

Cathay August 2015

www.cathayradio.org

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Mission: The Cathay Amateur Radio Club is basically an active social club of Ham Radio Operators and their spouses. We support local community requests for HAM emergency communications. Several of us are trained in CPR/ First Aid and are involved with community disaster preparedness.

Monday Night Net Time: 9 PM Local Time/PST, Frequencies: 146.67MHz -600KHz PL85.4 and 442.70 +5MHz PL 173.8. The repeaters are linked only during the CARC Monday night net.

Update: Link to repeater 442.70 is currently not active until further notice.

The CARC Monday night net is the best way to find out the latest club news.

All check-ins are welcome.

Message from the President: George Chong, W6BUR

Hello CARC Members and Friends;

Tech Session Intro

Ed Fong – WB6IQN will be conducting a Free Tech Session on the GP5/SSB by County Comm of Santa Clara. It is will be on Saturday August 8th – 12 noon – 3PM in Sunnyvale. Please Read the Tech Session section of this newsletter for additional details.

Detailed Recap of Sunnyvale ARRL Field Day Saturday June 27, 2015

The Saturday June 27, 2015 combined Cathay Amateur Radio Club (CARC) and Sunnyvale Amateur Radio Emergency Service (SARES) ARRL field day held at the Fairbrae Swim Club was a huge success. Over 55 folks sign the log. But there were well over 80 folks that drop by throughout the day.

Edison Fong (WB6IQN) did a terrific job organizing the event and providing a BBQ dinner approximately 60 people. Ed only expected a light attendance of 30 people for dinner and was able to quickly adjust to deal with the large influx of HAMs along with with their families.

Ed made several food runs to ensure that everybody was satisfied with the delicious food. Served at the event was 60 1/3 lb sirloin burger with buns, sliced tomatoes, 40 Hebrew National hotdogs with buns, 40 pieces of barbeque chicken (provided by Thomas Leibold KK6FPP). 4 apple pies, 4 peach pies, 1 cheese cake, 2 dozen gourmet chocolate chip cookies, 5 gallons of ice cream, 80 cans of soda, several gallons of various juices. Not to mention all the salads, bake beans, 10 lbs of scallop potatoes that my wife and kids cooked up. Ed's whole family pitched in for the event: Sharadon, Violet and Mei-ling (KI6QXM) to handle the event.

Tad Kuwano (KD6EFH) graciously stepped up and took on the role head chief doing the primary BBQ with Bob Yee (W6VVQ), and Thomas Leibold (KK6FPP) also assisting. Plus several other folks pitched in to help out.

There were at least 6 separate radio stations demonstrating their Broadband Ham networking equipment and making many radio contacts well past midnight.

In attendance we had the new Mayor of Sunnyvale drop by: Jim Griffith, City Councilman: Glenn Hendricks. Numerous NERT folks. We had the Red Cross: George Williams, the SCV Asst Sec Manager: Larry Carr. Event ARRL Pacific

Division Director: Bob Vallio (W6RGG) stayed a few hours. Bob won the 50 ft RG58 coax cable. Bob donated it back to the club.

The Sunnyvale ARRL Field Day made over 100 contacts and was up and running until 12:30 am the next morning, the following results that were sent to the ARRL.

	phone	CW	points
80mt			
40mt	47		94
20mt	30	6	84
15mt	3		6
emergency power			100
public location			100
information table			100
educational			100
elected official - mayor of Sunnyvale			100
Red Cross Visit - George Williams			100
Youth Participation			100
		total	884

A raffle was held and the following people won the prizes:

- Terry Nakashima (WB6PVU) won the grand prize, a HP Laptop
- Cliff Shak (KH6IKL) won the GP5 software define radio
- David Chan (NC6D) won the Baofeng UV5 dual band handheld.
- Jerry Thalls (KG6HI) and Bob Valio (W6RGG) both won the coax cables
- Mike Yamamoto (KI6OIOD) won the multi-meter
- Alan Stanton (KI6CJE) won the Maglite flashlight
- Yili Liang (Ag6tp) won the Harbor Freight tool set

All the attendees were very friendly and well-mannered making the event extremely relaxed and enjoyable for everybody.

Yes, this event showed that “Nerdy HAMS Types Rock” and are in fact the best people to party with!

The **Featured Tech Article** resume in the Sept 2015 issue of the CARC Newsletter.

CARC Final Wrap-up News

Chat sub s'em to all you CARC members! - George W6BUR.

Public Service Announcements

HAM CRAM / HAM Licensing

For upcoming HAM Licensing locations please refer to:

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS)

The Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) was organized by the San Francisco Office of Emergency Services (OES) following the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake to support the communications needs of the City and County of San Francisco when responding to emergencies and special events.

The Auxiliary Communications Service holds General Meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at the San Francisco Emergency Operations Center, 1011 Turk Street (between Gough Street and Laguna Street), from 1900 hours to 2100 hours local time. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

The ACS Net begins at 1930 hours (7:30 p.m.) local time each Thursday evening, on the WA6GG repeater at 442.050 MHz, positive offset, tone 127.3 Hz. The purpose of this net is to practice Net Control skills, practice checking in with deployment status in a formal net, and to share information regarding upcoming ACS events. Guests are welcome to check in. ACS Members should perform Net Control duty on a regular basis. On the second Thursday of each month, the net will be conducted on the output frequency of the WA6GG repeater, 442.050 MHz no offset, tone 127.3 Hz, simplex.

For more information, please attend an ACS meeting or check in on a net, or call 415-558-2717.

Upcoming meetings: Tuesday 7pm, Aug 18, 2015
Tuesday 7pm, Sept 15, 2015
Tuesday 7pm, Oct 20, 2015

Gilbert Gin (KJ6HKD)

Free Disaster Preparedness Classes In Oakland:

<http://www.oaklandnet.com/fire/core/index2.html>

CORE is a free training program for individuals, neighborhood groups and community-based organizations in Oakland. The underlying premise is that a major disaster will

overwhelm first responders, leaving many citizens on their own for the first 72 hours or longer after the emergency.

If you have questions about the recertification process, you may contact the CORE Coordinator at 510-238-6351 or core@oaklandnet.com.

Free Disaster Preparedness Classes In San Francisco – NERT Taught by San Francisco Fire Department

Upcoming events

August

1st: Neighborhood Coordinator Leadership College.
8:30am-4:00pm, SFFD DOT*

2nd: Golden Gate Park Band Honors NERT/CERT
12:00 pm – 3:00 pm The band shell located in Golden Gate park between the Academy of Sciences and the de Young Museum.

The Golden Gate Concert Band will be honoring the volunteer efforts of NERT and CERT volunteers throughout the Bay Area through music and a short presentation by the group.

You are encouraged to come to the park and bring a picnic lunch. Gather at noon. Concert at 1pm. Wear your gear to represent your program. We will need a few people to help pass out information

South San Francisco Rotary Club is sponsoring the event and they have generously donated It's It ice cream for all to enjoy!

All are welcome. Bring friends and family.

3rd : NERT Communications Team (NCT)201: Emergency Size-up & Messaging writing. Details 6:30p-9:30p, SFFD DOT*

4th: National Night Out NERT booth at SFPD station events. 4:00pm-7:30pm, various locations

5th: NCT 301: Hands-on buttons, knobs & antennas. 6:30p-9:30p, SFFD DOT*

6th: NCT 401: Hands on message passing and Scribing. 6:30p-9:30p, SFFD DOT*

18th: NCT 501: NET Control for NERT staging area. 6:30p-9:30p, SFFD DOT*

22nd: Plan and Play: Drill planning for Neighborhood Leaders. 8:30a-1:00p,
Location TBD

26th: Neighborhood Coordinator/Leadership Quarterly. 6:30p-8:30p, SFFD DOT*

September

2nd: Ask an Elmer: informal session with ham radio mentors. 6:30p-8:30p, SFFD DOT*

9th: NEW! PG&E training for NERT/CERT volunteers
Personnel from Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) have developed a training for NERT volunteers. PG&E personnel will provide the training. The training will deliver an overview of the gas/electric systems. It will also demonstrate keeping safe and what to look for and report after an earthquake

11th-14th: Urban Shield Bay Area Exercise needs volunteers.
Register at www.urbanshield.org, then email NERT at sffdnert@sfgov.org to report that you registered.

12th: Neighborhood Command Post (NCP) Operations I. 8:30a-4:00p, SFFD DOT*

19th: NCP Operations II. 8:30a-4:00p, SFFD DOT* Pre-requisite: NCP I

29th: ICS Forms workshop. 6:30p-9:00p, SFFD DOT* details

30th: SFPUC Drinking Water, 6:30p-8:30p, SFFD DOT*

RSVP to sffdnert@sfgov.org or call 415-970-2024 to register.
Visit www.sfgov.org/sffdnert to learn more about the training, other locations, and register on line. Upcoming Special NERT Events.

San Francisco Police Department: Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT)

The Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT) is a citizen disaster preparedness program designed. The ALERT program is for volunteers 16 years of age or older, who live, work, or attend high school in San Francisco.

Graduates of the San Francisco Police Activities League (P.A.L) Law Enforcement Cadet Academy are also eligible to join.

ALERT volunteers will first complete the Fire Department's Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) (www.sfgov.org/sfnert) training and then graduate into an 8 hour Police Department course specifically designed for ALERT team members.

ALERT members will work closely with full-time and/or Reserve Police Officers in the event they are deployed after a disaster. The Basic ALERT volunteer will have no law enforcement powers other than those available to all citizens.

SFPD ALERT Training

The next ALERT training classes have been scheduled for **Saturday, October 24th, 2015**. The classes will be held at the San Francisco Police Academy, in the parking lot bungalow, from 8am-5pm (one hour lunch break).

IMPORTANT- All participants must complete the background interview process in order to be eligible to attend the ALERT training class.

Eligible ALERT participants may register for a training class by contacting the ALERT Program Coordinator, Mark Hernandez, at sfpdalert@sfgov.org, or by telephone at 415-401-4615.

SFPD ALERT Practice/Training Drill

All active/trained ALERT members are asked to join us for our next training drill, scheduled for Saturday November 7, 2015 9AM – 1PM. Details will be emailed to active ALERT members, prior to the date of the exercise. Participation is not required, but strongly encouraged.

For more information on the San Francisco Police Department ALERT Program, email us at sfpdalert@sfgov.org, or call Sergeant Mark Hernandez (SFPD, Ret.), SFPD ALERT Program Coordinator, at (415) 401-4615.

For additional information on the web please refer to:

<http://sf-police.org/index.aspx?page=4019>

Combined CARC and SARES ARRL Field Day



Organizer Ed Fong (WB6IQN) and Daughter Violet Fong



Ed Fong ((WB6IQN) presenting the grand prize laptop to a very happy Terry Nakashima (WB6PVU).



Sunnyvale ARRL Field Day Participant
Observing Ed Fong on roof.



Ed Fong (WB6IQN) setting up the
Sunnyvale ARRL field Day antennas



Jerry Thalls (KG6HI) handling
antenna setup



Jordan Makower (WA2BRV) making sure the antenna
guide lines are secure



Left to Right: Cliff Shak - KH6IKL and Terry Nakashima - WB6PVU



Field Day Making Contact



Ed Fong (WB6IQN) making Field Day Radio Contact



One of the many radios used during ARRL Field Day.



One of many field day radio equipment



Clifton KH6IKL listening for radio contact.



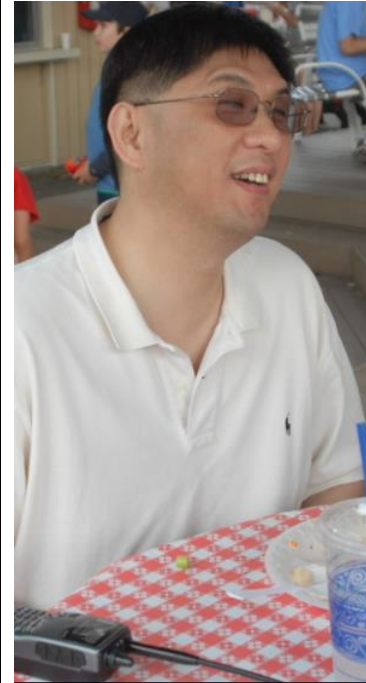
A table full of wonderful prizes to be raffled off at the ARRL field day.



BBQ Chiefs work hard to keep up (left to right: Bob – W6VVQ and Tad - KD6EFH)



ARRL Field Day Participants, Andreas in red shirt and son in blue shirt.



David Chan (NC6D)



ARRL Field Day Participants making radio contact



Left to Right: Alan Stanton (KI6CJE) and Jerry Thalls – KG6HI



ARRL Field Day Participants.



ARRL Field Day Participants – former grad students of Ed Fong



Judy – xyl of David Chan (NC6D) holding winning Baofeng UV5 radio raffle prize



Child selecting a winning raffle ticket



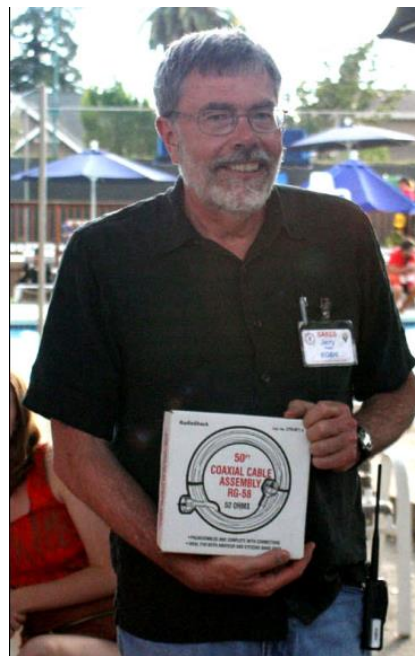
Left to right: Ed - WB6IQN and Daughter, Violet announcing the winning raffle ticket number.



Mei Lin Fong – K16QXM , Ed's daughter assisting with the raffle.



Left to right: Ed Fong (WB6IQN) and daughter: Violet Fong announcing another winning raffle ticket number.



Jerry Thalls – KG6HI with his raffle coax raffle prize.



Cliff Shak - KH6IKL won the GP5 CountryComm software defined radio.



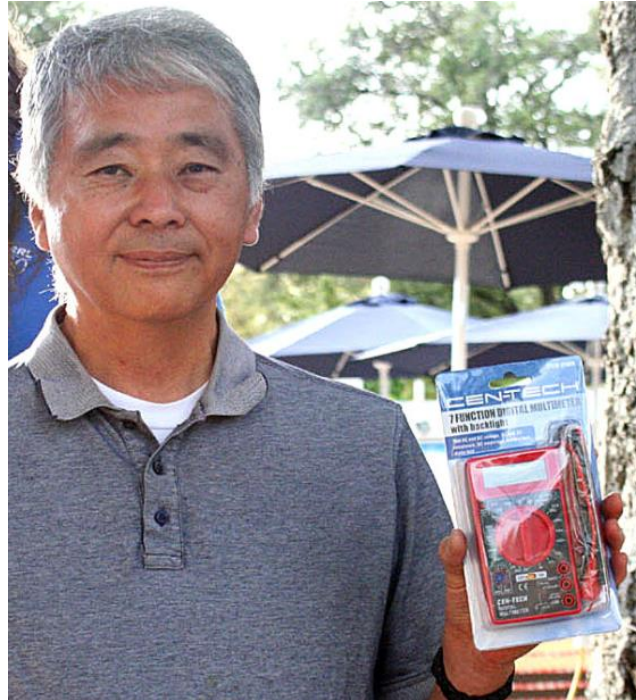
Alan Stanton – (KI6CJE) holding his winning Maglite flashlight raffle prize.



Folks gathered for the commencement of the raffle event.



Richard Bennett (W7UYJ) and
Wife



Mike Yamamoto (KI60ID) holding his winning
multi-meter prize.



Left to right: Terry Nakashima (WB6PVU) and Tad Kuwano (KD6EFH)



Field day participant



Unnamed Super volunteer with the BQQ. He is owed many thanks for his help.



Loading up at the “condiments, salad, and dessert” table.



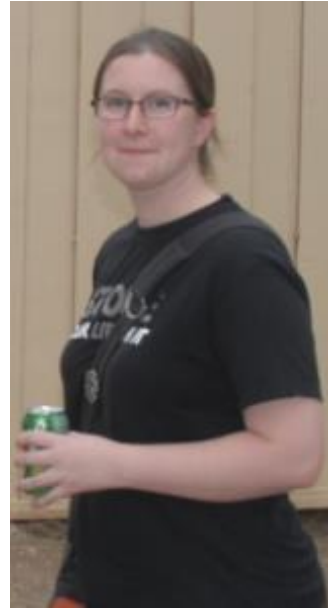
Left to right: Thomas Leibold - KK6FPP with another ARRL participant.



Group of folks awaiting the results of raffle drawing, some of the folks are – Austin Lu in green shirt, Terry Nakashima ((WB6PVU) in navy colored T-shirt, Ron Quan (KI6AZB) in light blue T-shirt, Bob Yee (W6VVQ) in white shirt.



Left to right: Ron Quan - KI6AZB and Tony Sacco - KD6EOD



ARRL Participant



ARRL Field Day Participants



ARRL Field Day Participants loading up on the condiments.



ARRL Field Day Participants waiting for the burgers to come off the hot grill.



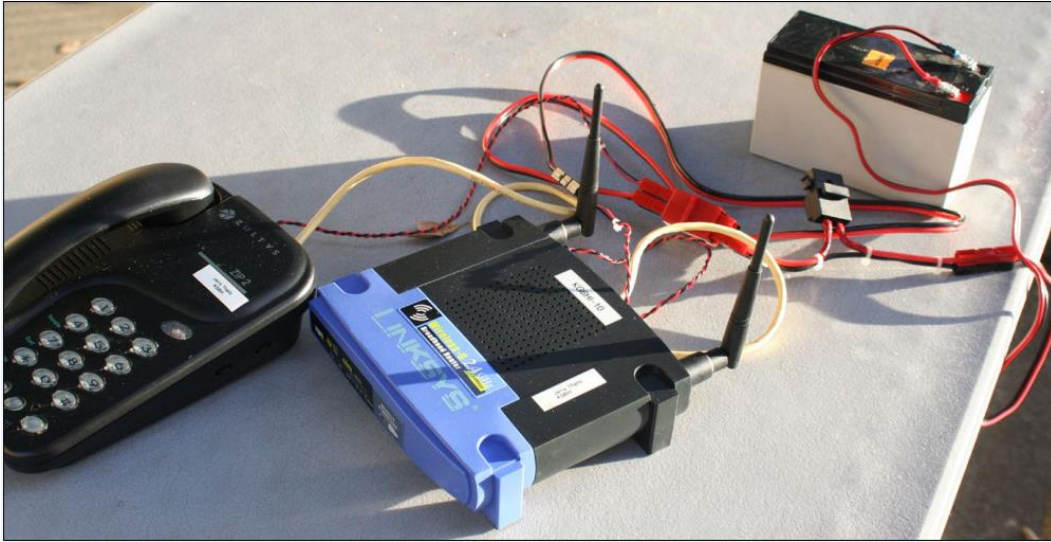
ARRL Field Day Participant taking it all in.



ARRL Field Day Participants check their raffle tickets, Vladmir on the left.



Enlarged pic of Richard Bennett (W7UYJ) and wife enjoying the raffle.



Ham Mesh Network Equipment Step Up



Austin Lu selecting the next winning raffle ticket



ARRL Field Day HAM radio operator In action



Left to right: Participant 1, Participant 2, Bob – W6VVQ (assistant BBQ Chief) and in red: Bob Vallio - W6RGG (Event ARRL Pacific Division Director)



ARRL Field Day equipment for HAM Mesh Network.



ARRL Field Day radio operator



Ron - KI6AZB, Author of (Build Your Transistor Radio)



Folks lined up for the condiments, salads and desserts



ARRL Field Day Radio Operators making contact. From Right to Left, in red – Andreas and son



Another ARRL Field Day Radio Operator making contact



Folks lined up for the condiments, Salads and desserts. In foreground wearing blue shirt is Mei-ling Fong (KI6QXM). In back ground wear black T-shirt is Sharadon Fong,



Folks lined up for the burger, hot dogs, and chicken to come off the grill.
Austin Lu in green shirt hamming it up for the camera, and Breanna in black shirt.



Additional folks lined up for the burger, hot dogs, and chicken to come straight off the grill.



Cooking the food for the hungry ARRL participants.



More folks lined up for the burger, hot dogs, and chicken to come off the grill



Left to right: Lovely ladies - Violet Fong, Alexander Hutching, Sharadon Fong, and Katherine Hutchings taking a much needed breather from the event.



Kate – xyl of George NTG6



George – NT6G



Ed Fong in foreground getting ready to start the raffle



ARRL Field Day folks following the raffle



Richard Yee showing off his brand new Apple watch to Bob Yee – W6VVQ



Left to right: Vladimir and former graduate students of Ed Fong



ARRL Field Day Ham Operator taking a momentary break.



Left to right: Bob Yee (W6VVQ), Rodney Yee (KJ6DZI), and Richard Yee

Tech Session in Sunnyvale Saturday August 8, 2015. (Includes free lunch)

Time: Saturday August 8th – 12 noon – 3PM

Topic: *World's First Hand Held Software Defined Radio – Ed Fong WB6IQN*

Place: 1163 Quince Ave. Sunnyvale, 408-245-8210 monitor 146.52 MHz

Menu - lasagna, pizza, salad, drinks, and chips. Ice cream for dessert.

Optional – bring a desert to share

Cost: **FREE to Cathay Members and Guest - Raffle Tickets: \$5 each**

Grand Prize - HP dual core laptop – 4GB ram, 500 GB harddrive

2d Prize – GP5/SSB fully self contained SDR radio.

3rd Prize - Baofeng UV5R dual band hand held radio.

Directions: If you are coming from the DeAnza Flea Market, just head North on Stelling Rd. Go 2 miles, past Homestead Road, past Fremont Ave. (Stelling Rd. will change names to Hollenbeck Ave. after you cross Homestead Rd.) After Fremont Ave., watch for the first signal light which is Torrington, make a left. Go one block and you will run into Quince Ave. We are at 1163 Quince Ave. I will monitor 146.52 MHz if anyone gets lost.

If you need precise directions from where you are coming from, go to www.googlemaps.com. They seem to give the best directions or give me (Ed Fong) a call on the phone.

This event is after the DeAnza Swapmeet. Before going home, come on by and have a great lunch and meet new friends. Why pay for lunch after the swap and then to HRO's? Drop by, save your money and have lunch and see what make the County Comm GP5/SSB tick.

This year's speaker will be Ed Fong WB6IQN – What's the hottest SDR's in the market today? It is the GP5/SSB by County Comm of Santa Clara. If you don't own one yet, you should. In this tech session, I will describe this radio in some detail. I will describe the SiLabs chip that is the heart of this radio. It is unlike any other SDR radio in the world. It does not require a computer to operate. It is completely self contained. The size of a TV remote, the radio covers 100KHz -30 MHz. As a bonus it also receives stereo FM broadcast. The radio supports AM, USB, LSB, and CW. The frequency readout is dead on just like a full size radio. It has 1000 memories. Tuning increments in 10, 20, 50 and 1KHz, perfect for SSB and CW.

So come on by and see how this radio ticks. There is nothing else like it the world. Tremendous dynamic range due to its internal 22 bit ADC's, yes 22 bits. Seeing is believing.

After seeing and testing this radio, one would think it would cost in the \$200-300 range. With modern CMOS and discrete time DSP technology, County Comm has made this radio available to club members for \$60. Yes you heard it right. If you don't already own one, you can purchase one at the meeting.

1st Prize - HP Laptop running Window 8.1, 4GB of memory and 500 GB of hard drive. Is your old laptop ready for an upgrade? Well, this could be it.



HP Pavillion 4 GB Laptop 500GB of harddrive

Is your old laptop ready for an upgrade? Well this could be it.

Full TouchScreen Running Windows 8

Dual core with a LED back lit screen

High resolution camera for Skype ,

Wireless 802.11n.

2nd prize will be the new County Comm GP5-SSB software defined radio. Accessories include, headphone, antenna booster, external SW antenna and case.



FM: 87 – 108 or 76 – 108 MHz
MW/ AM: 520 – 1710 kHz (10K tuning step)
SW - HAM: 2.3 MHz – 30 MHz AM, SSB, CW
LW frequency: 150 – 522 kHz

3rd Prize Baofeng dual band handie talkie

