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MISSION STATEMENT:
 "Dedicated to providing service to the community
 while combining the two hobbies
 of motorcycling and ham radio"

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JANUARY 2004

From The President's Desk::

Mijo and I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. I trust that Santa was as good to all of our MARC members as He was to Mijo and I. To start with, Mijo, my darling wife, KF6BEB, won the grand prize, a new Kenwood 742A, at our annual Christmas dinner. I am sure that Bonnie, KD6OFQ, will post a list of the other big winners in her article. Congratulations to all, as I consider all of our MARC members winners. Dinner was delicious (thanks to our hosts at the Lakeview Café) and the company was even better. I cannot forget to thank Bonnie and her elves for the centerpieces that many of our members took home. Thanks also go to Kay, (XYL of Mel, KD6MPB) for the Christmas treats that she brought for each (couple or single) MARC member at the dinner. In addition, I shall say that it was an honor to have Alan Gallagher, from the BARN Radio system, join us for Christmas dinner.

Now for your entertainment. Here is the next chapter of the continuing saga in Rialto that I started last month. The fires are past and now just a terrifying memory. We still have the residual ash being blown down from the hills by the ever present Santa Anna winds. We have had wind upwards of 50 miles per hour several days this past month. My avocado tree bears witness to this, as it has been stripped of most of its fruit by the wind. Mijo's new carpeting in the living room and den have been stained dark grey near each door by ash tracked in as we come and go. Now for the next chapter: It rained heavily in Southern California on Christmas Day. The first time it has rained on Christmas here in over twenty years. Some areas received more rain than others, notably the local foothills that were ground zero for last month's fires. The KOA campground about four miles northeast of our residence was flooded by a mudslide. Two persons perished there. Then, about eight miles east of here, in Old Waterman Canyon, several campers died when the debris from a mud slide swept away two of the cabins that they were staying in. Both

were flash floods that were made worse by the lack of watershed after the fires burned all the vegetation from the local hills. Unfortunately, it is a tragedy that could have been avoided if people had heeded the forecast for rain with some possible local flooding that had been broadcast on the local TV news. It was also sad for the two ladies who were crushed by falling buildings in Paso Robles when the earthquake hit there. Thankfully, we were spared the destruction that leveled Bam, Iran.

Our personal twist to this is the loss of our land line (twisted pair) telephone. Each time it rains, (enough to soak in twelve inches or so) our telephone goes on the fritz. Thus no e-mail either. So if I haven't responded to an urgent message or said hello to a new member, I shall say "sorry." I am making an effort to correct this recurring telephone failure. I have again notified the telephone company that my lines are out. That is step one. Unfortunately, they can't come to check them for five or six days. By then the lines will have dried, the phones will be working, and I will be told again that "there is nothing wrong with your phone, now pay \$75 for a false repair call." I have also ordered a cable modem. When it arrives, I shall cancel my dial-up service with AOL and switch to a high speed cable service through my TV cable provider. Hopefully, this will result in both improved e-mail and on line services. I personally am not impressed with the "Optimized 9.0" service from AOL". I am sorry if the change of e-mail address causes problems for some. However, at this time, it has become a necessity. I will post my new e-mail address as soon as it is available. It will surely be JohnW5JFR@ something, whatever that is.

I have ordered a new windshield for my '97 SE from Huntington Honda and was going to ride down on Saturday the 27th of December to see if it was in yet. However, when I awoke Saturday morning I was surprised to find a thick white coat of frost on most everything outside. It was just a bit too cool for an hour long pleasure ride

from here to Huntington Beach. Perhaps the weather will be a bit warmer next week.

Now for some serious business: Do you have a motorcycle, car or truck that has been sitting in the garage or outside for a week or two? During these cooler winter months, the battery can take a serious dump. Please take a minute to check the water level (a weak battery can freeze and burst). Then put a trickle charger on for a few hours each week. A "hot" or fully charged battery will have a much easier time starting a cold motor or one that has not been ran for a few days. If you neglect your battery now, it might just be time to buy a new one next spring. Ah spring! That is a beautiful time, warm weather, trees and flowers blooming, and motorcycles out on the highways. Hang in there! Warmer weather is coming.

John F. Reynolds W5JFR
 MARC President
 Johnw5jfr@aol.com (909)820-0509

"MARC" CALENDAR 2004

Jan. 10 - "MARC" Breakfast Meeting
 Feb. 14 - "MARC" Breakfast Meeting
 Mar. 13 - "MARC" Breakfast Meeting
 April 10 - "MARC" Breakfast Meeting
 April 24,25- Abused Kids Ride???

May 8 - "MARC" 12th Anniversary
 May 15 - SoCal Tour de Cure
 June 12- "MARC" Breakfast Meeting
 June 13- Bad Ride
 July- No Meeting
 Aug. 14- "MARC" Breakfast Meeting
 Sept. 11- "MARC" Breakfast Meeting
 Oct. 2, 3- MS 150 ??

Oct. 9- "MARC" Breakfast Meeting ??

Nov. 13- "MARC" Breakfast Meeting
 Nov. 14- Love Ride
 Dec. 11- Annual Christmas Party

What property is shared by the following words? bar, cloud, dusk, loop, plow, ran, river, sleep, shore, tables?
 Change last letter of each word to "T"

THIS AND THAT

This will be a short article this time. I have been doing this article for many years now. I watched this club grow from 8 gentlemen, to the large number of members we have now, all over the country, Canada, and our stalwart friend "across the pond." Without you ALL, MARC would not be the viable club that it is. Thanks to you ALL for all you do.

Special thanks go out to the people who coordinate the events we work. This is sometimes a thankless job, with a lot of off-duty hours. Thanks guys and gals.

Special thanks also go to Mijo who devotes her meeting mornings tearing tickets, and keeping track of the money. Well done dear lady.

The year cannot end or begin with VERY special thanks to Bonnie, and Ray Davis. These two people put MARC ahead of everything.

Bonnie spends long hours in her office doing administration, the "stuff" that has to be done to keep everything going smoothly. She also shops a lot for a lot of the things that end up on the door prize table.

Ray drives many miles between HH, and Comet, to do "special" things for folks. He also spends lots of hours helping others install radios on their motorcycles. This he does for "family," NOT for money. Love you both.

There are so many others who do special things that I cannot name you all, after all I said this would be a short article. Just know that you are appreciated by us all.

I trust that everyone's holidays were filled with happiness and good cheer. Special wishes for a rapid recovery to any who are ill, and to Pat Lewis, GET WELL, I expect to see you in Oregon on the 4th of July.

Speaking of which.....

Graham, you know how we celebrate the 4th of July here in this country, I was just wondering if you guys in England have a 4th of July. The celebration here is punctuated with fireworks, marching bands, and parades. I was just wondering if yours is as much fun.

Love ya,

De Witt Morgan KM6UK <dewitt@cox.net>

"THE BUCK STOPS AT THE OPEN DOOR"

Happy New Year to all!! Yes, it's already 2-0-0-4 and another opportunity to renew your faith in humanity and yourself. While I know that it may come at any time, I don't want to be there when I die. Living is just too much fun, and I've got lots more ideas for whatever tomorrow's life bring me. (I wonder, do they have BLT sandwiches in heaven?)

Somewhere I've heard that whenever one door closes, another one opens. The big decision we have to make is do we investigate the opportunity presented to us, or decide to "wait until a better opportunity comes along?" The buck stops at you. It's your decision, and no one can make it for you. (Please don't tell my wife I said that, ok?)

Someday, I hope a non-MARC member will get a copy of the newsletter with this article in it, and maybe it will prompt them to take the next step and join our organization. Every membership we receive is a deposit on "good faith" that something worthwhile will result from joining, and they should be rewarded when they first walk in the door at their first meeting.

Sure, it's easy to say, but for someone really shy like me, it's hard to be bold and just walk up to someone that you don't even know and say "hello" to them. That's the nice thing about being married, I can always ask Hiroko to approach them first, and then, depending on how their first greeting goes, I can either defend her

honor (and be macho at the same time) or I can support her gutsy attitude and join her in welcoming them. (That sounds like a "win-win" for me, don't you think?)

The same is true when someone in our organization needs help. Hiroko and I have been blessed many times with support from MARC and even by MARC members we've just met (Well, maybe they were actually helping Hiroko because they didn't know me very well yet!!). But I think that's because the people who join our organization are "just good people" to begin with, and they have that "sharing nature" about them.

Yes, it's another new year, and now we each have a choice to simply duplicate last year or make it a better one. One of my personal goals this year is to ride at every event (as long as it doesn't rain, or I have a headache, or I didn't have breakfast, or) Just kidding!!

I actually enjoy doing events, getting out in the wind, riding along and just enjoying the day (unless it's raining, or I have a headache, or I didn't have breakfast, or ...). Just knowing that I have a motorcycle, and those "other guys" are riding bicycles is enough to motivate me to "get out the door" and knowing the motorcycle is going to do most of the work (all I have to do is focus on safety, and operating the radio, and watching out for traffic, and making sure the bicycles aren't blocking the lane, and listening to multiple frequencies ...) make me appreciate the fact that I am part of MARC instead of being one of those bicyclists!!! Although they have my sincerest appreciation for their riding talents and endurance, I'm still really happy that I am on the "MARC" side of the event instead of the participant side. Isn't support GREAT???

Anyway, there's probably a lot more that I could write, but I'm sure none of this makes sense to you. Heck, it doesn't make sense to me either, but I liked the title of the article, and had to find something to say in order to use the title!!

I guess I'm getting what I deserve in 2004. The title makes no sense at all ... but I sure did enjoy writing this article!!

Thanks for reading ...

Wayne Barringer KB6UJW <kb6ujw@arrl.net>

MARC" NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE:::

DUE:

February 4, 04	FOR	February
March 3, 04	FOR	March
March 31 st	FOR	April
April 28th	FOR	May
June 2nd	FOR	June/July
No July News Letter		
August 4 th	FOR	August/Sept?
September 1st	FOR	September
September 29th	FOR	October
November 3 rd	FOR	November
December 1st	FOR	December

Top Five Silliest Signs:::::

- 5- On a plumber's truck: "We repair what your husband fixed."
- 4- On the door of a computer store: "Out for a quick byte."
- 3- At an Optometrist's office: "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."
- 2- At a maternity-clothing store: "We're open on labor day."
- 1- On the door of a muffler shop: "No appointment necessary. We can hear you coming."

Who knew? One in four Americans has appeared on TV.

BRINGING IN THE NEW YEAR

This years Christmas Trip to Oviedo FL. to be with the full Davis clan for the first time in about 5 years really made this a special time of the year for me. Wow, talk about a good family time, this was the best. There was so much food around all the time and some of the best snack time junk food, one could ever wish for. As sure as I knew I should not be eating all this fabulous food, I did it anyway and gained about 5 Lbs. this Christmas season. I got plenty too, but the grandchildren were some big winners as far as Christmas presents were concerned. I mean everyday was Christmas day for them. They got so much money that everyday, after Christmas, they were all going to the mall to buy more gifts for themselves. It was fun for all, and not one person got so much as a cold while we were all together. That was a good thing. All the grandchildren got along very well and so did all the parents and grandparents. There were 12 of us staying in the one house with others coming in to share some of the meals and be there for the gift opening ceremonies. This was one of the most endearing events in my life. Life is good.

Talking about Christmas Parties and good times, this years MARC Christmas Party was once again a huge success. After last years Christmas Party, I thought that we would never be able to top it, but we did. Thanks to so many MARC Members coming and all the help we got from those who brought chairs, tables and helped set up the room. It was fabulous to say the least. Last year we had 40 MARC Members at the 2002 Christmas Party and this year we counted 52/53. It was just so much fun seeing so many MARC Members together and having such a good time. It was all very rewarding to the MARC Staff Members and to Bonnie and I in particular. Certainly makes all the effort worth while. Alan WB6T from the BARN Repeater System also joined us. I won't tell you about the winners here, I am sure Bonnie, John or Mijo will give you that information. I can report though that Mijo won the Kenwood TM-742A and no one could be more deserving. I managed to win the riding jacket and raffled it off to Carol Evans, for a lot less then the amount for the tickets I bought. I am soon going to make reservation for the MARC Christmas Party for next year at the Lakeview Cafe for Saturday Dec. 11, 2004. MARC your calendars now.

Don't forget that the MARC Dues are now due. That's \$12 per year, January 1 to Dec. 31st each year. We have received many renewals already and many of those were for multiple years. Bonnie and I have paid ours already too.

BARN dues are also due now, January 1st through Dec. 31st each year, but they always give us a month or two grace period because of this coming so close on the heels of the Holidays.

I am getting pretty good now at taking the new Gold Wing 1800's apart to do installations. I will have 2 more to do shortly after the first of the year.

Oh yes, the new white 2004 Gold Wings came in at LA Cycle Sports over in Inglewood about the middle of Dec., where I use to work for the Inglewood Fire Dept., but they didn't have any of the white ones with ABS on them yet. I will go get a solid Out-The-Door price from them when the white ABS motorcycles come in and then go to Roger at Huntington Honda and give him a chance to match it or at least get very close to that OTD price. I like Roger and the people that work at H&H and they certainly support MARC a lot, but when it comes to money and the cost of a new motorcycle, I will buy where I can get the best price. Bonnie even gave me part of the down payment on a new 1800 Gold Wing for my Christmas present. I hate to even think about stripping all that equipment off that 96 GW and remounting it all on the new 2004 GW. I may just ride that old 96 for another year.

The MARC Web Site will soon be reviewed by yours truly and some of the old antenna articles will be eliminated or updated per the request from Mick at NCG. This is also the time to update personal bios and submit new ones to Ray (me), so that I can put them in the proper format and prepare them for Wayne to put on the

MARC Web Site. Be especially careful about putting Personal Information on any web site, as it could be used to help someone steal your identification.

Don't forget our unofficial MARC Meetings on Saturday mornings at Huntington Honda and the GWRRA Chapter "R" meetings on the first Sunday of each month at the Knollwood Cafe at Sand Canyon and the I-5 Freeway in Irvine at 7:30am. Many of our members meet at both of these gatherings.

Since I got back from the Florida Christmas outing, I have not been able to get a hold of Jesus of Unique Metal Fabrication, Inc. to find out if he has started on the larger right side auxiliary gas tanks for the 1800's. I'll have to put that information out on the MARC List as this article will have been sent out with the MARC newsletter by Monday Jan. 5th.

New Years Resolutions, well I haven't made this one for a few years, but it's time to lose 30 lbs. again. I needed to buy some more size 38 jeans and one pair of dress pants before I left for Oviedo, so I could be comfortable. Now at 200 Lbs and a size 38, that weight has to go. It is tougher on these artificial hips for sure and I can lower my blood pressure right away by losing some weight and have to take less high blood pressure medication. It takes me about 3 years to gain that weight back, but one look, standing sideways in the mirror is all it really takes to convince me that it is time to do the weight loss thing again. I can do it easily, all my life I have had the will power to accomplish what ever I made up my mind to do, and I have lost that weight more times then I care to think about. But without a doubt it is the right thing to do and although it isn't always easy, it has to be done.

Please have a Happy and Healthy New Year.

May the skies be clear, warm & sunny and the wind forever at your back. Safe rides one and all.

Ray Davis KD6FHN <raykd6fhn@earthlink.net>
MARC Chairman Of The Board
Hm (949-551-1036) Cell=(949-300-9669)

From your MS 150 coordinator:::::

At the present time the MS has not started their meetings for next years event. Looking forward to seeing everyone ready for action this coming October. We should have someone from the MS office at our February meeting.

Wishing each and everyone a Happy New Year 2004.

John Edwards KC6ZQZ

LOVE RIDE

The Love Ride has ended their meetings and will not resume until this year about March. Not had a final count as yet but should be able to get one shortly. With the Holidays, things tend to get pushed to one side....

Happy New Year 2004

Take care and keep the rubber side down.

Bill Douglas KE6UUD

"A family is like a patchwork quilt—each person's life is stitched together to create a blanket of warmth and love." (Unknown)

LISTEN UP !! ABOUT THAT CPR !!

As you probably remember I have written articles from time to time in the newsletter about the desirability and the smartness in taking a CPR class – And in maintaining the knowledge and capability necessary for you to help save someone's life.

Those words and admonitions are just as important now as they have ever been. You still need to prepare yourself in case you are the only person on the scene of an accident, or at home, or at some isolated place – When you are confronted with a situation where you are the only person available to administer CPR to your wife, your child, your friend, or anybody that is experiencing a breathing or respiratory problem.

NOW – Suppose that person experiencing the problem is YOU – And there is no one else around to help you. Don't you wish that some other people had taken the time to prepare themselves for such an emergency – And that one of them was here to take care of you now.

Don't despair, all may not be lost – There is something that YOU may do to help save your own life – during a heart attack. What you do during the early moments of a heart attack can mean the difference between life and death. If you are experiencing what you think might be a heart attack – And there is no one around to perform CPR on you –

- Do the following:

Immediately take a deep breath and cough twice, as fast as you can. Wait a couple of seconds, take another deep breath, and cough twice more. This will contract your diaphragm, compressing your heart and causing it to pump. It's a simple form of self CPR.

Keep repeating this process until your heart begins to beat normally – Or, until help arrives. Once your heart has stabilized, chew and swallow one aspirin. Then take two cayenne pepper capsules, or a tablespoon of Tabasco sauce. (Hint: these items might be worth while things to carry in your car, your shaving kit, or your motorcycle saddlebags) The aspirin will help thin your blood and prevent platelets from sticking – While the Tabasco or cayenne will dilate your blood vessels so that the blood can flow freely.

This simple technique can dramatically increase your chances of survival.. Even if there IS someone around that IS NOT capable of administrating CPR to you – You can at least instruct them to hunt for the aspirin and Tabasco.

While your thinking about it – why not take this opportunity to talk your spouse, child, friend, or "riding" buddy into enrolling in a CPR class – So that they can better prepare themselves to help save some ones life in the event of a heart attack. Just keep in mind that the person's life that they might save MIGHT BE YOURS.

Billy Hall N6EDY <billyn6edy@aol.com>
Board Member, Bad Ride Coordinator

Special note:::::

MARC members being able to administer CPR, makes the people of the events we do feel a little bit better that we are capable if the time would come and immediate help is not available.

REVIEW OF 2003 50/50 WINNERS::::::

JANUARY: 3 POTS \$43 EACH

(2) POTS WON BY JOHN SAVAGE KC6SAD

THIRD BY FARA BEIZAI KF6ZQO

FEBRUARY: 3 POTS \$40 EACH

(2) POTS WON BY CHRIS MOODY KG6SAR

THIRD WON BY MARK KANZLER KE6ZRP

MARCH: 3 POTS \$43 EACH

JOHN REYNOLDS W5JFR, ALVIN BROWN KD6UZM & DE WITT MORGAN KM6UK

APRIL: 3 POTS \$50 EACH

DE WITT MORGAN KM6UK, 2 & 3 WON BY ALVIN BROWN KD6UZM

MAY: 3 POTS OF \$55 EACH

1 & 2 WON BY ALVIN BROWN KD6UZM

#3 TERI EDWARDS KF6HJT

JUNE: 3 POTS OF \$48 EACH

CONRAD SILLARS KC6PHI, TERI EDWARDS KF6HJT & BILLY HALL N6EDY

JULY NO MEETING

AUGUST: 3 POTS \$45 EACH

BILLY HALL N6EDY, TERI EDWARDS KF6HJT & ALVIN BROWN KD6UZM & GRANDSON CODY

SEPTEMBER: 3 POTS OF \$57 EACH

ALVIN BROWN KD6UZM (2 POTS) AND THE OTHER WINNER WAS KAY JOHNSON

OCTOBER: 3 POTS OF \$48 EACH

ALVIN KD6UZM/CODY, CHRIS MOODY KG6SAR & CONRAD KC6PHI

NOVEMBER: 3 POTS OF \$60 EACH

WAYNE BARRINGER KB6UJW, JOHN W5JFR AND ALVIN KD6UZM

DECEMBER: PER THE LADIES PAGE YOU HAVE THE WINNERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS PARTY...

HUNTINGTON HONDA WINNERS:

JAN- KE6ZRP MARK,, FEB- KM6UK DE WITT & ANITA,, MARCH- TIM BOCKER,, APRIL- TERI KF6HJT,, MAY- HIROKO KG6LFZ,, JUNE- JOHN W5JFR,,AUG.- MIKE N6QZT,, SEPT.- CHUCK KG6NJP,, OCT.- JOHN KC6ZOZ NOV.- ALVIN KD6UZM-

NCG CORP WINNERS:

JAN.- HUGH KB6IEM,, FEB.- DE WITT KM6UK/ANITA,, MAR.-MIKE N6QZT,, APRIL- KAY JOHNSON,, MAY CHARLES ROBLES KF6TXI,,JUNE- TANYA KG6MWW,,AUG.- MIKE N6QZT, SEPT.- MEL KD6MPB, OCT.- BILLY N6EDY.....NOVEMBER WE HAD NO DONATION FROM NCG CORP.

MANY MANY THANKS TO HUNTINGTON HONDA AND THE NCG CORP WHO HAS SUPPORTED "MARC" THROUGH THE YEARS. WE VALUE YOUR FRIENDSHIP AS WELL AS YOUR SUPPORT.

A woman devised her own system for labeling homemade meals she stored in the freezer. Instead of calling them Chicken Parmigiana or Meatloaf, she labeled them Whatever, Anything, I don't know, and her favorite, Food. That way when she asked her husband what he wanted for dinner, she was certain to have it on hand.

MUTH SIGNAL MIRRORS INSTALLATION

I just finished installing the MUTH Signal Mirrors on my '01 GL-1800. Here are some observations and comments that may help other MARC members install these mirrors.

MUTH p/n 220-0146-0, available from "<http://www.dallasmotorcycles.com/>" – excellent customer service...!

- 1) I was very impressed with the quality and the heavy-duty construction of the mirror assemblies, particularly the adjustment mechanism. I was a little surprised that the mirror edges, while not sharp, are not covered with edging.
- 2) The mirrors themselves are slightly convex, so that you get a little "wider" look – that's good. But, they have that "Objects in the mirror are closer than they appear" message along the lower edge – sigh...! (I understand why a manufacturer has to put that wording on a convex mirror, but I still don't like it). I covered up some of the message by placing a 2" Convex Spot Mirror (Custom Accessories #71111) at the bottom of the each mirror, positioned so that it just clears the lower LED. IMO, these small add-on mirrors are lifesavers...!
- 3) The LEDs are "aimed" carefully – they are very bright when viewed from off to the side of the bike – but from the driver's seat the intensity is very subdued...!
- 4) The lower part of the rubber gasket surrounding the mirror has to be pulled away from the fairing. But, just pull the lower rear corner away from the fairing – try not to pull the lower front corner away because it is a royal pain in the A\$# to get it back in place snug against the fairing...! Pull the rubber away from the fairing just far enough to see the turn signal connector, then swivel the mirror housing forward (it's pretty stiff but it does move forward – and slightly down). It's really a tight fit inside that opening in the fairing where the OEM connector is located, but the supplied wiring harness will fit if you take your time.
- 5) I put wire loom over the longer wires of the MUTH harness (that goes into the mirror housing to connect to the LEDs) to prevent chafing of the wires on the mirror bracket. The wire insulation is excellent quality and the loom may be overkill – but it's good cheap insurance...! I connected the wiring harness to each mirror assembly and tested the LED array(s) before bolting it in place. Both mirror assemblies lighted properly.
- 6) After engaging the two mounting upper tabs into their respective slots in the housing, I carefully tried to rotate the bottom of the mirror assembly into the housing – it was hitting something and wouldn't go. Looking into the housing along the bottom of the mirror assembly, I could see that the "spring nut" was hitting the plastic mounting plate. I used a flat blade screwdriver between the metal mirror base and the plastic plate and gently "coaxed" it into place. OK, tighten the screw in and we're done with that side – ugh, something's not right...! MUTH supplies a new mounting screw with each mirror assembly, but after trying unsuccessfully for about 10 minutes to get it to engage the "spring nut" on the mirror's base, I took a close look at where it was to go and determined that the screw was really about 1/8" too short to reach properly. Damn...! I picked up the OEM screw – it was the same size – but the head of the OEM screw was slightly smaller in diameter – enough to let the head fit up into the shallow "well" of the plastic mounting plate in the mirror housing. BINGO – IMO, it is still somewhat short but it does engage the spring nut and tighten securely.
- 7) I was very pleased with the brightness of the LEDs – and the "angled-away-from-the-driver" concept is really slick...! But I was totally unprepared for how BRIGHT those LEDs are at night – IMO that small array of LEDs is brighter than the entire OEM rear turn signal. Impressive...!

I hope these comments help other Wingers with the MUTH Signal Mirror installation...!

Chuck Welman KG6NJP <kg6njp@pacbell.net>

Below is Ted KB6CUS & Diana KB6CUR with spare tires for the bike or trailer?? No just going to a tire dump.. (CA)



Below is Norm Huber N9ZKS (left) & Paul Plasters K9PEP stopping at a favorite restaurant (from ILLINOIS)



WEATHER NOT COOPERATING!!!!(IL)

Well Christmas has been here and left. But it did not seem like Christmas for so many of our local's. No snow, that is why! Those of you who do not normally experience this phenomenon, may not understand, but it is really part of the overall spirit of the season.

The weather here has been very mild, and it makes me want to get the bike out and go for a spin. Today for instance it is supposed to get up to 40 degrees! I about half way expect Tim to show up on his BMW!

I used to ride year around, regardless of temperature, or snow/road conditions, but I am afraid those days are gone forever for me. Too much Osteo Arthritis! When the barometer drops or it gets cold, I suffer too much to enjoy it anymore. Sort of different, as I used to ride to work every day, ice race on weekends, even rode to Florida, in February many times.

So that means in this country the riders mostly start repairing, or rebuilding their machines getting ready for the next season. I have got a little repair work to do on my machine too. I want it ready for the first spring weather so I can ride again. One of the men who help me serve dinner every Tuesday always goes around singing "on the road again". That seems to be a good song for this time of the year around the Northern Midwest.

I was mobilizing on 40 meters last week, coming home from seeing my little buddy Zac, and heard Larry VE7ILW but not well enough to communicate. That is quite a stretch for 40 meters VE7 land to K9 land! I have had a few California contacts on 40 though. Then of course I catch George AC3X on once in a while. Maybe we need to re look at an HF net?

Things have slowly changed here, and it now looks like I will be able to go back to Honduras again, this time to do some repair work at an orphanage. David (the manager) said he needed some electrical work, some plumbing, and some painting done. He put the emphasis "a lot of" on the painting word. I asked him if paint was available there, and he said it was and at about the same price as here. Many things cost more there than they do here, in the good ol' USA. Also many aren't even available there.

I bought a new tire for the Harley the other day, it is styled after the old "flat" tread, that looks like car tires. I remember when all cycles had those tires, they were treacherous on corners. I am hoping to get a little more mileage from it with that "sidecar" mounted. A sidecar sure eats tires up! 5,000 miles is a lot on a regular motorcycle tire, 4,000 is more common. Gas mileage dropped way off, with the sidecar mounted too! On the good side, it gives me some room to mount an extra battery so that I can talk a bit longer on the radio! Also I can carry my camping gear easier. I used to tie it all over the bike, where ever I could find an empty spot. Oh and another benefit, Zac can go along in comfort. Marsha says she likes it too, she can read, or knit, when I am driving. I never could understand that, as I am always seeing something new to look at, even when she wants to drive a while. Speaking of Zac, I am leaving in the early A.M. to pick him up and bring him to Rockford, for a visit. He sure enjoys his visits here, and we enjoy having him.

As I sit here typing this I am monitoring 20 meters, and California stations are just boooming in! Once in a while I hear Tim ABOTS, check into a net, well I don't hear Tim, I hear him being acknowledged, by the net control stations. Tim and I are too close for a 20 meter contact with each other. We can make it on 40 though.

Well time to go, see every one next month.
The Will of God will never take you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.

YES WEATHER IS NOT COOPERATING!!!!(MN)

Waking up on the last Saturday of the year I could hear the constant dripping. Melting! I realized, hmmm the weather person was right. Needed some light bulbs so I headed to Home Depot... The alley only had ice down the middle... Aha! I can get my December ride in after all.

After replacing the lights in the garage I placed the key in the BMW and wondered if it would start. No problem, roared to life as if it was anticipating a run too!

Went in the house while the beemer warmed and got my stuff on. However somewhere in the Christmas gatherings I must have left the mitts. Scrounging around in the hats and glove box I pulled out some old mittens and cloth gloves. Not issue strength for motorcycling however warmth was my main concern.

Gingerly I moved the bike out on the drive and looked down the alley. No cars. Good! Don't need a cage bothering me while I pick the path with less ice on it.

Finally out on the road and heading for the I-694. Overcast skies with rain, that's right rain.. in December? Darkened cloud banks meant heavier showers... however whose the nut to ride in this any ways.

Took the 252 exit north and rode up to my cousin Jerry's home. 9:45am when I arrived in his driveway. Rang the doorbell and heard one bark from their dog. No commotion though. Door opened... and a wide eyed, sleepy man in his bathrobe peered through the Christmas Wreath.

"Didn't realize your still sleeping!" I said sheepishly.
"I thought I heard the doorbell, then WoJo (the dog) was excited so I looked out and saw that cycle!"
He had his little poodle/terrier in his left arm and kept looking at me like I was an alien or somethun.
"I just needed proof that I was out...." I said...
"Well we were planning to head for home however Luke has the flu now. Thief River and north is in the heavy snow warning so we decided to stay here!"

Jerry then shut the storm door and called out, " We need to get together soon!" I nodded and waved, walked back to the bike, soon I was heading home.

Took my time going home. Well actually the rain was coming down good and my shield steamed up. Popped that open and the rain and perspiration did a good number on the glasses. Could NOT see much as I rode over the Mississippi to hwy 47. Finally yanked my left hand out of the glove and was able to wipe the lens so I could SEE.

Ahh before you all shiver and shake your heads... remember there is this fellow named Ray who was caught in a down pour last spring. Seems to me after it was over that Ray almost actually enjoyed the Test of Endurance...

With all the rain the alley may be cleared of that ice... now if the snows can stay away... heheh then maybe I can get some ride time in.

Looked at the odometer and figured I have ridden 22221 miles this year... so far.

73,

Tim Lindstrom ABOTS <cab0tstim@juno.com>
Columbia Heights, MN

"One man's blood travels 168,000 miles in a day and he uses 7 million brain cells." (may be right!!!

"A boy bully attacks physically. A girl bully attacks verbally." Marriage of such a grown pair can be dramatically dangerous even deadly."

FROM YOUR '50/50' LADY
MIJO REYNOLDS KF6BEB
<MijoBeb@aol.com>

NET DRAWING:

12/3/03-Jeff Heggstrom KE6HFF \$5 (N/A)
12/10- Robbie Fletcher KG6JRT \$5 + 5 tickets(W)
12/17- Peter Fleming N6LMO \$5 (N/A)
12/24- No Net
12/31- Jim Evans KC6RCR \$5 +5 tickets (N/A)

Regarding the nets "MARC" your calendars for Wednesday night nets at 7:30 pm. You may be a winner of \$5 and possibly extra tickets for the next meetings drawing. Yes you have to answer on the radio and come to the next meeting to reap your rewards.

Special drawing winners for the Christmas Party:
Mijo Reynolds KF6BEB (037080) bought in October won the Kenwood 742A
Cortech Jacket - Ray KD6FHN (037942) sold December
Honey Baked Ham Certificate from NCG Corp won by Mark Kanzler KE6ZRP(037861) sold Dec
Set of tires/installation from Huntington Honda won by Dave Clark N6ICB (037377) sold November
\$40 gift certificate from JBJ CYCLES won by Ted Moody KB6CUS (037884) sold December
Two \$25 gift certificates from Westminster Harley won by Charles Robles KF6TXI (037800) sold December &
Teri Edwards KF6HJT (037364) sold November
Two magnums of Champagne from the MS Society won by Billy Hall N6EDY (037749) sold December &
Charles Robles KF6TXI (037308) sold November
Kay and Mel Johnson (KD6MPB) brought in candies in neat sleighs for each couples/or singles. Mel & Kay always bring booco door prizes each month THANK YOU BOTH VERY MUCH.
Bonnie KD6OFQ had several items to be drawn on a freebie ticket- not sure who won what as they had their choice of
Four kitchen angels made of dish towels
Six Christmas jars/lites with potpourri
Two containers of candies/nuts
One container of Molasses cookies
Two gift bags with soup/cookie mix & truffles & candle
One tier of cookies candies etc.
One bath & body selection
Two coffee urns & coffee

Our waitresses for the evening were Billi & a wonderful young lady with a great sense of humor. (Sorry I did not get her name) They did a great job- the food was great.
Thank you both very much.

Thank you to the owners Dimitri & Dino and their personnel for allowing "MARC" to have their meetings in your restaurant-
A very Happy Prosperous Safe New Year to all.

SECRETARY/Treasurer/NewsLetter Editor/Info Bureau:
Bonnie KD6OFQ 949-551-1036 Fax 949-551-3042
Cell # 949-300-4441
<bonidavis@juno.com> <bonidavis@earthlink.net>

NEW MEMBERS:

12/8/03- E. Cecil Wiley K5LO of Alexandria , LA
12/13/03- Nicholas Randal AE6PG of Yorba Linda, CA
12/18/03- John Tuso KG6FOP of Huntington Beach, CA

Welcome to "MARC" we hope each of you enjoy "MARC" and the charity work we do. It is well rewarding.. Also we are here for you if there are any questions or tech help you need. We are just a phone call away or just a call on the radio will do it.

NEWSLETTERS:

Oh yes I did get my wish for a tech article for the first newsletter of 2004..... Just keep them coming

Dues are due:

Be sure to check your mailing label, if it is in red your membership is up for renewal....unless they cross in the mail.

SUNSHINE CORNER:::

First I want to let everyone know Tom (K2QGT) & Eleanor Guthrie of Parhump, NV called to say hello & a Happy New Year to all. Eleanor is still fighting the bad word "cancer". As we have many members in the world who are suffering from cancer and other debilitating diseases. Just remember we are family and our LOVE and PRAYERS are with each and everyone of you.
WE CARE!!!!!!
Our love and prayers go out to the Military and their families during these trying times...

E-MAIL CHECK-IN:::

WOOHOO! Happy New year to you TOO!

My computer had a major crash a few days ago and I JUST now got back online. Boy, you never realize how much you rely on a machine until it's gone!
OK....here we GO!

Happy New Year everyone!

Thank you so much for the 87 responses I received from the fourth quarter check in. I am in the process of adding the latest members and you will be on the roster for the first quarter check in of 2004!

I hope everyone has a happy, healthy, PROSPEROUS 2004. I hope to see everyone at the Anniversary meeting in May. (God willing and the creek don't rise)

I feel like there is much hope for 2004. It's looking like it will be an exciting year here in Houston. After all, we have the Super Bowl!

Take care and love to y'all!

73's from your quarterly check in person!

Sue KF6HZJ <counterqueenie@sbcglobal.net>
Houston, Texas
Your MARC quarterly e-mail check-in Lady & Historian

EDITORS NOTE::: IF THERE IS SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE CHANGED IN THE NEWSLETTER, PLEASE ASK ME!?? ALSO YOU MEMBERS WITH ARTICLES MAKE FOR GOOD READING. I WOULD LIKE A TECH ARTICLE EACH MONTH---THANK YOU

COORDINATING AN EVENT

I was asked to write a little about coordinating an event. The MARC group has handled small bicycle events of 100 to 300 riders to the large events like Orange County's Multiple Sclerosis 150 mile, two day bike tour, with almost 1100 bicycle riders. We are asked to handle as little as covering the route looking for people needing assistance to adding additional route markers if there are missing signs to just about everything beyond that. The event organizers may only have you attend one or two of their meetings or you may ask to sit and help in the planning from the start.

I would like to start by describing what to do for a small event, it just expands from here as the event officials become more aware of what your group can do for them. The small event is an event where you may have attended a couple of those planning meetings or not. Again a small bicycle event may have 100 to 300 riders with 1 to 3 overlapping routes of something like a 25, 50 and a 100-mile routes. You would need at least 1 motorcycle to cover a 20 to 25 mile section of the route, and a net control operator (4 motorcycles minimum). The more motorcycles you have the less area each has to cover and the easier it will be on all. You as the coordinator of the motorcycle group would send one motorcycle out with the lead bicycle. This is so you can keep track of the lead rider and let the event officials know where that lead rider is when asked and net control will let the officials know so that they can prepare for his arrival at the finish line. You can keep in contact with the lead motorcycle and as he gets to the second section of the route you will send another motorcycle out. The second motorcycle will slowly ride the route until he lets you know that he has arrived at the second section of the route and you will send out the next motorcycle so on and so on. Finally you will send the last motorcycle out with the last rider to keep track of the end of the ride, again so the event officials will know where the last bicycle is and when all the riders are finished with their route. After the first motorcycle gets the first rider to the finish he will then cover the last section of the route, the second motorcycle will cover the second section from the end and so on. If you only had the 4 motorcycles you would give each of them about a 25 miles section of the 100 mile route. As the last motorcycle moves into the next section (25-50 mile section) the motorcycle assigned to cover that section can assist the sweep motorcycle and also move forward, this will allow you to decrease the amount of area that each of the motorcycle has to cover, until all bicycle riders are finished. The job of the motorcycle will be to radio to net control any problems that they come across and to help out where they can. It is best if each motorcycle could carry extra route signs and directions along with a tire patching kit and extra drinking water for the bicycle rider that came unprepared. It is also good if the event officials can arrange to have support and gear (SAG) vehicles that can pick up bicyclists that break down and can't repair their bike on the course or for those ride that just can't finish the ride.

For a larger bicycle event the advance planning will play an important role. It is important to plan out the safest route you can find. Other planning may include locating and document emergency support like hospitals and bike shops along the route. The volunteers that come to help may not be familiar with the event area and any advance help (with maps and or directions) to locate these places will only speed getting any problems taken care of in the shortest time allowing the volunteer to move on to help the next person.

Determining best locations for rest stops and the supplies (drinks & snacks) that will be needed at each location. You will want the bicycles that stop at the rest stops to move well out of the road for their safety.

If you have a lot of communicators you can place them at rest stops, in the supply truck, as shadows with the event officials so messages can be relayed between net control and the officials. It will help to have back up people to relieve the primary person at some of these positions.

For the Orange County's Multiple Sclerosis MS150 bike tour we have two radio clubs that support this event. The MARC group supplies the motorcycles that can more easily cover the routes and the CARES group whose volunteers cover the rest stops, the shadowing of the event officials and supply the HAM operator for the SAG vehicle together we supply about 40 to 50 HAM operator for this two day event. We may have up to 15 motorcycles and 10 SAG vehicle signed up to work this event. Family and friends of the MARC group come out and help fill non-motorcycle position with the CARES group as this event requires so many volunteers.

For the MS150 Saturday is the hardest day because we are covering a total of 100 miles; the riders that are fast riders can ride the full 100 mile course and the other bicyclists will ride the 50 miles route. The committee has set up a cutoff place and time that the 100 mile riders must achieve to be able to continue on the 100 mile route. If the rider makes it to the cutoff point in time he is able to continue on the 100 mile course. This cutoff point and time is mainly because, the committee wants to close both the 50 & 100 mile course before sunset. On Sunday we cover a 50 mile route, a slower easier day. Unlike other events that are a 1 day event and have shorter routes. The MS150 is a 2 day, 50 miles each day minimum, the big problem with both days is that not all the bike riders are able to ride 50 miles a day. This is where the other HAM radio group and the SAGs are most needed. The CARES group sets up their net control next to the MARC net control. When a motorcycle finds a bicycle rider that is unable to finish the route he contacts the MARC net control. MARC then passes the message to the CARES net control and in turn their net control sends a (SAG) vehicle out to pick up the tired bike rider and bring them to the finish line. The SAG vehicles are also out on the course all day long to help the riders with flats or broken bikes and sometimes just a lift up a big hill or to the next rest stop. The motorcycles can also help with flats and other things but it is best to radio for a SAG and wait with the rider until a SAG vehicle arrives to help. Then the motorcycle can get back on the road and continue to patrol his route.

Recent years we have had bicycle mobiles as tail gunners along with the motorcyclists and to assist on bike trails where motorcyclist can not travel.

When mounting an antenna on the rear door of a van/suv/station wagon and other similar vehicle, the door opens as usual. When the door is opened, the antenna lays along the side of the passenger compartment.



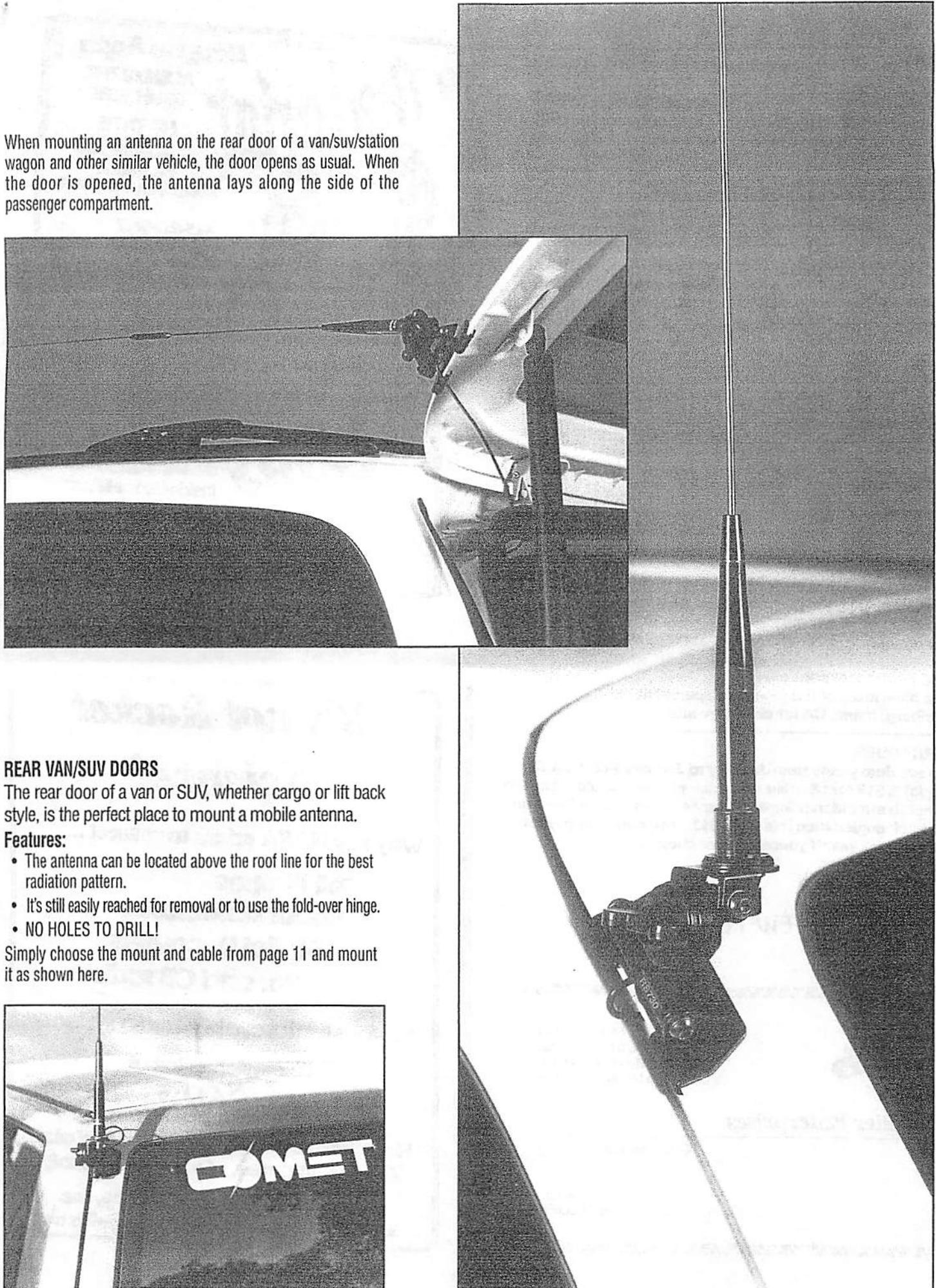
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E-Mail Check-ins & Historian: **Sue Hebb** KF6HZJ

MS 150K Coordinator: **John Edwards** KC6ZQZ
Gearing Up For Abused Children Coordinators:
Jim Rodrigues KC60AU
John Edwards KC6ZQZ

Love Ride Coordinators: **Bill Douglas** KE6UUD
John Reynolds W5JFR

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Butch Macy KD6VBO
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Bonnie Davis KD6OFQ

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Mike Naron N6QZT

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EMBROIDERY: **Sheron Ames** KC6ZSH
ACCESSORIES: **Norma Thomas** KE6BIS

Members-at-Large:
Danny Velderrain KD6FLP (Founding Board Member)
Terry Lewis KJ7LI (Past Vice President)
Pat Lewis KD6SBZ (Past 50/50 Lady)
Drew Pushie VE6HGW (Past Web Master)

MARC Equipment controller is Ray Davis KD6FHN
as we have most of the set-up equipment at
3 Lindberg, Irvine, CA for charity events.

"MARC" DUES:
Dues are due yearly from January to January \$12 (USA & Canada) & \$15 for all other countries per household. It is a \$1 per month after March for the balance of the year unless you want back copies then it is a full \$12. You may also pay for more than one year if you care...your choice..

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2004

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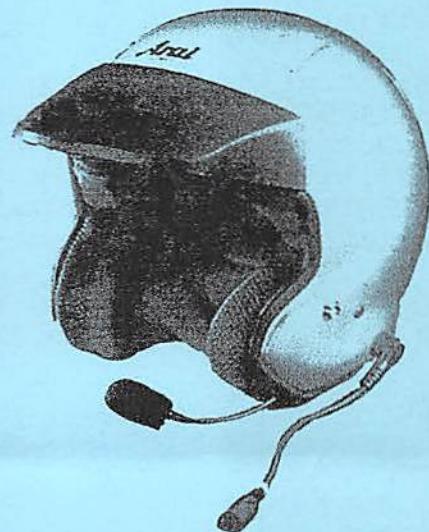
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7,14,21,28- "MARC" NET ON THE BARN SYSTEM 447.540 PL 100
10- "MARC" BREAKFAST MEETING AT LAKE VIEW CAFE 8AM(714-572-8521)

FEB 4,11,18,25- "MARC" NET ON THE BARN SYSTEM 447.540 PL 100
14- "MARC" BREAKFAST MEETING(LADIES) LAKE VIEW CAFE (714-572-8521)
14- HAPPY VALENTINES DAY (TREAT YOUR SWEETIE)
"THIS IS LEAP YEAR"

MAR 3,10,17,24,31- "MARC" NET ON THE BARN SYSTEM 447.540 PL 100
13- "MARC" BREAKFAST MEETING AT LAKE VIEW CAFE (714-572-8521)
17- WEARIN' O' THE GREEN ST. PATRICK'S DAY

SPECIAL INFO:::::::::::

MARC HOME PAGE: <http://marc-hq.org>

MARC PERSONALS WEBSITES:<http://www.telusplanet.net/public/afriesen/marcmemb.htm>

MARC LIST: marc@nxport.com

BA-MARC LOCAL SITE: <http://ba-marc.org>

EAST COAST MARC SITE: <http://www.eastcoastmarc.org>

IL/WI SITE: www.angelfire.com/sports/MARC/

(OUR CALL FREQUENCY 144.370-PL 100 MARC SIMPLEX, CONDOR SYSTEM, & THE BARN SYSTEM(447.540 PL 100)-MOST ARE MONITORED APPROXIMATELY 16-18 HRS A DAY)



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JANUARY 2004

NEXT MEETINGS:

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91 FWY/LAKEVIEW EXIT
FEBRUARY 14, 2004 8 AM LAKE VIEW CAFE