



# THE KAISER BALUN

WALNUT CENTER, PASADENA 91188  
ENERGY DEPARTMENT (818) 405-5641  
HAM SHACK (918) 405-5370

Winter 1990

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Here it is just hours before the New Year, 1991 arrives. We hope next year will be as productive as 1990 has been. As we look back in retrospect, we see great strides in our communications capabilities. Many new volunteers have joined the Kaiser Net and are giving their time to help. Our roster has grown to over 85 volunteer licensed Amateur Radio operators.

Our communications system has grown stronger with additional equipment. 900MHz trunking radio is now playing an integral part in our disaster planning. The trunking system also has telephone interconnect capabilities for administrative decision makers. Hospital Administration, Construction and Materials Management will have equipment installed during the first quarter of 1991. All hospitals will have the same trunking system installed. Home Health may also make use of the system in the near future.

Twenty-channel 460MHz equipment was ordered for Walnut Center Communications Center to communicate with Security and others in the Southern California Kaiser system. Cross-banding will be possible with the trunking System, 460MHz and Amateur Radio. This capability will be added to other locations over time.

With computers for the "Ham Shack" now here, other modes of communications will evolve including packet radio, digital, ATV and perhaps even satellite communications. There are more than six active ham satellites in a 500 mile non-geosynchronous orbit out there for use.

Walnut Center now has a 50 foot communications tower including HF, computer, packet & trunking radio, VHF, UHF & 1.2GHz three-band radio and voice mail (telephone system). Harbor City and San Diego have about the same equipment in different stages of development. San Diego's new 40 foot tower was just ordered. Bellflower is now (or about to be) equipped with a new three-band Kenwood 941A. Thanks to BJ, N6WQE, for her efforts. With the help of Al, KA6IDE, Riverside may be the next candidate for a communications tower for their plethora of antennas. Riverside's amplifier was ordered and is due any day. Additional radio equipment for other hospitals is being considered for future expansion of the communications system.

Wall/door signs were produced to be installed at each "Ham Shack" at all hospitals. These signs will identify the "Ham Shack" location, which should be next to or near the Command Center. Security will be able to direct licensed hams to the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Center to set up operations in short order. A few spot checks indicate that an "outside"

operator would have a difficult (or impossible) time locating equipment and setting up in the case of a disaster at most locations.

Hospital Administrators, Security, Directors of Engineering and others need to be made aware of our role in the case of need. We all need to operate as a team, which is another reason for drills.

Have you ever gone to see a new piece of radio equipment (communications receiver, etc.) to find that you know how to operate only the on/off switch? This is why we have as many drills as we do, to familiarize ourselves not only with our radio equipment but proper operational protocol. It is important to be familiar with the new equipment and various modes of operation.

There is a tremendous amount of work yet to be done. With continued support from Kaiser Administration, we will continue to build and improve our radio equipment so when needed we may carry out our Amateur Radio Network mission.

73's de WA6EHD, EC

If you have any activities relating to Amateur Radio or general interest articles, please send them to the Energy Department at Walnut Center. We welcome your feedback.

#### COMMUNICATIONS DRILLS

Kaiser Hospital Net is a biweekly Wednesday drill, which meets on 147.015+MHz, PL 114.8 at 12:15 pm. Simplex frequencies may be changed in the near future

as necessary. The current list of frequencies are as follows:

HF 3.900 MHz+  
HF 7.225 MHz+

A. 144.385 MHz  
B. 146.590 MHz  
C. 147.790 MHz

#### CLUB NEWS

General meetings of the Pasadena Radio Club are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at Walnut Center in conference room 1-D at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome to join in the club activities. The frequency for the Pasadena repeater is 147.705 (-600).

#### REPORT ON THE RIVERSIDE MEETING

On Friday November 9 we converged on Park Sierra in Riverside. A few got lost on "final approach" but were directed in on 146.55. There were many new faces and a few missing old-timers that could not make the meeting. The first group to arrive was from San Diego. They formed a carpool for their trek.

Thanks to Kaiser Hospital Administration and KA6IDE, Al for their hospitality. All attendees received the latest Repeater Directory.

We received a very enlightening presentation by Captain Don Casey, Security, Casey Chel, Facilities Emergency Coordinator and Keith Higgins, WA6IYL, from Rockwell International. They have a 1.2GHZ repeater with a two meter downlink. The base stations include 2 meter, 220 and 440MHz with daily check-ins.

Rockwell's disaster plans and activities are diverse. They include communications and triage drills with the city Police and Fire Departments. Some of their plans can be used within the Kaiser system.

Tom Schipper, Regional Hospital Administration, introduced Katherine Boxer, the new Coordinator of Disaster Contingency Planning. She comes from the San Francisco area and has a working understanding of radio communications. Katherine is a potential candidate to become an Amateur Radio Operator.

WB6CGI, Don presented a design for his fused terminal box as an automotive power supply adapter. In case of an emergency, the radio could be used from an automobile cigarette lighter. This was all done for under \$10.00. Good work Don!

We have updated all information in the computer that was given to us at the conference. If by chance you found any more errors, please let us know again, it will be corrected.

Identification badges are now in--fresh off the press. They will be distributed in the near future. You will be required to travel to the nearest Kaiser Hospital to have your picture taken. The badge will be valid for a term of 3 years this time.

### RADIO CLASSES

Results are now in. Walnut Center recently "graduated" the latest code class. Amateur Radio now has 2 new Novice and 10 Technician Class licenses.

Bellflower "graduated" 9 Novice, 8 Technician and 1 General class students. Three of the new Technicians are employees of Kaiser. One is a Doctor, one a Nurse and the other works in the Pharmacy. Good work to all that organized this effort.

Bellflower and Walnut Center are planning spring classes leading to Novice and Technician licenses. If there is enough interest at Walnut Center, the class will start in April. A minimum number are required and we are striving for about 40 students. Those interested will be notified of the new class schedule when available.

### SAN DIEGO MEETING/LUNCHEON

Mark April 26th on your calendars for our semi-annual luncheon meeting at the host location, Kaiser San Diego. Maps and other information will be mailed prior to the meeting. Thanks to WB6CSH, Mike at San Diego for making the location available.

We are investigating the possibility of a van-pool and will keep you updated on any developments.

### LICENSE UPGRADES/CHANGES

Angel Garcia, from Walnut Construction Department to Novice.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

### OAKLAND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DEPARTMENT

The Northern California Region now has an official department dedicated specifically for disaster preparedness. WB6NER,

Dave Otey is the District Emergency Coordinator. The Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club's W6CX repeater on 147.060 (+600) is used for their drills. Congratulations to Dave.

On September 10, 1990, Oakland and Walnut Center made one of our first voice contact's on 40 meters. The signal was weak but very readable. This is our first contact (handshake) on HF between the two regions.

### FROSTY'S "SHORT CIRCUITS"

By Dr. Frosty Boyd, KB6FNW

- Here is hoping you will share the 1991 operating schedule with your administration. Especially those who are locked in to a conference room.

- The April 26 seminar in San Diego will be an excellent time for sharing and comparing our methods in handling the access problem, frequency problems and other tricks we are using in our operation.

- Some have suggested a "scheduled Kaiser Hospital Net" to increase the fun, skills and idea exchange from this unique operation. We solicit your ideas.

- Your efforts in obtaining the administrative personnel for the drills and having them develop department-specific scenarios has been extremely helpful in saving the time of yours truly....TNX Several have commented that it "makes it more interesting for the non-hams".

- The availability of license classes being announced, is a very positive step which brings new people in and is really

appreciated! . . . including keeping with the ham tradition.

- Roster corrections are always important. Send updates to the Energy Department at Walnut Center to be entered into the computer.

- Drill scenarios: please remind the non-ham department representative that they are to send a brief, one-page summary including non-ham names to E.F. Boyd, M.D. 4900 Sunset, Department OB-GYN X-7470 for presentation to Regional Disaster Preparedness Planning Committee.

- Again, thanks to all that have helped this last year. Without your help it would be impossible! 73's de KB6FNW.

### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

The December issue of QST, WA6OPS, April Moell (and OM, Joe) are featured in a QST Profile. She is very active in Amateur Radio and its associated disaster support communications systems. Her participation in Kaiser drills and meetings is noteworthy. April is the Director of Occupational Therapy at St Jude's Hospital in Fullerton.

### CORRECTIONS/OMISSIONS

If there are any corrections and/or changes to your mailing address, phone number, work location or call letters please forward any changes to the Energy Department at Walnut Center in Pasadena. The mailing address is:

Kaiser Permanente  
Energy Department 393 E  
Walnut Pasadena, CA  
91188-0008

AMATEUR RADIO DISASTER DRILLS  
AND SYSTEM TEST SCHEDULE  
1991

NO	DATE	DEPARTMENT	SCEN.	D/N/C	N/C
13	09JAN	MAT. MANGMNT.			
14	23JAN	SAFETY <u>ECHO CYCLE</u>			
01	06FEB	DISASTER CHR.			
02	20FEB	HOSP. ADMIN.			
03	06MAR	EMERG.DEPT			
04	20MAR	MED. GRP. ADMIN.			
05	03APR	NSG. ADMIN.			
06	17APR	SECURITY			
07	01MAY	ENGINEERING			
08	15MAY	ADMIT. DEPT.			
09	29MAY	PHARMACY			
10	12JUN	LABORATORY			
11	26JUN	PERSONNEL			
12	10JUL	PUB. AFFAIRS			
13	24JUL	MAT. MANGMNT.			
14	07AUG	SAFETY  <u>FOXTROT CYCLE</u>			
01	21 AUG	DISASTER CHR.			
02	04SEP	HOSP. ADMIN.			
03	18SEP	EMERG. DEPT.			
04	02OCT	MED. GRP. ADMIN.			
05	16OCT	NSNG. ADMIN.			
06	30OCT	SECURITY			
07	13NOV	ENGINEERING			
08	27NOV	ADMIT. DEPT.			
09	11DEC	PHARMACY			
10	18DEC	LABORATORY			
	HAPPY	NEW YEAR			
11	15JAN92	PERSONNEL			