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DECEMBER 1997

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DREW PUSHIE VE6HGW
MARC LIST COORDINATOR:
LEWIS OSBORN KC7MZ
E-MAIL CHECK-INS:
DOLLIE BATCHELDER KD6ERC
HF NET CONTROL:
KEN EDWARDS N6KBI
440 NET CONTROL:
BOARD/STAFF
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR:
MICHAEL MERCADO KM6NP

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

First off this time I want to explain this newsletter article. It is not in any chronological order or probably does not cover everything it should. I am stressed out. I've had two brand new computers crash in the last week and now there is a bad cold to deal with. Then there is the 12 mile trips to Best Buy and back every couple of hours to take software or whatever down to them. It's impossible to keep any continuity or train of thought process. So bear with me this time around.

Since we are no longer doing the MARC net on 2-meters, and are using the SCARA closed 440 system to do our Wednesday MARC net, we need to remind everyone, that if they are not a paid-up SCARA member they can not talk on the 440 system anytime except during the MARC net. We've only had two incidents where non-SCARA members called me on 440 other than net time. Whereas, I politely told them I would call them on the twisted pair and then explained to them what our agreement with the SCARA owners is. No big deal, but we don't want to get off on the wrong foot with this great system that allows us to use it on Wednesday evenings and for our charity events. Our number of check-ins jumped up already, so it is working.

The CTCSS of 100 MHz is really doing it's job for us in the packet area. We haven't heard any packet racket since the day we added the CTCSS to the MARC simplex frequency. We love

it. Why we waited and suffered for two years, I'll never know.

Last Wednesday night one of the SCARA owners, Michael KM6NP duplexed our MARC 2-meter simplex frequency to the whole SCARA 440 system so we could talk to those members with only 2 meters as well, or even better then we could using the 2-meter repeater. At least now we don't have anyone jamming us.

Talking about Michael KM6NP, please note that he has agreed to be the communication coordinator for MARC. He has been ever since we started using the SCARA system for our charity events. We just decided to ask him if he wanted to make it official, and he accepted. So Michael has been added to the MARC newsletter head. Welcome aboard Michael, nice to have you on our staff.

N6KBI Ken and KE6WCA Sue are back on the air again with the MARC HF net. The QRM has been so bad lately that I can't hear them. But I know others have and are checking in with Ken. See his HF report elsewhere in the newsletter.

This time of the year is so wonderful and we have so much to be thankful for. We do have so many loving, caring people in MARC. You know that by how many volunteers show up to work our charity events. So when Thanksgiving Day arrived we surely did give thanks. It was a splendid day with my son and his family, my three grandsons, and other members of Sharon's family. Not only that but there was plenty of food. We tried to talk

Sharon out of the turkey carcass, but to no avail.

Yesterday I received a copy of next year's SCMA Three Flags route. The 1998 Three Flags Classic will start in Tijuana, Mexico and ends in Kimberly, BC, Canada. The drawing for the 300 participants will be held Saturday January 31st. All entrees must be sent in. No same day registrations will be accepted at the drawing. The Three Flags Classic is always held over Labor Day weekend.

MARC membership donations will remain the same as last year. Ten dollars will guaranteed ten MARC newsletters.

The only time we do the newsletter for two months is June/July & August/September. And that's riding season, folks.... We will be on the road again. Last year everyone on the MARC List/Digest were able to keep track of the whereabouts of yours truly by checking their e-mail a couple times a week. The Toshiba Laptop really got a workout last summer, as it made all but one trip with us last summer. And that was because some stupid thing I did to it to crash it.

The Challenge Cup Relay Race is approaching faster than I care to think about. It will be held the weekend of April 25th and 26th. The finish is at the Tropicana in Las Vegas this year. Bonnie and I have reservations there for Friday, Saturday and Sunday April 24th, 25th & 26th. When making reservations at the Tropicana they will tell you they are full, but tell them you have a code #SBVCC 98 and you will get a room.

On Wednesday November 19th your board members attended the second meeting for the 1998 CCRR(Baker to Vegas). Last year there were 187 teams entered. This year they could have as many as 215 teams running. That's 4700 runners and at least twice that many support people and volunteers. For a total of well over 14,000 people in Las Vegas just for this one event.

See the report on this years Love Ride elsewhere in the newsletter. It was a spectacular affair to say the least and KE6PSD Gary and his trusty assistant KE6RDL Pattie, did a great job getting the motorcycles and communications set up and on line. It just gets better every year. Our hats are off to Gary and Pattie for another job well done.

Our Saturday morning get togethers at Huntington Honda are always a pleasant way to meet fellow ham radio/motorcyclists. The coffee is free and the big apple turnovers are even better. Last Saturday DeWitt, Rodger (the owner) Billy and several others got to telling jokes and it was really a blast. Those of us who are not good at telling jokes surely did enjoy all the laughs they created. Everybody else was looking at us wondering what was going on. We were just having too much fun. There are always seven to fifteen MARC members there each Saturday.

The following message was sent out via e-mail twice last month. Once to the MARC List/Digest and once to everyone we have e-mail addresses for. So almost everyone received it twice, except a handful of MARC members who are not subscribed to the MARC LIST/DIGEST. The message being; Drew VE6HGW has a new MARC Web Site address. It's <<http://www.calgary.shaw.wave.ca/~dpu.shie/marc/>>. The new address is already up and running and the old MARC web site address will be dropped December 23rd.

The reason we wanted to get that message to everyone was to ask them to be sure to take a look at any information that concerns them on the MARC Web page. Check it for any errors or information that needs to be up-graded. In order for Drew to continue to do the work he does and keep it correct, he must have everyone's cooperation. **"PLEASE" TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR MARC Web Site information, and send**

any corrections to Drew at <vc6hgw@shaw.wave.ca>. Thank you....

Also we got the message back as undeliverable on the following MARC members. Jan N2AE, Gary KE6BIT, Chuck KG9CT, John KE6GCA, Tim KE6GLW, Dick KD6IKX, Jim KC6OAU, Bill KD6QB, Michael N6UBW, ShEron KC6ZSH, Gary KC6ZUN, John KA6OKL. Please send me a test e-mail message and see if I get it. There is something wrong with the e-mail addresses I have on my computer for those above. I already checked them against the MARC e-mail roster and it is correct according to that.

Don't miss the Super Raffle Drawing for the I-COM W32A dual band handheld at the Saturday December 13th MARC meeting. Ray will buy any amount of tickets necessary to make sure the club doesn't lose money. I haven't had to do it yet for any of the many other Super Raffle prizes we've had, but there is always a first time. Besides KD6ERC Dollie has bought tickets, and we all know her luck at winning raffle prizes.

Again, December 23rd is the last day for the old MARC Web Site to be active. Also another reminder that Al VE6KI now has a personal WEB page for MARC members to link your personal web page to the MARC Web Page. Al's e-mail address is <wing-rider@bikerider.com>. That is one of the things I plan on putting together in the not to distant future. A Personal Web Page for myself, and link it to Al's site.

On Wednesday December 24th is the annual Christmas eve luncheon from 11 AM to 2 PM at Huntington Honda. Come join many other MARC members for a "free" all you can eat Mexican Buffet. The food comes from the very good restaurant right next door.

Then of course, Thursday December 25th is Christmas, Bonnie and I wish "everyone" a **"VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS."**

Wednesday December 31st, MARC January newsletter articles are due.

Thursday January 1st 1998 **"HAPPY NEW YEAR"** to one and all.

The weekend of January 3rd, 1998 has a lot going for it.

(1) It's the IBMC campout at Death Valley. Early arrivals will start coming in by Friday January 2nd and depart Sunday January 4th. They camp at the Death Valley National Parks, Upper Texas Springs Campground.

(2) Saturday morning at 8 AM is the SCARA breakfast.

(3) Also that weekend is the Motorcycle show at the LA Co. Fairgrounds.

Be sure to check in with KD6ERC Dollie when she calls for the first quarter MARC e-mail check-ins on Tuesday January 6th.

The January MARC meeting is Saturday January 10th.

The ladies have already been holding meetings for their annual February Ladies meeting on February 14th. They will have to go some to outdo their meeting last year. These meetings scare me, we men never know what to expect from these ladies.

We also want to thank all those that support MARC through their advertising in our newsletter. They are the greatest. We, as a club are so very fortunate to have friends like, Electronic Times, NCG Corp.(Comet) and Huntington Honda. Their generosity is more than we could ever have hoped for. Than you Michael & Don, SCARA owners, Thank you Mick, Bruce and Jim at NCG Corp. and Rodger, Rick and all the crew at Huntington Honda for helping make this such a great year for MARC.

Well that's it from your MARC President. You all have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

"SAFE RIDES AND CLEAR FREQUENCIES"

Ray Davis KD6FHN
raykd6fhn@earthlink.net
raykd6fhn@juno.com
MARC #/Home # 714-551-1036
FAX # 714-551-3042



Nothing to eat, just something to wash down the bugs!

CHALLENGE CUP RELAY

By De Witt Morgan, KM6UK
dewitt@home.com

On November 19, 1997, saw the MARC Board of Directors, Ray KD6FHN, Billy N6EDY and De Witt KM6UK, at the Team Captain meeting for the 1998 Challenge Cup Relay Race, at the Los Angeles Police Academy. The meeting was scheduled to begin at 12 noon and by golly, it did, right on time. We had been served a nice cold cut buffet luncheon prior to the beginning of the meeting. The focus of this meeting was to discuss with the Team Captains, all the new rules for the 1998 race. The CB In Follow Vehicles, now *required* rule, got the most discussion, and at least three times the Race Directors referred to MARC, or MARC the Motor Officers, or directed questions to us to be answered. They made it very plain to the Team Captains, that MARC would be there, and would be enforcing the rules.

This is the first time that I have heard them directly mention MARC, or direct questions to MARC, or about MARC, in any of the team meetings I have attended over the past years. MARC is very respected by the Race Directors, and I hope we can continue to enjoy the respect of the teams too.

Ray, Billie and I felt very good about the whole atmosphere at this meeting. After handshakes all around, we were out of the meeting at 1 P.M.

After the meeting, Ray had brought his camera with him and the three of us went to a nearby park, and Ray took pictures of the Board of Directors. You should soon see the new "Official" pictures of the MARC Board of Directors on our great web page.

LOVE RIDE 14

Love Ride 14 is but a memory in our minds now, beautiful weather, beautiful sites, and most important an outstanding charity benefiting from it. We would love to list one and all who participated in the event, but fear of missing someone causes us to just give one **BIG THANK YOU** to one and all.

As always M.A.R.C. members who participated should feel great pride in the fact that to date over \$1 million charity dollars have been counted, with more to go. Another great success for the M.D.A. Final charity dollars raised should be available to us in January.

We would also like to take this time to wish all M.A.R.C. members and their families the healthiest, happiest of holiday season.

Gary Rutherford
Love Ride Coordinator

KE6PSD

imanimal@csnsys.com

Pattie Lynch KE6RDL
Assistant Love Ride Coordinator
psychob@csnsys.com

HF NET

I must say November was somewhat of a disappointing month as far as HF activity goes. I had a total of 10 check-ins. On 20 meters there was Bob, N0XCT in MN; Doug, KB6RRX in GA; Ed, AB5GR in AR. I had visitors Barney, W4STU in GA; Dick, KA7BZC, WA; Sam, KB5VMJ in LA and Richard, KE6TT in CA. On 40 meters I had Ray, KD6FHN in CA and Ed, AB5GR in GA and one visitor Mike, N6KZB in CA.

I hope to soon have a base station up and operational which may improve the HF Net contacts.

I'll continue to be on frequency 14.340 USB at 4 PM CA time and 7.290 LSB at 4:30 PM CA time. Come on by and let me know if I'm getting out!!

73's to all, and to all a **GREAT** Christmas.

Ken N6KBI
HF Net Control
ken6kbi@goodnet.com

MS 150

No article this time...everything is wrapped up for this year. In fact nothing until at least February.

A very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year for 1998.

Dave Hoffman KC6ZHG
MS 150 Coordinator
wingman01@earthlink.net

John Edwards KC6ZOZ
MS 150 Assistant Coordinator
kc6zoz@juno.com

COORDINATION OF MARC'S PARTICIPATION IN CHARITY EVENTS

(The following article establishes and explains the standard operating procedure to be followed for coordinating MARC's support and participation in charity events. Submitted for the Board of Directors by Billy N6EDY)

At a recent meeting of the Officers and Board Of Directors of MARC, it was determined that future support and participation for any approved charitable event would be coordinated by a committee-established for that specified event.

In as much as participation in any event requires considerable internal coordination

within MARC itself, resulting in commitment of personnel and resources; And, in as much as the Board of Directors holds the President of MARC accountable for all that the club does, or fails to do-It has been determined that the President of MARC will be a standing member of every "Coordinating Committee". And further, that the President shall act as the "Ex-Officio" Chairman of each said Committee.

In as much as the Secretary/Treasurer must also be involved in all such events for financial and logistical support- It has been determined that the Secretary/Treasurer will be a standing member in all said committees.

In as much as there must be coordination of all frequencies, repeaters, and facilities- It has been determined that the Frequency Coordinator will be a standing member in all said committees.

There will be a "Coordinator" appointed to each committee to act as Liaison to the supported charity- To organize the required support to accomplish the specific mission- And to supervise the operation.

Additionally, In as much as it is desirable to have additional members training for future assignments- There will be an Assistant Coordinator appointed to each specific committee to help the coordinator perform his mission, and to provide such back-up as may be necessary.

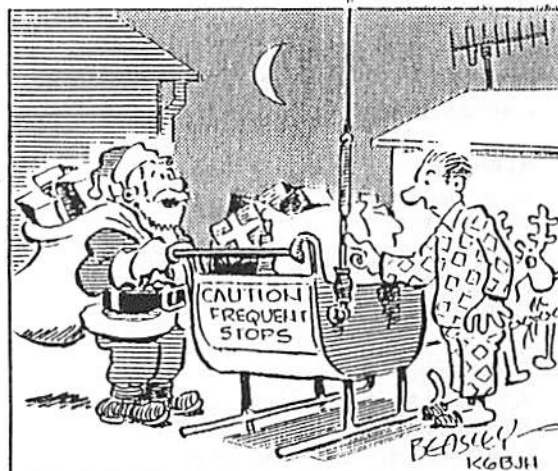
The President of MARC may add additional members(s) to each committee as may be needed.

Ray Davis, President

Billy Hall, Board Member

De Witt Morgan, Board Member

Billy Hall N6EDY
billyn6edy@aol.com, billyn6edy@juno.com



THOSE WORK SO GOOD I DECIDED TO KEEP THE ONE FOR MY OWN MOBILE---YOURS IS ON BACK ORDER

MARC WEB SITE

I've changed internet service providers and therefore the MARC Website has been moved from SPOTS to Shaw Wave. I've made some changes to the home page format and you can expect more changes over the winter. The MARC Website contains over 150 files on 3 megs of disk space. The new address is:

<http://www.calgary.shaw.wave.ca/~dpushie/marc/>

If you access the old website at SPOTS you will receive a message and a link to the new website. The message and link will be available until my account at SPOTS expires on December 23. Over the past two years I've asked many websites to provide a link to MARC. I've notified these websites of our address change and they should have the links updated before you receive the December newsletter. Please update your e-mail signatures and links to the MARC Website as appropriate. If you notice any websites linking to our old address please let them know our new address or send me a note and I'll follow up.

Thanks.

73, Drew Pushie VE6HGW
MARC WEBSITE EDITOR
ve6hgw@shaw.wave.ca

MEMBER'S WEBSITES

Hello to all!

I am Al Friesen, callsign VE6KI in Calgary, Canada. Our terrific MARC webmaster, Drew Pushie, VE6HGW has asked if I would assist him by maintaining a list of MARC member's websites that would make it easy for folks to find us and pay us a visit. It will have a link to it from the current MARC site. I have the page up on the web at:

<http://www.geocities.com/MotorCity/Downs/5090/marcmemb.htm>

Take a look at it and if you have a website and would like to add it to the list please e-mail the details to me at wing-rider@bikerider.com. I will re-post this message periodically until everyone has had a chance to see it.

Al Friesen VE6KI
wing-rider@bikerider.com

A NEW YEARS WISH

Plagiarized by
De Witt Morgan

I wish for you:

A Survival kit for every day.

It contains a;

TOOTH PICK...to remind you to pick out the good qualities in everyone...including yourself.

RUBBERBAND...to remind yourself to be flexible...things don't always go your way.

BAND-AID...to remind you to heal hurt feelings...including your own.

ERASER...to remind you that everyone makes mistakes...but we learn & live from them.

CANDY KISS...to remind you that we all need a hug and a compliment each day.

MINT...to remind you that you are worth a min(ute) to your family and friends.

BUBBLE GUM...to remind you to stick with it & you can do anything you want to do.

PENCIL...to remind you to list your blessings each day.

TEA BAG...to remind you to relax, and enjoy each day, and to go over the list of your blessings. This is what makes each day worth living!!!!!!

I copied that from the Internet. I thought that passing it along might help brighten someone's day.

We have so many things that we should be thankful for, and with a new year just around the corner, I thought this might give some ideas to help those New Year's resolutions along.

I would like to wish everyone a **VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS** and a **HAPPY NEW YEAR** from Anita and I. It has been a great year for us, and for MARC.

Ride when you can, and always be safe. As Anita always says to me as I go out to get on the bike to ride...Watch for the dummies.

I have a great holiday season.

IL/WI REPORT

At the meeting in Janesville, WI. (I forgot the date) I went to the "Dennys" to find several motorcycles in the parking lot. Turns out they were from Minnesota, not connected with MARC. I did see one face I recognized though, Bill Michaels. He and I waited around for awhile, then went in and had a nice meal, and visited a bit. I had planned on the group riding to "House on the ROCK" or some place else if they wanted. Bill had plans for the afternoon, so he left to pursue that, and I went for a ride then on home.

At the September 20th meeting, Norm, Marsha and myself met at Cherry Vale, a mall near Cherry Valley; at a restaurant called "Bakers Square".

We had a nice chat and kept looking out the window to see if anyone else was going to join us. Later another Ham, Roger KB9BLU, stopped in for a visit. Norm thought it was going to start raining soon so he left for home and Marsha went next door to bowl a game or two. I finally went on a short ride.

Paul Plasters WA9FFL
WA9FFL@aol.com

Editors note:

Paul did send this info to me in time for the last newsletter but I chose to save it as I wanted to add a little something to the bottom.

Paul(WA9FFL) and his xyl Marsha(KB9NGN) and Norm (N9ZKS) have put a lot of effort into forming a MARC chapter in IL/WI. I know they are very disappointed but who knows just maybe they will take off with leaps and bounds by this time next year. Paul relates that there are problems in other activities in getting cooperation and participation in that area. Says people can't understand it....

I for one give them my all for the efforts they have put forward to get MARC spread out. There are a lot of members from Illinois but scattered through out the state. Hopefully, Ray, De Witt or someone can meet up with them at sometime or another.

Along with all the efforts to getting a MARC Chapter started, Paul lost his son in an accident in this time element.

We sincerely hope time is a healing factor for you and yours along with the love from your family and friends.

Bonnie KD6OFQ

"SPELL CHECKER"

I have a spelling chequer
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye cannot sea.
When eye strike a quay, right a word
I weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar wright
It shows me strait aweigh.
As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two late
and eye can put the error rite
Its rarely, rarley grate.
I've run this poem threw it
I'm shore your pleased two no
Its letter perfect in it's weigh
My chequer tolled me sew.

Sauce unknown

(This was forwarded to me from Dollie KD6ERC)



**FROM YOUR 50/50 LADIES:
PAT KD6SBZ & MIJO KF6BEB**
(ontherdagn2@juno.com)(Mijobeb@aol.com)

The turkey found that the \$5 net drawings for November brought one winners. Those drawn were: 11/5 AF7M Gary(\$5), 11/12 KE6QQL Judy, 11/19 KE6TVT Bob & 11/26 KE6ONG Kathy To collect you have to respond on the net or you can be an early-bird check-in and come to the next meeting to reap the \$5.

Other door prize winners were

- (1) \$40 gift certificate from Huntington Honda--Emily Naron
- (2) SMA503 Dual band antenna donated by NCG(COMET)-
KD6NXC John
- (3) SH85 2M-440-900 MHz antenna donated by NCG-
KC6ZOZ John
- (4) Six month membership to SCARA donated by ET-
N6EDY Billy

DOOR PRIZE DONATORS WERE:

"MARC", Mel & Kay Johnson, Mike Naron, De Witt Morgan, Billy Hall and Ray & Bonnie Davis. The little lady "Emily Naron" pulled the tickets for this meeting, "Thank you" so much. "Billi" was our waitress with assistance from Pam. We "Thank you" so much for your time.

DON'T FORGET OUR SPECIAL RAFFLE!!!!!!

The drawing will be held at the December 13th meeting. This is for the IC-W32A HT dual band radio. Tickets are \$1 each. Also for that same meeting we are having a special children's drawing featuring a Motorcycle jacket, and several other interesting things for Kids. Tickets are 2 for 50 cents or 5 for \$1.

COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER:
BONNIE KD6OFQ(zyp@juno.com)(zypkd6ofq@earthlink.net)

IF THERE IS AN EXPIRATION DATE ON YOUR MAILING LABEL WHICH IS HIGH-LIGHTED, YOU WILL FIND AN APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL IN THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE FILL OUT AND BRING TO THE MEETING AND OR MAIL IT TO ME WITH THE AMOUNT OF \$10 FOR 1998. THIS AMOUNT WILL GO UP NEXT YEAR TO \$12 FOR 1999.

PLEASE IF YOU HAVE AN ADDRESS, ZIP CODE, AREA CODE, PHONE , E-MAIL CHANGE PLEASE BE SURE TO NOTE THE NEW INFO ON THE 1998 APPLICATIONS. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH.

New members for this month are: 11/24-KF6NMK Shady Lane of Cypress,CA, 11/28-KB0RTZ Timothy Lindstrom of Columbia Hgts, MN, 12/1-KD5BP Glenn Overlander & N5GOY Georgia Overlander of Moriarty, NM. Welcome to "MARC", if there is anything we can help or assist you with be sure to ask as we have many members who can and will help you if at all possible. We are here for you.
LADIES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!LADIES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!LADIES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
The meeting for the "LADIES ONLY" November 15th at the Lake View Cafe at 9 AM to lay the organizational plans for the February Ladies Meeting swung into action with KF6BEB Mijo, KF6NCF Susan, KE6BIS Norma, KF6HJT Teri, KD6ERC Dollie and myself KD6OFQ. KE6RDL Pattie was to attend but due to an extra injury

she had to miss which we were sorry about that as we need all the input we can get and she does have some good ideas, more ways than one. Kay Johnson ask us to give her a job and KD6SBZ Pat was out of state but will be assisting also. Of course when these ladies aren't there to protect themselves they get an assignment anyways. I do believe we kinda embarrassed KD6NXC John, we were in the front dining room in the center of it and in walks John and we let out a war hoop "Hey get out of here" I think the other patrons thought there was a big deal and they might should run for their lives....Of course you know per KE6RDL Pattie the men would have to don a dress, hi-heels etc if they were going to attend and John surely didn't have that attire on. Others had threatened but we told them they would be de-frocked... Remember All Ladies are invited....

January newsletter articles due December 31, 1997. So if you are celebrating and watching football I suggest articles reach me before that date.

Thank you to John KC6ZOZ and Ray KD6FHN for assisting with the newsletter for November.

To the less fortunate, ill, on repair or in hospitals, we are sending you a BIGGGGGG HUG and lots of LOVE your way. Our thoughts are with you during all the Holidays and hope you can spend them with family together. We miss you all very much. "MERRY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR."

HOT FROM THE E-MAIL CORNER

First I want to take this opportunity to wish each and everyone of you "The Very Merriest of Holiday Seasons and a A Happy Prosperous New Year"

On January 6th, 1998 we are going to start the new year out with a bang and a new check-in system that will be simpler and easier for all of us. As with anything new, there may be some glitches develop, but please bear with us as we work out any bugs which might plague us. I apologize for not getting the testing done sooner, but have had a few health problems.

Thanks for understanding.

Good Luck to all on the Super Raffle drawings!!!

PS I did buy a few tickets!!!!!!

Dollie KD6ERC The checkin Lady
dollieb@earthlink.net

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES:.....

MARC LIST ADDRESS:.....KC7MZ--LEWIS
marc-l@teleport.com

MARC HOME PAGE:.....VE6HGW--DREW
http://www.

UPCOMING 1997 MARC ACTIVITIES FOR 1997

DEC 13, SAT- BREAKFAST MEETING

WANTED:

I need the control head for an antenna rotor (I have a rotor but no control); or, I could be interested in a complete unit if the price is right.

Billy Hall N6EDY (714) 638-1958
billyN6edy@aol.com (or) billyn6edy@juno.com

BOB SIMPLETON'S brought to you by **GUIDE TO Amateur Radio** **PL CONNECTORS** Trader

Soldering cannot be avoided when you are working on your antenna system. A low wattage soldering iron is the recommended tool when working with most electronics. However when it comes to PL style coax connectors a high power solder gun is best. The higher heat is required to bond the solder to the plug sub-assembly. The goal is to get in, bond the solder to the connection and get out without overheating the entire assembly.

There are many variations for installing PL connectors on RG-8 style coax cable. Everyone will agree on one firm requirement; to only have to build the connection once and have it operate properly for the life of the cable. Sound like a lot to demand? If you take a little extra time and care, the procedure is easy and straight forward.

A proper connection will be water tight and as electrically conductive as possible. If you skip over some steps, in the long run, you'll lose signal power and reliability.

This method starts by preparing the shield by giving it a jacket of solder. This prevents it from unraveling and also provides a perfect surface for the plug sub-assembly solder points.

When you cut the solder jacket, use a sharp razor blade; you need to keep the cut edge as clean as possible. A sloppy edge may not fit in the plug assembly.

The plug sub-assembly has screw threads on the inside. Use these to screw the plug onto the coax outer insulation jacket.

The solder jacket will be visible in the plugs solder holes. If you can see some of the center insulator, the coax is not inserted deep enough.

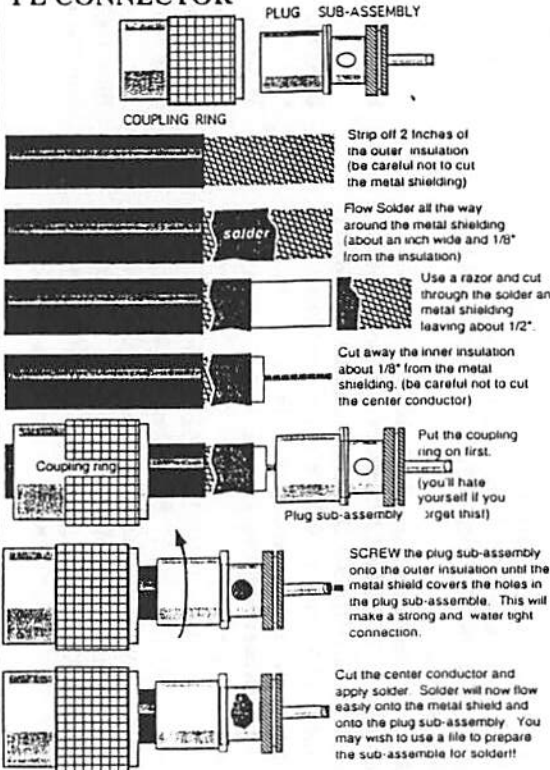
Use the solder gun to bond the solder jacket to the plug through the three holes. Cut and solder the center conductor.

Use a volt/ohm meter to test your cable. The center conductor on both ends should be conductive. The plug sub-assembly shields on both ends should also be conductive. There should be NO conductivity between the center connectors and the outer shields of the plug.

PL connector installation with smaller RG-58 style coax requires a reducer and a different procedure, but that is another story.....

Remember to have fun and show someone else how to install a PL Connector. 73

PL CONNECTOR



ACTIVIST REVIEW

A publication of AMA

Proposed highway bill could benefit motorcyclists

Legislation has been introduced by the congressional leaders of the U.S. House Transportation Infrastructure Committee that addresses several issues of importance to motorcyclists raised by the AMA during the bill-drafting process.

Language within the bill ensures motorcyclists access to roads constructed with federal highway funds, thus assuring continued access to the growing number of high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes in many of the nation's urban transportation corridors. The National Recreational Trails Act language has been strengthened to provide potentially greater funding for trail maintenance and development for off-highway motorcycle enthusiasts.

Also, enhancement of motorcycle safety is recognized as a national priority within the bill, and provisions are provided to include motorcycles in the development of the nation's Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technology, a massive project to employ technological solutions to enhance traffic flow on the country's highways.

The legislation, called the Building Efficient Surface Transportation and Equity Act (BESTEA), and co-sponsored by Committee Chairman Bud Shuster (R-Pennsylvania), ranking minority member James Oberstar (D-Minnesota), Surface Transportation Subcommittee Chairman Tom Petri (R-Wisconsin) and ranking minority member Nick Joe Rahall (D-West Virginia), is an omnibus highway re-authorization bill that would provide funding for a broad category of transportation-related projects.

"BESTEA demonstrates how far motorcyclist-rights advocates have come

in ensuring that their collective concerns are heard by the decision-makers on Capitol Hill," noted Robert Rasor, vice president of AMA government relations. "The leadership of the House has responded to our issues in a very positive manner, providing us with an opportunity to go forth and work for similar support in the Senate. This kind of support only comes about as a result of motorcyclists taking the time to write and call their elected representatives to weigh in on the issues. With the help of individual motorcyclists, and working in conjunction with our colleagues at the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, we are going to redouble our efforts so that these motorcycle-friendly provisions are preserved in the final version of the highway bill."

Comment period closes on federal anti-discrimination law

Federal officials are entering the final stage in a process designed to prevent companies from arbitrarily denying health-care coverage to groups of their employees, including motorcyclists.

The public comment period regarding the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 has ended, and officials are in the process of drafting the final language of regulations that will be used to enforce the law. The bill is intended to prevent employers from practicing health-insurance discrim-

ination against their own employees when it comes to pre-existing medical conditions and lifestyle choices.

The AMA presented written comments showing that it was the intent of Congress to protect motorcyclists from having their health-care benefits reduced because of their legitimate choice of transportation. Specifically, AMA staff members emphasized that although the new law permits companies to exclude all coverage of certain types of illness or injury, Congress did not intend to permit companies to deny health-care benefits based on the source of an injury. In other words, a company can decide that it will not cover broken legs, but it can't decide not to cover broken legs resulting from skiing.

In addition, the AMA pointed out that the intent of the law precluded companies from "reverse discrimination" against motorcyclists, for instance, offering "wellness" programs that would result in lower rates or deductibles for non-motorcycling employees. The Association also noted that Congress intended the law to protect companies from health-plan administrators who might try to charge higher premiums for groups of employees engaged in protected activities, including motorcycling.

"We are cautiously optimistic that the final version of the new law will reflect our concerns," noted Robert Rasor, vice president of AMA government relations. "When Congress passed this act, the language contained in the conference committee report was quite unambiguous. Congressional members clearly intended to prevent employers from putting riders and their families in financial jeopardy simply because they were injured while riding a motorcycle rather than driving a car."

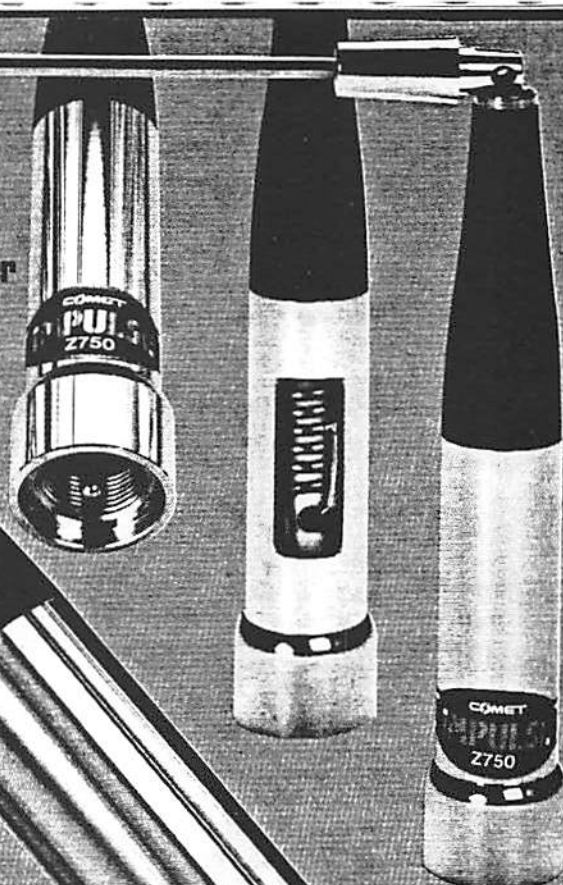


For more information, contact the AMA's Government Relations Department at (614) 891-2425.

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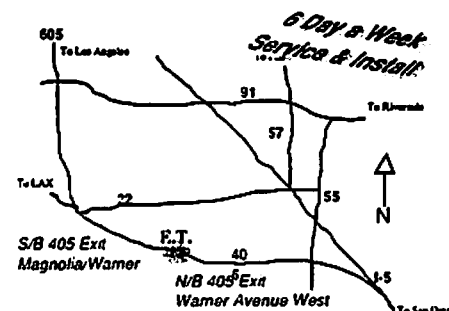
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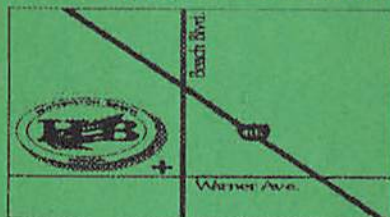
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