



Loma Linda University Amateur Radio Club **NEWSLETTER**

1947 - 1997 OUR 50th YEAR

NOVEMBER 1997

W6 'EFF ZED VEE' - A THING OF THE PAST Make Way for K6LLU

By: Burton Briggs, KI6BB

As most of you know, we have a new call sign for the Loma Linda Amateur Radio Club, that is if you have been using our repeaters. So, here is the "rest of the story".

During the past 5 years the Loma Linda University Amateur Radio Club has participated three times in the "Field Day" activities of the ARRL. It was in the second of these field day events, which was held behind Loma Linda City Hall, that I first participated. At about 0200 hrs. Sunday morning, I came to the conclusion that W6FZV was a very difficult call sign to repeat over and over and over: W6FZV, W6FZV, W6FZV, W6FZV.

This reaction was confirmed several times by contacts who would ask again for a repeat of our call sign or would get

tongue-tied trying to repeat it quickly-as is done during such an event.

Suddenly, a station with the call sign of K1LLU answered my CQ. "WOW", I said to myself, "that is the call sign (or something like it) our club should have". I told him so, and his reply was "good luck". Don't know if he was talking about the call sign or the number of contacts we hoped to make during the Field Day exercise.

A year or so later the Vanity Call Sign Program was begun by the Federal Communication Commission and the officers of LLUARC agreed to having the trustee applying for a new call sign for the club. Three things had to be accomplished: 1) find an available and appropriate call sign, 2) keep a watchful eye and ear for the opening of Gate 3 (the gate for advanced licensed amateurs), and 3)

submit the application. Gary Foster, KK6ZP; Gary Eldridge, KC8UD; and Harold Heydenfeldt, AB6RN, kept checking for the FCC announcement.

I found two call signs which were not assigned and were felt to be desirable for the club--K6LLU and KA6LL. Harold obtained and filled out the FCC form 610V. He also obtained the Express Mail envelopes which guaranteed next day

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November Meeting

**Guest Presentation by:
Randy Hammock, KC6HUR
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
Amateur Radio Club**

"NASA, JPL & HAM RADIO"

**Sunday
Nov. 9, 7:00 PM
LLU Medical Center**

...de KC6ZCR

Well, the results are in! In the November 1997 issue of QST, the 1997 Field Day results were printed. We are listed in the 4A category of operators under Loma Linda ARC. While we didn't get the highest number of points, our presence was added to the large number of operators who participated. I'll look for your participation in next year's Field Day.

If you hold a LLUARC, W6FZV name badge, you might want to get a new one. The new call sign of the Loma Linda University Amateur Radio Club is K6LLU. As time goes along, we will be changing cards, logos and repeater messages. Just for the fun of it, I decided to look on the web to see what other clubs have done for new call signs. Here are a few:

- K6ARN - Kaiser Permanente Amateur Radio Network
- K6CBS - CBS Amateur Radio Club in Hollywood
- K6CPU - INTEL Emergency Amateur Radio Service
- WI6EEE - IEEE Amateur Radio Club of Southern CA
- NA6SA - NASA Dryden Amateur Radio Club at Edwards

For those who can "surf the web", check our web site for the latest events, information and recent past issues of the newsletter. I want to thank Scott Andress, KD6OTX for maintaining the site. Our address is: <http://www.llu.edu/llu/lluarc>.

I want to thank Moe KK7KC (KC7AXB) for helping me with the Loma Linda fair. Moe and I joined the Redlands RACES group and the San Bernardino Emergency Communications truck in promoting amateur radio for various applications like emergency communications, ATV and HF. Gary, KK6ZP and Fred, KD6SJO with the Loma Linda RACES group were in charge of communications with the parade.

As for our next meeting, the November 9th featured speaker will be Randy Hammock, KC6HUR. He is the president of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory Amateur Radio Club in Pasadena. He will give us an insight of NASA, JPL and ham radio. I'll see you in rooms A605A&B in the Schuman Pavilion at 7pm. The officers will gather before the meeting in the board room at 6pm.



Two-Meter Nets

145.24 - Arrowhead Repeater Group
Tuesdays, 7:00 PM

147.735 - LLU Amateur Radio Club
Tuesdays, 9:00 PM

Loma Linda University Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1239
Loma Linda, CA 92354
Officers

President

Dominic Mercado.....KC6ZCR

Vice President

TBA

Secretary/Treasurer

Harold Heydenfeldt.....AB6RN

Administrative Liaison

Bill Hooker.....WG6A

Club Station License Trustee

Burton Briggs.....K16BB

Technical Committee Chair

Gary Foster.....KK6ZP

Education Committee Co-Chair

Rolland Crawford.....KD6IBH

Moe DeLeon.....KK7KC

Disaster Committee Chair

Liviu Imbir.....KD6OTU

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LLUARC provides public service communications for Loma Linda University and Medical Center and the community at large; assists individuals in obtaining amateur radio licensure and provides for mutual fellowship of amateur radio operators who are associated with LLU and LLUMC.

LLUARC owns and operates repeaters on 147.735, 145.24 (ARG) and 446.875 Mhz, all PL tones 118.8 Hz.

Dues: \$25 / yr LLUARC, \$20 / yr Arrowhead Repeater Group (ARG), \$40 / yr for both. Students or additional family members of the same household are half price.

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delivery or our money back.

About one week before the opening date, both Harold and I found a notice on the internet from the FCC stating that they would be accepting electronic filling for the vanity call signs and that the electronic applications would be processed before the paper applications. The one caveat was that they would be waiting 10 days for the electronic filers to send their application fee before processing the application. Would this put our application that much further behind all the others and reduce our chance for the wanted call signs?

We briefly discussed our options and decided to proceed with the US Postal Service. When the date was announced for the opening of gate 3, Harold dutifully mailed the application the day before, so that it would arrive the next morning on opening day. Well, when the return receipt was delivered to Harold, he called the Postal Service to check as

to the time and day that the application was delivered. The good old US Postal Service delivered it two days later, rather than the next day. What a let down. Now our application would be that further behind all the others. (However, we did get back our \$10.52 postage).

Now came the waiting. August passed. September passed. Carolyn and I had planned some vacation time, during the first of October. As yet we had not received any correspondence from the FCC. Harold kept checking the Ham Radio Web Sites, which were posting the new call assignments the day after they were issued.

No new assigned calls for either the club or for the trustee (I also submitted a 610V application in parallel with the club).

Upon returning home from vacation I immediately began sorting through the STACKS of mail and found two envelopes from the FCC. Inside each was a new license with the first

Upcoming Events:

NOVEMBER MEETING

Sunday, Nov. 9, 7 PM

605 A&B Schuman Pavilion

LLU Medical Center

talk in on 147.735 (118.8)

LLUARC Officers Meeting

Sunday, Nov. 9, 5:30 PM

Board room in Schuman Pavilion

LLU Medical Center

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS:

670 Colton Ave (between D & E)

on Nov. 20 and Dec. 18

5:00pm code / theory

Contact Harold, AB6RN

days 825-7136 / eves 685-6073

choice of call signs for each application--K6LLU and KI6BB. Even a week later, the Web sites still hadn't posted the new call assignments. It would seem that this time 'snail mail' was faster than 'e-mail'. So now you know "the rest of the story".

Help Keep the Club Alive - Remember to Renew

By: Harold Heydenfeldt, AB6RN

November has arrived so it is time to take care of your membership renewal. Please examine the mailing label and make any necessary changes.

Also advise of any up-grades or call sign changes. If you have a daytime phone number other than your home for club business, that would be useful.

Also, an e-mail address would permit an easy way to contact you.

Thanks to Fred, KD6SJO, all of the 1998 membership cards are ready and laminated and will be available as soon as the renewal is completed.

Renewals may be made easily by mail and I will send the receipt and card with the next mailing or at a meeting.

If you joined during 1997 with the full annual fee, give me a call by phone or radio and I'll give you the credit amount to apply to your renewal.

Thanks to everyone for the prompt response that was received for the 1997 renewals, and I'm sure it will be repeated for the coming year.

