



Squelch Tales

A Publication of The San Diego Repeater Association, Inc.
November/December 2014

Ahead in Squelch Tales

This, the final 2014 issue of *Squelch Tales*, focuses on the final events of the year, the 2014 **SANDRA Holiday Party** and the December 2014 **Fry's Ham Operating Day**. These are image intensive articles requiring additional space and as such BOD Minutes and other usual features are not included.

Errata, mistakes, updates and shorts to previous issues of *Squelch Tales* are included as *SQ* receives input from the members and officers of SANDRA.

SANDRA Celebrates 2014

December 4 marked the day of the SANDRA 2014 Holiday Party. This, the last SANDRA event of 2014 and a joint event with FILAMARAS, the Filipino American Amateur Radio Society, is traditionally the largest SANDRA membership meeting of the year, attracting nearly one hundred guests and filling the large double room at the County Education facility on Linda Vista Road. The Holiday party represented the end of a busy SANDRA year as SANDRA members and Board members were heavily involved with the ARRL Convention held in San Diego this past September and also marked the installation of SANDRA's first digital repeater on Mt. Otay, this past summer. The meeting is a pot luck with additional SANDRA sponsored food; the pot luck contributions are the heart of the meal and certainly the most looked forward to by attendees each year, this year being no exception. The meeting is also one of the few times



Grand Prize winner Stoggie Panger, AJ6AX, being congratulated by President Barbie Flinn, WA6URS.



A land office business in ticket sales – photo by Bob Avilla, N6AVR.

many SANDRA members actually meet face-to-face rather than at the other end of an RF signal. As a result there was a great deal of boisterous conversation and celebration.

The meeting is always scheduled to start at 6:00 pm with dinner commencing at 6:30 pm.

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Entrance to the Fry's store in Murphy Canyon – photo by Joe Acevedo, N6SIX.

Fry's Ham Operating Day

Saturday December 13th was a blustery winter day with threatening rain showers following the cold front that had passed through earlier in the day. Despite the weather, San Diego hams representing local amateur radio organizations set up and operated from the parking lots of the San Diego and San Marcos Fry's Electronics stores. Organized by the Palomar Amateur Radio Club and the Six Shooters ARC, this was the third successive Fry's Ham Radio Operating event to take place in the past 18 months. The purpose of the event is to expose the public to the benefits of amateur radio activities, to potentially stir interest in increasing public participating in amateur radio and to expose newly licensed amateurs to the various clubs



Ham events need antennas. The El Cajon Amateur Radio Club tower.



Joe Acevedo N6SIX at the Six Shooters ARC booth.

and activities available in the area. The event is envisioned to take place semi-annually in the spring and late fall. Ed Felter (AI6O) and Joe Acevedo (N6SIX) organized the San Diego Fry's event for the Six Shooters ARC.

Despite December 13th being in the middle of the Christmas shopping season and the blustery weather, seven amateur radio organizations set up booths and portable stations in the north-east corner of the Murphy Canyon Fry's parking lot.

Please turn to page 5.



Some of the fare available to attendees - photo N6AVR



The hungry throng lining up to eat – photo N6AVR.



At last, food and companionship.

SANDRA Celebration – contd.

The past several years, the rooms have not been available on time, resulting in a delayed start of the festivities. However, this year the rooms were available as scheduled, were set up by 6:00 pm and the meal started on the dot of 6:30.

Unfortunately, many guests familiar with the recent spate of late starts were still arriving with their pot luck contributions well past 7 pm, dragging dinner out and delaying the start of the meeting.

The highlight of the meeting is always the drawing for prizes. Every attendee is given a prize ticket upon entering the meeting and everyone is allowed to buy as many additional tickets as their wallets and good sense will allow. Several individuals intent on winning, made sizable ticket purchases and they were not disappointed, as they all won multiple times. The strategy was definitely born out for those who tried it, which should be considered by the rest of us for next time.

President Barbie Flinn, WA6URS, opened the meeting by explaining a change in drawing for the grand prize; the grand prize would be drawn after all other prizes had been claimed and all tickets would be returned to the hopper so that every ticket had an equal chance of being chosen. In this way everyone had their proportionate chance of winning, the ones with the multiple ticket strategy having the greatest chance of winning. The Grand Prize, a Kenwood TM-V71A 2meter/440 Mhz transceiver, was won by Stoggie Panger, AJ6AX (Stoggie did not employ the high-volume ticket purchase strategy).

After all the prizes had been awarded, including all of the potted poinsettias on the tables, volunteers cleaned the remains of the food and decorations and attendees said their good byes until next year. Additional pictures on the bottom of page 6. -{SQ}-

Please turn to the next page.

Prize Winners			
Call	Prize	Call	Prize
W2IRI	Multimeter	N6WHK	Soldering Station
K2BEN	Antenna	WD6APP	\$25 HRO Gift Card
W5COM	WeatherLube	Ai6O	\$25 HRO Gift Card
KJ6BYF	Power Bank	KE6THZ	Soldering Station
N6VVY	\$25 Visa Gift Card	AG6AB	\$25 Visa Gift Card
KE6THZ	\$25 HRO Gift Card	WA6URS	Multimeter
AG6IO	Repeater Directory	W6JLE	Screwdriver Set
AI6O	\$25 HRO Gift Card	K6WD	Multimeter
N6WHK	Antenna	KJ6BYF	Multimeter
WD6APP	Gift Certificate	N6KGZ	25 foot Tape Measure
AF6YU	25 foot Tape Measure	KG6IYN	Multimeter
N6AVR	25 foot Tape Measure	N6JOJ	Screwdriver Set
KG6IYU	Multimeter	AG6IO	Multimeter
Angie DeLisle	Screwdriver set	N67WHK	25 foot Tape Measure
KG6IYN	Comet 6PQ	AF6YU	Multimeter
WA6YBX	ARRL Handbook	KJ6BYF	Multimeter
W2IRI	Toolkit	WA6MHZ	Multimeter
WA6URS	Yaesu FT 60 R	WA0AVS	25 foot Tape Measure
AI6CX	Yaesu FT 60 R	K6WD	Multimeter
W2IRI	Baofeng UV5R	WA6MHZ	Multimeter
AI6O	WeatherLube	KK6DZA	Multimeter
KG6EJU	Power Bank	AI6CX	Multimeter
KG6IYN	Repeater Directory	KI6VIA	Multimeter
Grand Prize Stoggie Panger, AJ6AX - Kenwood TM-V71A 2 meter / 70 cm Transceiver			

Fry's Ham Operating Day – continued from page 2.



First time attendee 440 Hangout -photo N6SIX.



Red Cross – photo N6SIX.

Nearly 100 visitors came to watch the operators and talk about ham radio. Several new hams were introduced to local clubs and many people introduced to ham radio. In addition, some long time local hams turned out to meet and greet fellow hams.

The San Diego Six Shooters ARC is one of the most active local amateur radio organizations with monthly technical meetings that routinely draw attendances of 50 or more people. Outgoing president Ed Felter (AI6O) and Vice President Joe Acevedo (N6SIX) have done an exemplary job of organizing the club and attracting membership participation, a feat that they credit primarily to a solid monthly program. Bruce Krypton (KG6IYN) is the incoming 2015-2016 Six Shooters president; officer terms run for two years with the president and vice president terms staggered to maintain continuity. Six Shooters operates a six meter repeater located on Mt. San Miguel with a frequency of 53.580 MHz, a negative offset of 500 Khz and a PL of 103.5. This repeater is linked to the N6LXX repeaters system connecting throughout the southwest US, Texas, and Oklahoma. There are four weekly Sixshooter Nets, Monday at 8 PM local on 50.200 USB, Wednesday at 7 PM local using the 53.580 repeater (offset – 500 Khz, PL 103.5), Friday at 8 pm local on the 53.580 repeater and Sunday at 9 pm local on 146.910 (negative 600 Khz offset and PL of 100.0) all amateurs are invited. (Continued next page).



REACT – photo N6SIX



Convair 220 has been to each Fry's day.

Fry's Ham Operating Day – continued from previous page.

New to Fry's Ham Operating Day were Roy Gallagher (KR6RG) and John Talbot (K6XI) who operate five repeaters on Mt. Otay and Mt. Palomar. They go by the names San Diego Community Open Repeaters and also 440 Hangout. They are principally focused on getting new hams up and running. They also support REACT, the Midway, CERT, ARES The San Diego Blood Bank and any organization that asks. Most active is their 449.440 (minus 5 MHz, 107.2 tone) repeater where they welcome everyone but request that operators be respectful and operate professionally. Roy may be contacted by email at KR6RG@cox.net.



El Cajon ARC – photo N6SIX.



One way to keep dry – photo N6SIX.

Despite the the weather and the Christmas shopping season being in full swing, this Fry's Operating event drew a great deal of interest and hopefully furthered peoples interest in amateur radio. The next event should take place in April 2015, keep it in mind as an enjoyable way to spend a Saturday. -{SQ}-

Additional Pictures from SANDRA's 2014 Celebration



The President wins one – President Barbie Flinn WA6URS with Bruce Krypton KG6IYN.



A two-fer.

Errata, Corrections, Amplifications and Shorts: This sections acknowledges errors and omissions or allows additions to previous *SQ* issues. We rely on feedback from the readers – please write.

Repeater Status:

Otay UHF 449.200 repeater - The repeater is putting out micro-watts, again. When the new repeaters from Yaesu are received, one will be programmed for 449.200 and installed on Otay. It will be run at reduced drive power and amplifier output. The notch cavity that has been place in the transmit feed-line will be removed. Then the defective repeater will be sent to Yaesu to see if they will again fix it under warranty. The second repeater will be programed for Laguna and attempt to be interfaced with an RLC controller on the bench. As the RLC interface is worked out it will be applied to the Otay repeater.

No change in any other Otay repeater.

Lyons - No changes this past month.

Sharp Hospital - No changes this past month.

Laguna - No changes this past month.

Hi-Pass - Paint has been ordered for painting the enclosure and should arrive next week or more. A paining trip is being scheduled. There will be no disruption in operations while the painting is being done.

Kearney Mesa - No changes this past month.

No Mail received this month.

Callsign	Location	Input	Output	Callsign	Location	Input	Output
WB6WLV	Mt. Otay	146.040	146.640	WB6WLV	Mt. Laguna	444.500	449.500
WB6WLV	Mt. Otay	222.460	224.060	K6GAO	Hi-Pass	144.680	145.280
WB6WLV	Mt. Otay	444.200	449.200	W6SS	Lyon's Peak	146.865	146.265
WB6WLV	Mt. Otay	1270.300	1282.300	WA6AIL	Sharp Hospital	147.285	147.885
WB6WLV	Mt. Laguna	147.750	147.150	WB6WLV	San Diego	442.320	447.320
WB6WLV	Mt. Laguna	222.600	224.200				

All SANDRA repeaters use PL 107.2

SANDRA NETS

- Sunday 8:00 P.M. Mt. Otay Repeater
- Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Mt. Laguna Repeater

GUIDELINES SUMMARY

SANDRA, Inc. operates their repeaters for service in the San Diego area. The policy of the organization is that the repeaters are available for all licensed amateur radio operators to use so long as applicable rules and regulation are observed, whether members of SANDRA or not.

SQUELCH TALES

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The SANDRA membership meets the first Thursday in the Months of March, June, September and December. Meetings start at 7:00 P.M. and are located at the San Diego County Education Center, 6401 Linda Vista Road, San Diego. Board meetings take place on the first Thursday of January, February, April, May, July, October and November. All SANDRA members are encouraged to attend.

SANDRA, Inc.
 San Diego Repeater Association
 P.O. Box 81103
 San Diego, CA 92138

