielle Chips](#), [479 Popcorn](#), [TCHO Chocolate](#), and more - all of which wholesale [buyers can order online](#) through BBF.

Congratulations to Greens Market on being open!

Greens Market

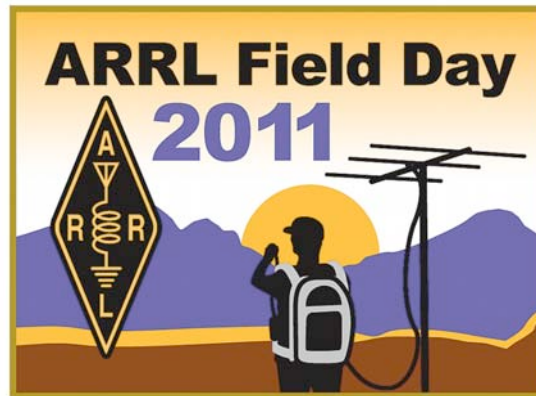
1508 10th Street, Modesto, CA 95354

M-F: 7am to 7pm; S-S: 8am to 6pm
209.524.7336



73's de W6UHF, Paul O

JUNE 25-26, 2011



www.arrl.org

UPCOMING EVENTS!

▶ **COVERED BRIDGE CLASSIC BIKE RIDE: March 12, 2011 Snelling**

From Modesto take 99 South to the Keyes Road exit. Travel East on Keyes Road approximately 30 miles. Keyes Road turns into Montgomery - turn left onto Highway 59/Snelling Highway. Henderson Park is located on the right side of the highway at 2641 East Merced Falls Rd in Snelling.

▶ **WARNERVILLE East of Oakdale Road Race: March 20, 2011**

▶ **CROP WALK: March 26, 2011**

Join us!

Modesto CROP Hunger Walk

9:30AM at [Geneva Presbyterian Church](#)

1229 E Fairmont Ave - Modesto

▶ **MS WALK: April 30, 2011 - Downey Community Park - Brighton Ave and Coffee Road - Modesto**

► EMCOMMWEST: May 6-8, 2011 – The Grand Sierra Resort

”**Reno, Nevada** - Once again the ARRL Specialty Convention EMCOMMWEST will be held in Reno, Nevada at the beautiful **Grand Sierra Resort Hotel**. This year promises to be yet another great gathering for fun, food, fellowship and some fantastic learning experiences. This year's Keynote ARRL speaker will be Mike Corey, W5MPC, Emergency Response and Planning Manager from **Newington, CT**. Mike will share the latest in the world of emergency communications and what we can look forward to having just past the 75th Anniversary of ARES.

Also, at our **Saturday night** banquet, we are honored to have as our special guest, former ARRL president, Jim Haynie, W5JBP who served 3 terms as League president, and made some awesome contributions to Amateur Radio, including his creation, "The Big Project" to attract young people into the hobby, and his love of and support for emergency communications is second to none. If you have never met or heard Jim, this is an opportunity you don't want to miss!

We will also again offer a **Sunday morning** breakfast, vendor hall, Saturday morning swap meet and the **Friday night** BBQ, hosted by the SATERN team at the Reno Salvation Army. Once again you could win some great raffle prizes as we give away our grand prizes of an ICOM 7000, and a KENWOOD TS-2000!

New this year will be a "Youth Lounge", where kids can congregate, meet and have fun while mom and dad attend the conference. And ALL forums and meeting rooms will be on the same floor, with easy access to everything! Our venue, **The Grand Sierra Resort** has something for everyone, including 2 pools, driving range, indoor golf, movie theaters, indoor mall for shopping and some great restaurants for dining.

ECW Registration is \$15 advance, and \$20 at the door. Optional Saturday night banquet is \$40, with 3 meal choices and seating is limited. Saturday morning breakfast is \$20. We also have some great package deals available. We appreciate your staying at our venue, The Grand Sierra Resort to help fill out our room block. There is a link to the hotel website from OUR website, <http://emcommwest.org>, so just go to the GSR link and book your rooms. **The Event** Codes are usually NOT asked for nor needed using the online link to GSR. The only time it might be used (for backup) if someone CALLS GSR --- AND OR--- wants an RV reservation.

BTW, someone asked if the RV reservations count toward our room count...they DO. Should someone rather call in to their Reservations Department to book their sleeping rooms they may reference EWEST5. The RV group code is a little different: EWEST5R RV spaces are reserved by phone or Email only. The special RV rate is \$25 + tax per day and good for **May 5-9**. Email address is: rvpark@grandsierraresort.com (You may consider cutting and pasting the codes to avoid typos and errors).

The GSR reservation phone number is **1 (800) 501-2651**. EMCOMMWEST group rates of \$ 79.00 standard room and \$100.00 for the upgraded room (best value) plus taxes, and NO \$10 per day resort fees Registration is open now, and all information can be found at our website, <http://www.emcommwest.org>. For more information and questions, please email to info@emcommwest.org. We hope to see you there for another great time this year! 73!" From the EMCOMMWEST Committee

- ▶ **HAM CRAM license class and testing: May 14, 2011**
- ▶ **MODESTO CRITERIUM: May 14, 2011-Downtown Modesto -
Between 12th and 14th H and J Streets**
- ▶ **MODESTO ROAD RACE: May 15, 2011- End of Hall Road - Salida**
- ▶ **CANYON CLASSIC BIKE RIDE: June 11, 2011 Patterson -
Creekside Middle School - 535 Peregrine Drive - Patterson, CA 95363**
- ▶ **WARNERVILLE Time Trial: August 6, 2011- Knights Ferry**
- ▶ **HAM CRAM license class and testing: August 13, 2011**
- ▶ **CANCER AWARENESS RIDE: September 2011**

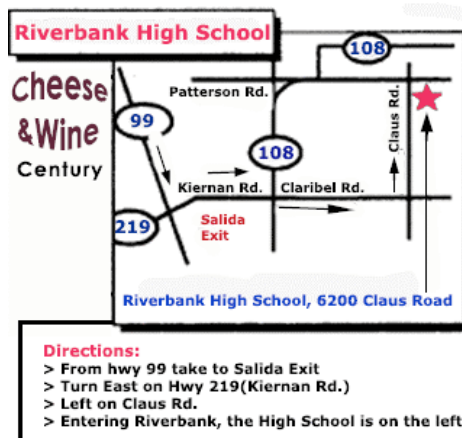
[Modesto Junior College West Campus](#)
2201 Blue Gum Avenue
Modesto, CA 95358

- ▶ **HAMCON 2011 ARRL SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION
CONVENTION:**

September 9-11, 2011

**Marriott Torrance South Bay: 3635 Fashion Way, Torrance, CA 90503
1-800-228-9290 — Hotel Reservation Code: HAMCON —**

- ▶ **CHEESE AND WINE CENTURY: October 8, 2011 Riverbank**



▶ PACIFICON EXPO 2011: October 14-16, 2011

Santa Clara Marriott Hotel - Santa Clara

▶ HAM CRAM license class and testing: November 12, 2011

Up and running.....

The new Thursday night Tech Net from 7:00- 8:00PM! You can also try the link for Justin: <http://www.justin.tv/>. When you get there, type K6THM and you can find the channel for the live feed. If anyone has ideas email Tom: K6THM@K6THM.com

A LITTLE TIDBIT!

Wouxun HT's

From the Chinese characters: "欧讯" should be pronounced as "O" (as O in Oval) and "shin" (the lower part of your leg). The correct Chinese spelling should be "OuXun".

If you pronounce it as Chinese... it should be "O-shin".

If you pronounce "WouXun" in Chinese it should be "Wo" (as in woah! woah! hold your horses!) and Shin.

If you talk to a Chinese person... saying O-shin will impress him.

If you talk to a non-Chinese person... Wo-shin sounds better.



Stanislaus County OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

NIMS/SEMS/ICS COURSES

COURSE	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
ICS 300 SFM	15-16-17 March 2011	0800-1700 (03-15) 0800-1700 (03-16) 0800-1200 (03-17)	3705 Oakdale Road
ICS 400 SFM	29-30-31 March 2011	0800-1700 (03-29) 0800-1700 (03-30) 0800-1200 (03-31)	3705 Oakdale Road

REGISTRATION

Early registration is recommended. Classes fill quickly.
 (Preference given to Stanislaus County Emergency Response and Management Personnel.)
 To register for courses go to www.stanoes.com, click on NIMS-SEMS-ICS Training
 Registration and select the class you wish to attend.

Sponsored by:
 Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services
 3705 Oakdale Road
 Modesto, CA 95357
 209.552.3600



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Stanislaus County OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
NIMS/SEMS/ICS COURSES
April, May, June 2011

COURSE	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
ICS 402 NIMS Exec	13 April	1800-2200	3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)
ICS 402 NIMS Exec	01 June	0800-1200	3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)
ICS 100a - IS 700b	15 June	0800-1500	3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)

NIMS EXECUTIVE COURSE A 4-hour course designed for local elected officials and chief executives. This course covers roles and responsibilities of the policy group, as well as the basics of the Incident Command System, an overview of the California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), and Introduction to the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The course also covers the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS) involving interactions with other jurisdictions/agencies to support the management or command of emergency incidents or major pre-planned events. This specially designed course for Stanislaus County public officials meets the requirements of IS700/Introduction to NIMS, ICS100/Introduction to ICS, and ICS402/Executive Course.

Target Audience: City Councils, Boards of Supervisors, Boards of Directors, Chief Executive Officers, Chief Administrative Officers, etc.

Pre-requisite: None.

ICS100a - IS700b

A 6-hour course that introduces both the National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System. This course meets NIMS requirements for compliance with ICS 100a and IS 700b. It also discusses California's Standardized Emergency Management System. This awareness level training will cover topics such as: NIMS Components, Concepts, and Principles; Purpose of ICS; Basic Features of ICS; Incident Commander and Command Staff Functions; General Staff Functions; Facilities; and Common ICS Responsibilities.

Target Audience: Emergency response personnel, disaster service workers, Amateur Radio Emergency Service and other Ham club operators,

Search and Rescue Team members, and generally anyone who may respond or be involved in coordinating and supporting incident management activities.

Pre-requisite: None

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA AND ARRL TEAM UP TO HELP SCOUTS LEARN COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS

02/03/2011 (Reprinted with ARRL permission from the February 2, 2011 ARRL Web news story)

After working together for nearly a century to provide Scouts with the ability to learn radio communication skills, Boy Scouts of America and the ARRL have officially teamed up by signing a memorandum of understanding. This MOU designates the ARRL as a key resource for K2BSA and Radio Merit Badge training at the BSA National Scout Jamboree and establishes the ARRL as the go-to source for Scouts interested in learning about and becoming involved in radio communication.

BSA Chief Scout Executive Bob Mazzuca and ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, launched the partnership January 31 by holding a unique wireless communications meeting. Mazzuca joined Craigie virtually during an Internet video conference and document-signing ceremony. From separate locations, the pair took the opportunity to talk about the importance of each organization to the ongoing development of the other. "Throughout the years, going all the way back to the Wireless Merit Badge in 1918, the ARRL has worked hand-in-hand with Boy Scouts of America to help teach Scouts the skills and joys of radio communication," said Chief Scout Executive Bob Mazzuca. "Today, we are making official a relationship that has been beneficial for both of our organizations for nearly a century."

BSA, by virtue of its active membership and its outdoor program, represents a significant source of potential new radio operators looking to utilize Amateur Radio for emergency communications while in the field as well as for education, experimentation, and friendship. As part of this strategic alliance, BSA will encourage Scouts and Scouters to become familiar with opportunities for public and community service, learning and personal growth through involvement in Amateur Radio. "We're excited by the opportunity to make official a relationship that has existed informally for many years," said Craigie. "Scouts and Scouters have been some of the strongest proponents and practitioners of radio communication, and we know they will continue to help foster a love and understanding for the essential nature of radio communication for generations to come." Craigie also noted the numbers of people whose early interests in Amateur Radio led them to electronics and engineering careers in areas that were never foreseen when they were young.

The BSA established the strategic alliance with ARRL because the mission of the ARRL is complementary to the mission and goals of the BSA. Specifically, the ARRL is organized for the establishment of networks to provide communications in the event of disasters or other emergencies, the advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare, the fostering of education, the promotion and conduct of research and development, and the dissemination of technical, educational and scientific information relating to electronic communication, the representation of radio amateurs in regulatory matters, and the promotion of fraternalism and high standards of conduct among radio amateurs. In addition to its National Scout Jamboree involvement, ARRL will continue to promote participation in the annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) event. ARRL will serve as contributing editor to the Radio Merit Badge publication, will assist with the review, creation and modification of requirements as necessary, and will assist in developing course material, lesson plans, and other resources for teaching the Radio Merit Badge to Scouts. ARRL also will contribute to the content of the Electricity, Electronics, and Emergency Preparedness and Communications merit badge publications.