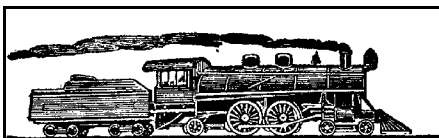




2003 Year in Review

Do you have your copy of "Rick's Notes?"



Trainer's Corner

LEARNING BY DOING

You know how sayings go. The first time you quote someone, you say, "as John Doe said in 1984," Then, after you've quoted John Doe a few times, you say, "As it has been said," A few times like this, and now you are at, "Like I've always said,"

Like I've always said, tell me and I'll forget. Show me and I'll remember. Involve me and I'll understand.

This is a great rule of thumb for any trainer. It is also at the heart of our training activities program. Providing event support to our local communities allows us to serve our communities as we develop, and hone our skills.

From the Rio Run on New Year's Day to Straight Key Night on New Year's Eve, dozens of events and activities give each of us plenty of opportunity to be *Radio Active* and enjoy our hobby. Doing so, we serve our communities and gain valuable experience.

The key to success for both event support and an effective training program is participation. I encourage you to listen to our nets. Check out club websites. Listen carefully when event leaders ask for volunteers. When you hear of an event that interests you, will give you experience you need, or will help you pick up new skills, step up and volunteer. Of course, have fun!

If you need some guidance or aren't sure whom to contact, email me at kn6fr@westlog.com. I will help you "Discover Ham Radio", and "Get Radio Active". 73 de KN6FR

Rickochets: *My little editorial comments.* Things change. So has "Rick's Notes." If I had the time and money to publish it in hard copy or paper, I would do that every month. Since I have neither, I depend more on our changed communications models. Email and web publishing does an excellent job of accurately and quickly disseminating plans, news, requests, and stories. Still, I believe a paper copy that you can hand someone has value far in excess to that of the paper or the words on the page. For that reason, I will continue to write and publish Rick's Notes in printed copy as well as putting them on the web at www.Ricksnotes.com or www.Westlog.com. I hope you enjoy reading and sharing *Rick's Notes*.

For Your Consideration: Ham radio has been an important part of our nation's ability to respond to emergencies since wireless communications began. This is the "service" part of ham radio. This includes ARES, RACES, DSW, and our public service functions. Ham radio is also a hobby. This is the "fun" part of ham radio. We earn the phenomenal privileges we have with our hobby by our support of the amateur radio service mission. Our local organizations are focused on the part or function at which they are best. ECTAR, Inc. is focused on its core competency of public service. NPSARC is focused on its core competency of hobby activities. CARTOG supports all hams in coordinating and executing the training and operations missions. Thanks for your support. CUL de KN6FR es dah dah di di dit di di di dah dah



The 2003 Big Sur International Marathon was April 27. We prepared for the BSIM for over a year. Thanks to you volunteers, we came through, providing exemplary service to the marathon and everyone involved in the 2003 event.

Although it is difficult to count all who go downrange, we know we provided command and control, communications, and coordination for over 14,000 people and thousands of vehicles traversing the course throughout the day.

We did not get our wireless network up as we were busy on the computers from early Saturday morning. APRS and packet did not make it this year either. Our intelligence cell and all other stations proved that our plan is the right plan for the event. To each and every one of you who was involved, thank you from the bottom of my heart. Agn, tnx es 73 de KN6FR

You are invited to CARTOG's pizza bash every month on the 3rd Thursday at 6 PM Marina Round Table Pizza

RIX TRIX

Cheap, useful ideas for your hamshack or toolbox. Or a story.



From Whence We Came

I have been asked to tell the tale of "Rick's Notes" (RN) and how it came about. I will do that here.

I have written "Rick's Notes" since high school, the first written at FDR in Lima, Peru. As a ham radio publication, it started as a flyer in 1992. No copies of those remain as far as I know. On 12 Aug 93, "Trainers' Corner" hit the streets as a periodical, coming out weekly to monthly. I lost my copies of all 1995 editions. So, all editions through 22 Oct 94 became Volume I.

On 1 Feb 96, the first "Rick's Notes" to bear that title became Volume II, Number 1. Volumes II thru IV were published monthly. Volume 5, Number 1 started quarterly publication. Volume 6, Number 2 was the first 12-page RN.

Volume 7 became the first annual edition at 14 pages. Volume 8, Number 1 is the 2002 plans issue at 24 pages and over 3,500 published thanks to a grant from the BSIM.

Volume 9, Number 1, is a look back at 2003. Not a single plan changed from 2002 to 2003 except for event dates. And that's the rest of the story.

2003 In Pics — What a Year!



2003 started in the holiday season with CARTOG's pizza bash, ECTAR's Christmas dinner, and the NPSARC gift exchange. The PAARA/FARS Winter Banquet (17 Jan) featured Tom Schiller N6BT (Force 12) with his fascinating talk on Dxpeditions.



On March 5, our Radiocamp buddy, Winnie passed away. We miss her, here with Jenny.



In 2003, NPSARC meetings were hosted by the Veteran's Transition Center.



The MS Walkathon receives command, control, and communications support from local hams. KG6KCO, KE6VNN, KE6VNG, and AE6HZ chill out at Lovers Point.



KE6NLP on a break from BSIM action at Staging—our alternate CP, alternate NCS, Intel Center, and logistics base.

More of 2003 — What a Year!



Staging, the 2003 Big Sur International Marathon. The BSIM receives command, control, communications, and intelligence (C3I) support from local hams, coordinated by CARTOG.



WV1B handles the net at Net Control for the PG Triathlon, an olympic qualifier event. Hams provide support at the swim, and along the bike and running courses.



Steve KB6GNG manning the ECTAR table at Macy's for their Benefit Shopping Day. ECTAR, a 501.c.3 received enough funds to buy a ham radio system for CDF.



Hams prepare for emergencies throughout the year. In 2003, we just missed being in the middle of one when firefighters stopped the uncontrolled burns at Fort Ord just short of Gen Moore Road.



The 2003 PG Marching Band Festival featured dozens of bands, hundreds of busses, thousands of participants, thousands of spectators, and ham radio. The PGMBF provides us with an outstanding training opportunity as we serve our local community.

What's UP?



- o Weds, ECTAR net 7:00. ARES net 7:30. NPSARC net 8:00, all PM
- o First Thursday, monthly, 7 PM, ECTAR Meeting, Grace Comm. Church
- o Second Thursday, monthly, 7 PM, NPSARC Club Meeting, VTC, SP 400
- o Third Thursday, monthly, 6 PM, Marina Rnd Table Pizza, CARTOG pizza bash
- o First Sat, monthly, 8 AM, NPSARC Breakfast, tba
- o Second Saturday monthly, Mar – Oct, 6 am to 1 pm, Electronics Flea Mart
- o Last Saturday, April: Setup Staging, HF and support operations BSIM.
- o Last Sunday, April: Big Sur International Marathon.
- o February last Saturday: RadioFest
- o May—Nov, tba, Radio Camp-Vets' Park
- o Jun 4th full weekend, ARRL Field Day
- o July 4th Parade Support-AM
- o July 4th Fireworks support-Monterey-PM
- o Aug 1st weekend, Nat'l LighthouseWeek
- o Aug 3rd weekend, Int'l Lighthouse Week
- o Oct tbd ARRL SET/Radio Camp & BBQ
- o Nov 1st Saturday, 7 am to 11 pm, PG Marching Band Festival Support
- o Dec 31 – 1 Jan, Straight Key Night
- o See *Rick's Notes*, 2004 for full list.

VE & Testing Update

Laurel VE: Moose Lodge. Preregistration required. *info:* email WV1B, parker@ece.nps.navy.mil Next exam date, time, and location tbd.

Sunnyvale VEC: \$10.00 exam fee. For information: The Internet is the best source for exam information. For exam dates, times and locations, visit: <http://www.amateur-radio.org/> This site also has an excellent list of links including practice exams and much more information.

ARRL VEC: Exam fee \$10.00. ARRL exam info, visit: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml> Search on your zipcode and you will find sessions that meet your needs.

Rick's Notes is distributed throughout Central California and to students and presentation attendees. 500 to 1500+ copies of each issue are distributed. Thanks to all of you for your support. A special thanks goes to the BSIM for their great support of WestLog and CARTOG training programs in science, technology, business, and ham radio.


Thanks to all you supporters, sponsors, and others who participate in our programs, events, activities, and training courses. Without you, we could not support our communities as we do.

Support Morse Code

CARTOG and I support Morse Code through training, events, HF radio camps, and other activities. The FISTS CW Club, North American Chapter of the International Morse Preservation Society, is an organization whose purpose is to do just that. For only \$15 annually, you can belong to this club. Contact KN6FR (FISTS #3965) for info or a membership form.



We Support KNOW Code

 **QUESTIONS?** Ask any CARTOG member or call KN6FR, at 831 394-2347, (leave message), or fax to 394-6234. Email: kn6fr@westlog.com or kn6fr@arrl.net. Snailmail: CARTOG; 1372 Vallejo Street; Seaside, CA 93955-5631.

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