

ORCA NewsLetter

Overly Rambunctious Carefree Alliance
Ohmstown, Ca

April 1, 2006	The next meeting will be on the first Saturday, April 1, 9:00 AM at Fire Station 1 media room, 1605 Martin Luther King at 17th Street, Oakland.
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President's Corner

Special points of interest:

- MS Walk
- Public Service Events

We all have routines, schedules, and habits that we have developed over the years that have kept our lives on an even keel. Sometimes we like to tweak the status quo a little bit, but never enough to really upset the old apple cart.

My personal apple cart has been knocked all the way over in the last month, gratefully by choice, and not happenstance. I decided to give myself a huge challenge, and a career change which has altered my routine radically. I find I must give 100 percent of my time and attention to this new endeavor, and even with that effort I have no guarantee I will succeed. WOW! What have I done?

I know that order and routine will eventually emerge from my present chaos, and



all will be right in the world once again.

Challenges and personal goals are a good thing! There are many challenges available in the hobby of ham radio. If you are a Technician, study just a bit and get your General Class license. If you are a General, make the effort to get

your Extra privileges to enjoy all the bands of the spectrum. If you are an Extra, bring out that paddle or key, and make a CW contact. If you have never been net control, sign up for a Thursday night shift at the next meeting. Doing is learning, and you will never know what you are capable of until you try.

April is the 100th anniversary of the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire. It is interesting to note that recently the emphasis has been put on the damage the fire caused, and not the tremor itself. There will be many reminders of emergency preparedness in the month to come, and now is a good time check our readiness. Do we have enough food, supplies and batteries

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ORCA Calendar

Meeting at EOC April 1st—*To be decided*

Citywide CORE Drill 4/29

MS Walk, with ORCA Sponsoring SAG Communications, 5/6

2006 ORCA Board Meeting Dates: 4/18, 7/25, 10/24

2006 ORCA/EBARC VE Sessions: 4/23, 7/23, 10/22

2006 Field Day June 24-25

President's Corner

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to be self sufficient for 72 hours? Have we checked our Go Bags recently? Do we try to keep a full tank of gas in our cars?

Little steps in preparation can give us the edge in an emergency situation, and will help in creating order, and reducing chaos during that first 72 hours.

73 Dave **AE6PX**

2006 Public Service Events

The following events are sponsored by the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club:

MS Walk, Heather Farms Park, Walnut Creek, April 8, 2006, Radio Coordinator: Jeff Hart

Top Hat Classic Bike Ride (MS), Pleasanton, April 22, 2006, Radio Coordinator: Dick Brown

Primavera 100 Mile Bicycle Ride, Sunol, April 23, 2006, Radio Coordinator: Bob Green

March of Dimes WalkAmerica, Heather Farms Park, Walnut Creek, April 29, 2006, Radio Coordinator:

Human Race Walkathon, Heather Farms Park, Walnut Creek, May 7, 2006, Radio Coordinator: Lauren Styles

Escape from Alcatraz Swim and Triathlon, San Francisco Waterfront and Bay, June 4, 2006, Radio Coordinator: Barry Bettman

4th of July Parade, Downtown Pleasant Hill, July 4, 2006, Radio Coordinator: Pete Harris

Alcatraz Challenge Swim, San Francisco Waterfront and Bay, July 17, 2006, Radio Coordinator:

Concord Mt. Diablo Trail Ride, Mt. Diablo, 4WD vehicles welcome, Date TBD, Radio Coordinator: Tom Seabury

Devil Mountain Run, Danville, Date TBD, Radio Coordinator: Ed Ritchie

Mt. Diablo Challenge Bike Race, Race to Summit of Mt. Diablo, October 1 2006, Radio Coordinator: John Stuart

Mt. Diablo Trail Adventure & Summit Challenge, Mt. Diablo, 1/2 Marathon Run to Summit, November 6 2006, Radio Coordinator: John Stuart

This is a fun way to get out and use your radio, help a worthwhile cause and gain valuable experience that will come in handy in the event of a major emergency or disaster. It's also great PR for amateur radio.

Contact the MDARC Public Service Coordinator, Pete Harris **KE6ZIW** at pharris125@comcast.net for more information.

MS Walk Cross-Training

ORCA, joined by members of ARCA and EBARC, will be providing the radio support for the MS Walk in Alameda on May 6th. Public service events like the MS Walk provide excellent opportunities both to serve your community by supporting a worthwhile activity and to practice your radio skills in a low-pressure situation. This year we plan to layer a little extra training on the exercise by 'responding' to the event in accordance with the principles of the Incident Command System (ICS). As most of you know, ICS is the U.S. emergency response management system.

Successful completion of a battery of ICS courses increasingly is being required of disaster service workers, emergency responders and other public service personnel on a going-forward basis. For example, by June 30th all U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliaries who have operational status must have completed the IS-100 and IS-700 courses (an introduction to the Incident Command System and to the National Incident Management System, respectively). RACES members who want to continue to be eligible to respond to call outs will have to meet similar requirements in the near future. Oakland OES sponsored an ICS-100 class at one of our monthly meetings, and everyone who attended is entitled to consider themselves to have taken that class for Oakland's purposes. The classes are available on-line through FEMA (<http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp>), including an open book on-line exam which produces email grading of the exam and a certificate for successful participants in short order.

ICS principles are not limited to unplanned emergency situations. They are appropriate for anyone providing support for planned events, from weddings to birthdays to small parades to large gatherings like concerts. By attempting to structure our May 6th activity along ICS principles, we hope to provide a training bonus—ICS concept implementation in addition to use of radio skills. The principles of ICS we will use will include common terminology and typical organization. We will have an Incident Commander and an Incident Command Post, identified as such, and the first level of organizational structure as appropriate. That will include a Command Staff of Public Information Officer, Safety Officer and Liaison Officer, and General Staff sections for Operations, Logistics, Planning and Finance/Administration. As with most small incidents, individuals will fill multiple responsibilities. Among the principles of ICS are flexibility and the capacity to expand or contract the organizational structure in direct response to the needs of the incident and the size of the responding forces.

Our goals are threefold: (1) to support the MS Walk; (2) to get some valuable operational radio experience; and (3) to gain some familiarity with basic ICS principles. If you are interested and available on May 6th, please contact Bob, **KE6IUE**, by telephone at 510.658.7085, email at rafirehock@sbcglobal.net or on the weekly ORCA net.

Bob Firehock, **KE6IUE**



Oakland Radio Communication Association

Club: WW6OR, N6ORC
Repeater: WB6NDJ

New Membership and Renewal Form

New Member Renewal

Family membership—number of additional Hams: _____

Name _____

Call _____ License: E__ A__ G__ T+__ T__ N__

Address _____

City _____ State__ Zip_____

Email _____

Newsletters will be emailed only to members who specifically request them. All others will receive them by mail. Email?

Best Phone (_____) _____ Alternate Phone (_____) _____

Best is a: cell work home Alternate is a: cell work home

Are you an ARRL Member? Yes No

Family Hams name/call sign/license class:

Please remit a photocopy of your FCC license (and any Family Ham licenses) with a check payable to "ORCA" to

ORCA
P.O. Box 21305
Oakland, CA 94620-1305

2006 new members: \$30.00 up to March 31, 2006
2005 members renewing for 2006: \$30.00 due by February 28, 2006

[\$22.50: 4/1/06-6/30/06; \$15: 7/1/06-9/30/06; \$7.50: 10/1/06-12/31/06]

2006 additional family Hams: \$5 each other Family Ham (not prorated)
2007 dues will be accepted: \$30, plus \$5 each other Family Ham

Final acceptance of this application and membership in ORCA with repeater privileges is subject to review and/or approval by the ORCA Board.

I agree, for myself and for any Family members included in this application, to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in the ORCA Bylaws and the applicable repeater operating procedures.

Date: _____ Signature: _____



Topic: To Be Decided

Monthly events

1st Saturdays ORCA Monthly Meeting - Oakland OES 9:00
1st Sundays Livermore Swap meet Robertson Park
2nd Fridays East Bay Amateur Radio Club
2nd Saturdays Electronics Flea Market in Sunnyvale
3rd Fridays Hayward Radio Club
3rd Fridays Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club
4th Fridays Amateur Radio Club of Alameda

Amateur Radio Club of Alameda meets 7:00 PM at Building 522
West Midway on Alameda Point.

East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 PM at the
Salvation Army, 4600 Appian Way, El Sobrante.

Hayward Radio Club meets at 7:30 PM 1401 West Winton Ave.
in Hayward behind Hayward Fire Station 6, next to the
Hayward Air National Guard Base.

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 PM
at Our Savior Lutheran Church,
1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette.

*Note: The Swap meet has a new location at
Robertson Park, Livermore
For more info*

<http://www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html>

**ORCA on the web:
ww6or.com**

Weekly Nets

Thursdays Oakland ARES/RACES Net
7:30 PM 146.88 MHz minus PL 77
Thursdays Alameda Emergency Preparedness
7:00 PM 146.88 MHz minus PL 77
Thursdays NALCO ARES/RACES
7:15 PM 440.9 MHz plus PL 131.8
Mondays Hayward RACES
7:30 PM 145.130 MHz minus PL 127.3

ORCA Officers and Board

President:	Dave Clemes	AE6PX
Vice Pres.:	Michael Hole	KG6DER
Treasurer:	Bill Hardy	KF6VOG
Secretary:	Tom Tazelaar	KG6MAC

Director:	Adele Bertaud	KE6HKY
Director:	Robert Firehock	KE6IUE
Director:	Art McLaughlin	W6THD
Director:	David Otey	WB6NER
Director:	Brian Treusch	W6LL

Ex-Officio Directors:

ARES Liaison:	Mark Violet	N6RCG
Repeater Trustee:	David Otey	WB6NER
RACES RO:	Jim Tiemstra	K6JAT
WW6OR trustee:	Jim Tiemstra	K6JAT
N6ORC trustee:	Michael Hole	KG6DER

The ORCA NewsLetter is published monthly. Any articles can be used with attribution. Articles, news and photos submitted make for a more interesting newsletter; thank you!

Please submit materials for the next issue by April 27 to Michael **KG6DER** kg6der@arrl.net or fax to 707 215-6124. Thanks again!