

# The Key Click News

## Field Day 2004 June 26th & 27th

### Special points of interest:

- Field Day 2004 June 26th & 27th
- Club dues are due July 1st

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### July 1st meeting:

- **Regular meeting**
- **Install new club officers**
- **Program:** To be announced

Field Day is quickly approaching and we are putting the finishing touches on our preparations. Our field day coordinator Guss Keith KF6ZXO is hard at work making sure that everything will be ready. We will have three stations in operation, CW, SSB and the GOTA station. The set up crew will leave Madera at 1:00 PM Friday June 25th. Three extra meals will be provided for the set up crew by Tom KG6KYU at \$7.00 per person which covers all three meals. The meals are optional and will be Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast and Saturday lunch. The club will provide Saturday dinner (barrel BBQ tri-tip, beans, green salad, rolls and coffee) and Sunday breakfast (pancakes, butter, syrup and coffee). All meals will be prepared by Tom and his kitchen crew. There is plenty of parking at the North Fork Union School for RV's. If you plan to bring a tent, the dome type is best because most of the tents will be set up along the covered walk ways for shade, near the restrooms. Each station will have a tower and a tri-band beam antenna, plus wire antennas for the 40 and 80 meter bands. Last year we were number one in the SJV section and number three in the pacific division in the 2A category with 1,624 contacts for 5,402 points. Our goal is to beat our score from last year

and hit 2,000 QSO's. The station calls this year will be W6GR for CW and SSB, and possibly W6WYT or W6SSB for the GOTA station. The coordinators are:

**Field Day:** Guss KF6ZXO

**CW:** Kent K6IN w/asst. Guss KF6ZXO

**SSB:** John N6JYW w/asst. Mark AD6VN

**GOTA:** Paul W6WYT w/asst. Ben W6SSB

**Frequency Bands:** Mark AD6VN

**Kitchen:** Tom KG6KYU

**Public Relations:** Marci KG6KYT

Bring your own drinks and chairs, and please no alcohol. If you want to experience the thrill of team competition at its best, come on up and join us for all the fun and food. Field day is a fun way to learn how to handle quick exchanges of information over an extended period of time in the field, very much like handling traffic during an emergency of major proportions. We will go on the air at 11:00 AM Saturday morning and go for 24 hours straight to 11:00 AM Sunday morning. Contact the coordinators as soon as possible to reserve the time slot of your choice. See you there! 73, de AD6VN Mark.



## Club dues are due July 1st

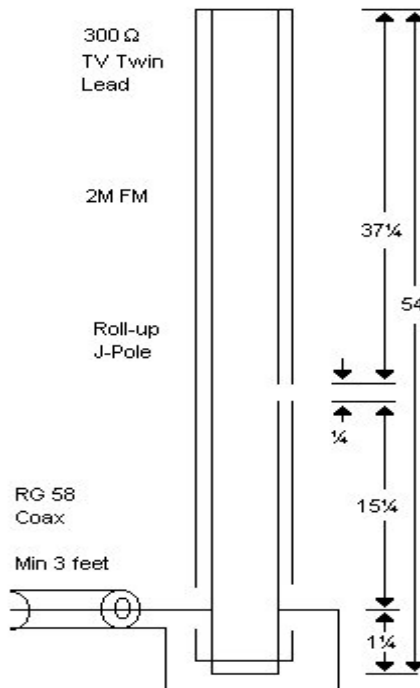
It's that time again to pay your club dues. We operate on a fiscal year from July 1st through June 30th. It is OK to send your dues in early, we will make sure it is applied to the next year and you will receive a membership card. The club dues pay for club activities, insurance, incorporation fees, repeater fund, N.A.R. C.C. fees, P.O. Box, web site domain name fee, field day, donations, and the news letters. Paying your dues on time is

very important, so the club can pay its bills and continue to provide the great service to the members and maintain the repeaters. The repeaters are used by many amateurs that travel through central California because of their great coverage. Also for many of us that live here, the repeaters are a wonderful source of communication for our families, friends and emergencies. So, please don't forget to pay your dues. We thank you and appreciate you very much!

## Tech Corner

### Roll-Up J-Pole

This 2 meter J-Pole works very well and is great for home or travel. First you will need 55 inches of twin lead wire, at least 3 feet of RG58 or RG8x coax and the proper antenna connection plug for your radio. The two wires of the twin lead are connected together at the bottom. Connect the center conductor of the coax to the long side and the outer braid to the short side. Make a hole at the top to hang your antenna.



## Events

**June 3**, Madera County ARC club meeting at 7:00 PM  
(Election of new club officers)

**June 26,27** MCARC Field Day 2004 at North Fork School

**July 1**, Madera County ARC club meeting at 7:00 PM  
(Install new club officers and club dues are due)

**July 10**, V.E. Exams in Madera, Saturday at 10:00 AM

**Aug 1**, V.E. Exams in Fresno, Sunday at 1:00 PM

**Aug 5**, Madera County ARC club meeting at 7:00 PM

**Sep 2**, Madera County ARC club meeting at 7:00 PM

**Sep 12**, V.E. Exams in Oakhurst, Sunday at 1:00 PM

**Oct 7**, Madera County ARC club meeting at 7:00 PM

**Oct 9**, V.E. Exams in Madera, Saturday at 10:00 AM

**Oct 15,16,17** Pacificon 2004 in San Ramon, Ca.

## Tuesday Net News

Mar KG6DAK has volunteered to be the Net Guru and keep the roster up to date. If you have been net control, please email Mar at her new address: fresdist@aol.com any changes to the club roster. She will be able to receive the listing in Excel or text format.

Before you take over as net control, please contact Mar KG6DAK (559) 645-5078 so she can send the updated roster to you. Initially, this may take a few turns to get the roster up to date, but we thank Mar for taking on this chore.

## Assignments

**Net Control:** *Jun.* KF6CNV (Jeff) *Jul.* KG6MXZ (Dean)  
*Nov.* KG6MXZ (Dean)

Need more signups for Net control through December 2004

**Refreshments:** *Jun.* KG6SUN (Vivian) *Jul.* K6GBD (Jean)  
*Oct.* KG6SUN (Vivian)

Need more signups for refreshments through December 2004

## Local Nets

**MCARC Net:** Tuesday at 7:00 pm on 147.180+

**Brown Sugar Net:** Wednesday at 7:00 pm on 146.940-

**10 Meter CW Net:** Wednesday at around 7:15 pm on 28.140. Good time to get code practice.

**OES Net:** Wednesday at 7:45 pm on 147.180+ Canceled

**10 Meter Phone Net:** Wednesday at 8:00 pm on 28.445

**75 Meter Phone:** Sunday at 7:00 am on 3.867

**FARC Net:** Sunday at 7:00 pm on 146.940-

Tom Jarvis KG6KYU  
Marci Jarvis KG6KYT

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Buss: (559) 226-5920  
1-888-559-5756  
Cell: (559) 930-2816

## Presidents Corner:

Hello again, I am excited about field day this year. We are going to have a great time and the food is going to be delicious. I can almost taste that barrel BBQ tri-tip now! The club continues to move forward all the time. We now have our own domain name for the club web site, it is **w6wgz.org** and we have moved to a new server. This new server supports many things that we were not able to do on qsl.net, and there are no hosting fees. The only fee is \$8.95 per year for the domain name. Now we will be able to add a guest book and other things like solar flux index reports that automatically update every three hours. That's important information for you DXer's. David KG6RZV is now the assistant web master and he will be a great help in updating and maintaining the club web site. The election of the new club officers will be held at the June 3rd club meeting and we will elect a new president. This is the end of my third year and it is time for me to

pass the gavel to someone else. It has been great serving the club along with all of the other club officers. I have accepted a nomination as one of the club directors so I can still serve as a club officer. I was inspired by Rich Campbell W6GBD during his years as club president and I wanted to continue building on what he had done. I saw great potential in our club and I want to thank all of you that have had that same vision. I am confident that our new president will continue the work we have done so the club will continue to prosper for years to come. This club was here for me when I first became a ham and I want it to be here for all the new hams as well as the seasoned amateurs in the future. If you are thinking about serving the club as an officer we will accept more nominations before the membership votes. This is my last Presidents Corner for now. I want to thank all of you for letting me serve as your president. 73, de AD6VN Mark Hammonds.

## Web Matters

You may visit our web site at the new location: **www.w6wgz.org**. The site is under constant development, be sure to visit often. If you have any suggestions and ideas, please contact Mark at ad6vn@arrl.net, at home 673-0560 or on the 147.180 repeater.

Improvements now and in development are: call sign lookup, MCARC downloadable images, current and past newsletters, local clubs in our area, license exams, and links to equipment vendors and other ham radio sites.

We are always looking for good ham links to share. Please forward any suggestions to Mark.

If you have a new or changed email address, please forward the change to Marci at tjarvis559@aol.com, Thank You.

## Club Specials !

**Polo shirts** with name and call embroidered in gold  
Shirt colors: navy, green, blue, red, hunter green,  
and black \$20.00

**Belt Buckles** with name and call, three styles  
available. Call for prices.

Call Tom or Marci at IN STYLE II see ad page 2

**Club logo badges** with name and call \$5.00  
Call Mark AD6VN (559) 673-0560

Profits from these items are donated to our club

This ad space is available for \$25.00 per year

## Madera V.E. Exam Session

You will need to bring two forms of identification: #1) social security card and #2) picture ID. If you have been issued an FRN number from the FCC, please bring it. If you are upgrading, you will also need to bring any CSCE's that you have with copies, the original and a copy of your amateur license. You can take as many test elements as you wish during the test session. The test session fee is **\$12.00** per person that will be taking exams. The test session will start at 10:00 AM Saturday Jul. 10th at the United Methodist Church 500 Sunset Ave. in Madera.

**Walk-ins only, no pre-registration is required for the session.** Please get plenty of sleep the night before, so you will be alert and ready for the exams. We look forward to seeing you there and good luck from the Madera V.E. Team. ARRL VEC

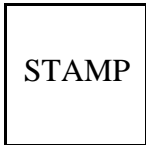
## New General Class Question Pool

That's right, the ARRL has released the new general class question pool that will become effective July 1, 2004. If you are studying for the general exam, you need to hurry. Once the question pool changes, you will have to get a new study manual. As far as the code goes, it will stay the same at 5 WPM. If you are waiting for the code to be dropped as a requirement, it could take the FCC at least 5 years to decide on that issue. So don't waste your time waiting for that to happen any time soon. If you have Ham University on your computer, you can get free upgrades for three years. That comes in handy when the question pools change. So in advance we wish you good luck on your general and code exams. Madera V.E. Team

**MADERA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

PO Box 251  
Madera  
Ca.  
93639-0251

E-mail: [ad6vn@arrl.net](mailto:ad6vn@arrl.net)



**M.C.A.R.C.**

*The Key Click News*

*Were on the Web at  
[www.w6wgz.org](http://www.w6wgz.org)*

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# Final Thoughts

This newsletter is a reflection of our club and what we wish to accomplish this year. There are programs and events that we will have this year, some of which will be discussed at the board meetings. Stay tuned.

We would like to expand the newsletter to include topics that may interest you. Please forward your ideas to Mark AD6VN or Mar KG6DAK or any of the board members.

Mark AD6VN - President and webmaster (559) 673-0560

Tom KG6KYU - Vice President (559) 645-1816

Mar KG6DAK - Secretary (599) 645-5078

Marci KG6KYT - Treasurer (559) 645-1816

John N6JYW - Director (559) 645-4735

Patti KG6OSJ - Director (559) 432-6526

**Next meeting: July 1st. 7:00 PM at:**

**United Methodist Church  
500 Sunset Ave.  
Madera, Ca.**

## MCARC Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Work # \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Year first licensed: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL member? Yes No

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want your e-mail listed on club roster? Yes No  
Individual membership \$15.00

Family membership \$20.00 please list licensed family members in same household. For more, list on separate sheet.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: MCARC  
P.O. Box 251  
Madera, Ca. 93639-0251