

KERN COUNTY - CENTRAL VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

THE COMMUNICATOR

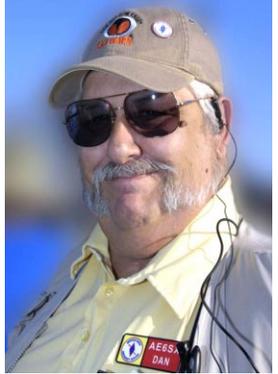
MARCH 2017

Editor N6SWR



ARRL Section Manager AE6SX

The March program was, Dan Pruitt AE6SX who has been serving the San Joaquin Valley as the ARRL Section Manager since 2009. He spoke about Public Service, Advocacy, Education, Technology and Membership.



His presentation was well received by our club members present during the meeting, pointing out all that the ARRL does for Amateur Radio thru their programs. As many know he also provides us with the ARRL news weekly on our Sunday evening 8:00 pm Club Radio Net.

Our Club President Larry Callahan and Issac Pizano.

To all my ham radio friends this is 4th grader Issac Pizano, who is battling brain cancer and raises money for local nonprofits through "Team Issac's Miles for Miracles". The following club members provided radio communications for this Team Issac Event, Matt WA6ALB, Mike KG6IWX, Neal N6YGG, Richard KD6IMM, Sandi KE6KJA and myself Larry KF6JOQ were able to provide communication for this great benefit to help local children in need. My hat goes off to this young man with such a big heart.



Above: Group of riders head out to one of four Race routes, the largest route being 100 miles! Below: Vendor Tents and displays, great food and arts and crafts for sale to the public.



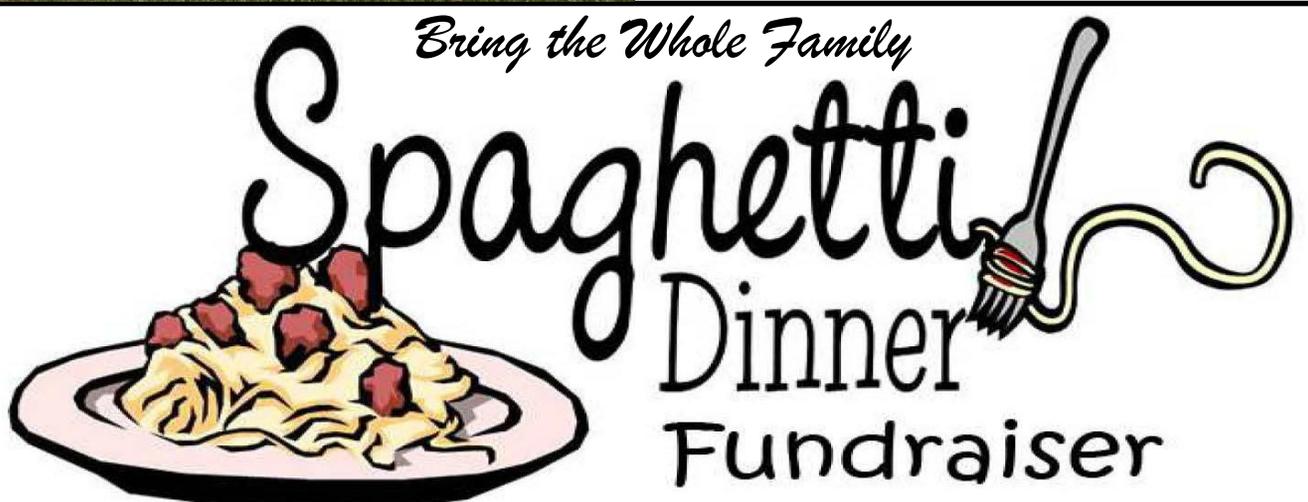
International DX Convention April 21,22,23 in Visalia, Ca.

The IDXC would like to extend an invitation to you and Members of your Club to attend the International DX Convention 2017 in Visalia, California on April 21-22-23, 2017. IDXC 2017 will be our 68th annual International DX Convention. DXers from around the world will gather once again to meet their fellow DXers, attend interesting and informative programs, see the latest in new products from the top vendors – and have a chance to win some great raffle prizes! Full details of IDXC 2017 are at this website: www.dxconvention.com



Club Officers & Directors

- President - Larry Callahan
Kf6joq kf6joq@sbcglobal.net
- 1st VP - Mario Arribas
N6abt n6abt@hotmail.com
- 2nd VP - Tim Knudston
Kk6rhy kk6rhy@yahoo.com
- Secretary - Neal Janzen
N6ygg neal@janzen.org
- Treasurer - James Johnston
Kk6dln jimthej@me.com
- Director - Johnthan Greywacz
Kk6ifs jgrewacz@bak.rr.com
- Director - Dan Hart
Ke6uhg (no email)
- Director - Tim Capehart
N7bjd fireinst@pacbell.net
- Past Pres - John Stumm
Kg6zbn jstrumm@bak.rr.com



The Spaghetti Dinner is \$6.00 per person and is all-you-can-eat, this is our annual fundraiser for our Amateur Radio Club. The meal will be prepared by Neal N6ygg and Randy Kc6zrf the club provides everything except the dessert, so we ask that someone please bring a dessert or two. The club will start serving the Spaghetti Dinner at 6:30 PM and the club meeting will follow the dinner.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser at 6:30 pm - Cost \$6.00 per person

March 23rd Club Meeting 7:00 pm -

2101 Ridge Road East Bakersfield Veterans Hall Bakersfield, CA.

Why are there so many Techs?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Recently, one of my readers asked, "Why do most people have a Technician license and not a General or Extra? Is it simply not interesting enough to get more privileges?"

This is a very interesting question, one that I've written about before. I think there are several issues at play here. In no particular order:

- * It's pretty easy to get a Tech license, so a lot of people get them just for the challenge, but really never intend to use the license.
- * Some people get a Tech license, but then find out that amateur radio isn't what they thought it was going to be.
- * Some people get a Tech license, then can't find an Elmer to help them. They lose interest and give up on ham radio.
- * Some people get a Tech license, buy an HT, and think that's all there is to amateur radio. They quickly lose interest in amateur radio, because talking on the repeaters just isn't all that interesting.
- * Some people get licenses to participate in local emergency communications or CERT organizations. There's no need for them to get anything more than a Tech license.
- * Since it's so easy to get a Tech license, even those that aren't technically inclined get them. Getting a General Class license requires a fair amount of study, and because they don't see the benefits of putting in that kind of work, they just don't bother.

I posted this question to my blog and got several interesting replies. Perhaps the most cogent was by Kenneth, W6KWF. He wrote: "The only thing General/Extra gets you is HF, which is becoming an increasingly small fraction of the possibilities of the amateur hobby. Amateurs could easily spend their whole lives moving from FM repeaters to microwave to VHF packet to EME to CERT/event support, etc, etc, without having any interest to explore what few facets of the hobby need HF privileges."

I think this is a great point. When incentive licensing was put into place in the late 1960s, HF was where the action was. Nowadays, more of the "cool stuff" is happening on VHF, UHF and microwaves. Getting additional HF privileges is not really a big deal anymore for many hams.

Yet another new license class?

Right on the heels of this discussion, the ARRL posted a news item, "ARRL Seeks Opinions Concerning Possible New Entry Level License" (<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-opinions-concerning-possible-new-entry-level-license>). According to this report, the ARRL Board of Directors set up an An Entry Level License Committee in September 2016.

The committee is gathering member input via an online member survey (<http://www.arrl.org/license-1>) and will make recommendations to the Board for possible rules changes to submit to the FCC. They note, "The result could mean changes to the Technician license, but it could also be an additional, but simpler, license with privileges that would give a newcomer a taste of most facets of ham radio from HF to VHF and UHF. The survey will be online until April 7, 2017.

If you have any thoughts on this, I urge you to contact your ARRL division director (<http://www.arrl.org/divisions>).

Minutes of Board Meeting 26 January 2017--1800 hours

In Attendance were:

PRESIDENT: Larry, KF6JOQ..... Present	Director: Dan , KE6UHG..... ..Absent
1st Vice President: Mario, N6ABT..... ..Present	Director: Jonathjan, KK6IFS..... . Present
2nd Vice President: Tim, KK6RHY.....Present	Director: Tim, N7BID..... Present
Secretary: Neal Janzen, N6YGG..... ..Present	Past President: John KG6ZBN..... Present
Treasurer: Jim Johnston, KK6DLNPresent	

Participants attending:

There was a quorum so the board could conduct the clubs business. Meeting called to order at 1900 hours by club president, KF6JOQ. Treasurers report called for.

Treasurers Report:

Jim, KK6DLN, passed around a copy of the report and it is attached and considered part of these minutes. Motion to accept the treasures report made by Neal, N6YGG and seconded by Tim, N7BJD. Motion carried.

Minutes of previous meeting called for but as there were none due to no formal meeting since October of 2016, and those minutes were previously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was a discussion of about the status of "echo link". Echo link still not ready, but should be available within 24 to 48 hours of this date. This per Dave, KG6YFZ.

Larry suggested Frank, KD6UQZ, be compensated for any costs incurred in operating and maintaining the club website. There was general agreement, but no motion at this time.

Discussion about getting some sort of memo or information to new members, Neal, N6YGG indicated that he would try to come up with something.

Old business concluded.

NEW BUSINESS

Dave, KG6YSZ reports the 146.910 repeater is in serious trouble and repairs are needed. He stated he has an antenna as the current one may be inoperable due to damage BUT a truck with a pole tow and drill are needed. He said he had a line on a truck so he would follow up. A 41 foot telephone pole has been donated. It will need to have climbing spikes attached and hauled to the site. Tabled until more information can be gained, but the consensus was it should be done. Should the 6 meter antenna be repaired or activated? This matter tabled until more information is available. Tejon Ranch has no problem with the club working at the antenna site, as per Dave.

Larry, KF6JOQ announced the "face book" page needs to be updated and used. He stated he would work on that as soon as he had access.

A committee is needed to address the clubs inventory of radios, cables, and misc. equipment. Tim, N7BID and Jim, KD6DLN stated they would work on getting an inventory. Announcements to be made on the club nets.

N6YGG, reports a receipt of sorts will be sent to membership indicating dues paid or pending. Further work will be done on a more personal id card.

Scholarship fund discussed. Larry, KF6JOQ reports that a \$500 scholarship is not very much and offers little help to a student in today's educational fields. Scholarships of thousands of dollars are what students are opting for. We may do better by diverting these funds for other club or community activities. No vote, matter tabled due to time constraints. Time limited extensive discussion.

Motion to adjourn made by Neal, N6YGG

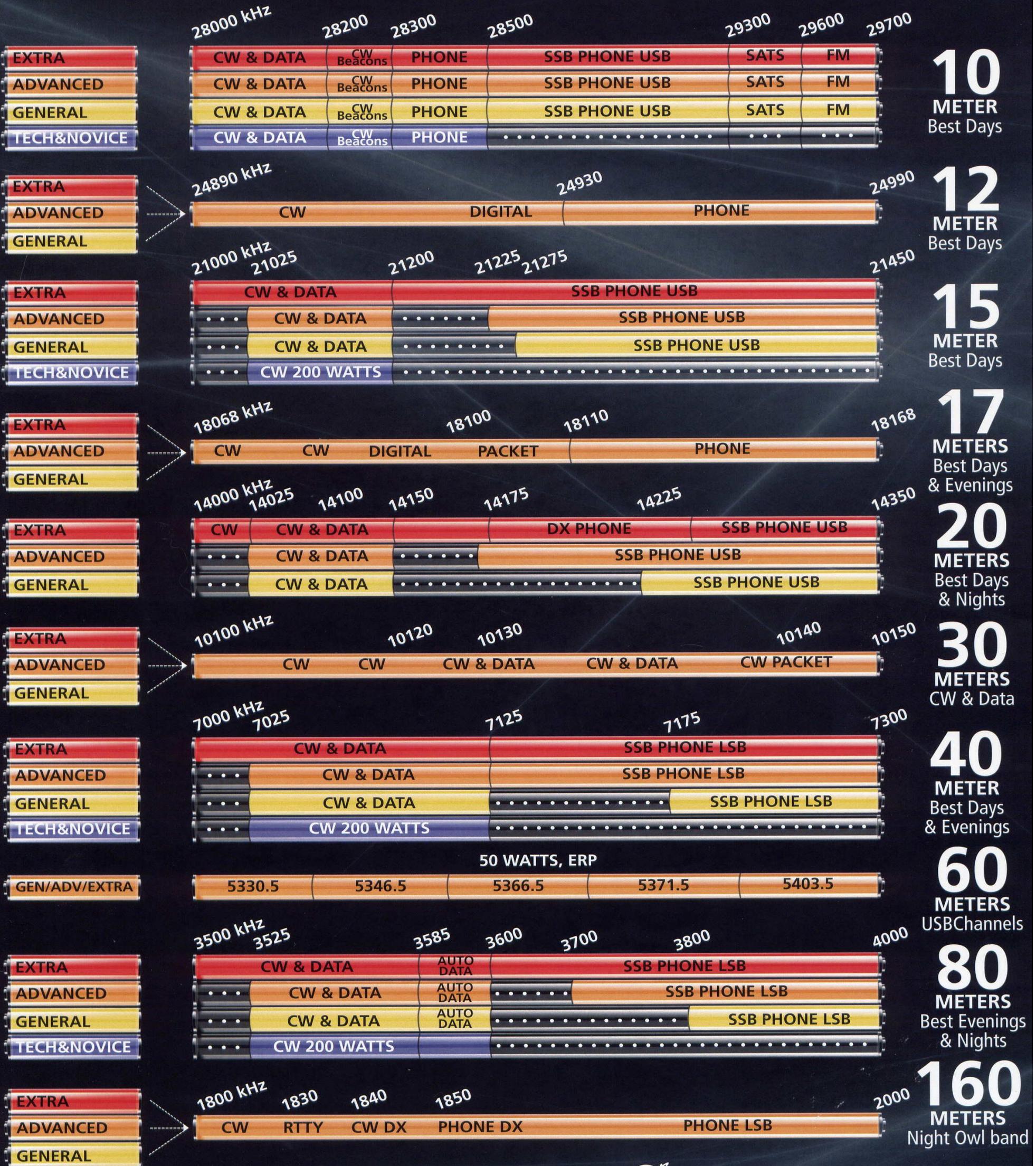
Seconded by Tim, N7BID. Board meeting closed at 1900 hrs.

By Neal Janzen, N6YGG

KENWOOD

Listen to the Future

HIGH FREQUENCY PRIVILEGES CHART



By Gordon West for Kenwood USA Corporation

1000 kHz = 1MHz (ie 7225 kHz = 7.225 MHz)
 = No Privileges Until Upgrade!



www.kenwoodusa.com

KENWOOD U.S.A. CORPORATION
 Communications Sector Headquarters

3970 Johns Creek Court, Suite 100, Suwanee, GA 30024

ADS#11109