
HAMateur Gazette

The Newsletter of The
Paso Robles Amateur Radio Club

W6LKF

Meeting Date: First Monday Each Month

Email: prarc@mindspring.com

October 6, 2002

Volume I, No.9

**Next Meeting: October 7, 2002 Centennial Park,
Paso Robles 7:30 PM**

President: Bill Mcfarlen, WA5VGI

Vice President: Tim Haueter, W6NS

Secretary: Mike Kelley, K6AJ

Treasurer: Bill Palmertson, K6BWJ

- The Newsletter is also available online at:
 - <http://force12inc.com/F12-CLUB-PRARC.htm>
 - Tom Schiller has graciously spared some space on his Force 12 site. He has also listed several club newsletters from other clubs at this link : <http://force12inc.com/F12-NEWS-CLUBS.htm>
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PRARC Meeting - Monday, October 07, 2002

The highlight of the next PRARC meeting will be a video entitled VP8THU, Southern Thule, South Sandwich Islands 2002. This video in Stereo Hi-Fi highlights the January 2002 DXpedition to the South Sandwich Islands.

"Described by Captain James Cook as "the most horrible place on Earth", the South Sandwich Islands are also one of the most logistically difficult places for a DXpedition. Using only 100 watts and verticals, this experienced team took on the South Atlantic's tough environmental challenge by heading to Southern Thule - the planet's most southerly piece of land outside the Antarctic Treaty Zone. Operating within the remains of an old Argentine base, this video documents how a super-lightweight expedition set out to bring back the fun of old-time DXpeditions!

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 7th.

73,

Bill Mcfarlen - WA5VGI
President, PRARC

- **PRESIDENT'S CORNER:**

Sorry I missed the September meeting but Linda and I were at Lake Shasta on a house boat trip for one week. The weather was outstanding, the two couples we shared the boat with were lots of fun and being outdoors for one week makes one forget about all of the aches and pains that accompany home living. Plus there is something about eating your meals outdoors that no indoor restaurant chef has ever mastered.

As I write this we just got back from another trip. This time a 5 day fishing trip up in the Sierras. We caught lots of pan size trout, encountered 4 inches of snowfall and 25 degree temperatures and I lost the biggest trout I have ever had on a hook and line. I can still see him in about 10 feet of water as he wrapped my line around the anchor rope on the boat and proceeded to slip the hook on my artificial fly. But fishing is similar to DXing. You don't always get the station but there is another day.

Fall band conditions are here for sure but I see by today's solar report (04 October) that the solar storms that plagued us all summer are still around. When I checked the packet I saw the solar flux at 145, the "k" index at 6 and the "A" index at 29. Ouch. And tomorrow is the California QSO party. Hope things improve!! We have a great video for the October meeting, so don't miss it. See you all there.

73,

**Bill - WA5VGI
President, PRARC**

- **DX News:**

As I reported last month in this column I had spent June, July and August chasing different countries in a DX sprint contest. That activity kept me active everyday we were in town and ended up an interesting exercise in beating out some terrible band conditions.

This past month my operating was much limited due to two trips: one to Lake Shasta and the other to the Sierras for trout fishing. I also returned to working on the side yard of our home burying another control line for my tower and getting the soil ready for a small sod lawn. But I did find the time to work over 300 DX stations this past month and add a few new band countries to my DX totals.

5Z4DZ (Kenya) provided a new country on 40, 17 and 12 meter CW. He had been reported on 80 meters but on the evenings I looked for him he was not active on that band. J28UN(Djibouti) was a brand new one on 10 meter SSB with a booming signal. Only problem was he operated for over 25 minutes before he gave his call. This type of operating didn't help the QRM on his frequency with people yelling for him to give his call.

EK3SA (Armenia) was booming in on 12 meter when I worked him mid-morning on CW. A number of Africans were worked including A25(Botswana), 6W1(Senegal), C91(Mozambique), 5Z4(Kenya),

**EA8(Canary Is.), ZS6(So. Africa), 5R8(Madagascar), J28(Djibouti),
7Q7(Malawi), and 3XY6(Rep. of Guinea).**

**Congratulations to Larry, W7CB on his new 2-el 80 meter yagi. It is a
new design by Tom, N6BT and a similar antenna will be replacing my 2-
el 80 meter yagi in a couple of weeks. Larry now has one of the BIG
75/80 meter signals on the west coast.**

**As always I encourage everyone to turn on that rig and have a QSO.
Whether it is across town or to some distant part of the earth makes
little difference. Just be radio-active!!! See you in the pileups.**

73,

Bill - WA5VGI
