

New Dues Structure and Rates

In order to cover costs and allow for future projects and restorations the following dues structure was adopted by the Board of Directors at the November meeting and becomes effective March 1, 2003:

Yearly memberships;

Associate	20.00 per year (35.00 foreign)
Active	40.00 per year (55.00 foreign)
Family	60.00 per year (75.00 foreign)
Sustaining	100.00 per year (115.00 foreign)

Life memberships;

Single life

Birth-17 years of age	1200.00 or (5 payments of 280.00)
Age 18-39	900.00 or (5 payments of 220.00)
Age 40-61	600.00 or (5 payments of 160.00)
Age 62 and above	300.00 or (5 payments of 100.00)

Family Life (Age of youngest child)

Birth-17 years of age	1800.00 or (5 payments of 420.00)
Age 18-39	1350.00 or (5 payments of 330.00)
Age 40-61	900.00 or (5 payments of 240.00)
Age 62 and above	450.00 or (5 payments of 150.00)

Life memberships may be paid over five years of equal payments plus the current member class dues. The life membership card will be sent upon receipt of the final payment. Until such time as the life membership is paid in full the member will receive the equivalent yearly membership card. All payments towards a life membership are non-refundable and failure to make a scheduled payment by the due date will result in forfeiture of the funds paid towards the life membership.

From the Fire Marshall

By Frank Brehm

When there is a fire or related emergency, police, fire and medical vehicles need to have proper access so that the vehicles can get close enough to the buildings for rescue, fire fighting and emergency medical duties. Recognizing this fact and at the suggestion of the Fire Marshall the North side of the diesel shop has been designated a fire lane. Signs will be erected which clearly mark this as a fire lane and parking is no longer permitted in this area. I want to remind our volunteers that leaving your vehicle unattended in a fire lane may hamper emergency efforts and if you park there, others will think it is acceptable to park there... and it isn't. The only exception is when actually picking up, or discharging, passengers or actively engaged in loading or unloading a motor vehicle.

For our purposes a "fire lane" is defined as a designated unobstructed passageway at least twenty (20) feet in width, constructed and maintained in a manner to permit free passage of fire apparatus and other emergency equipment and personnel from a public way to all necessary areas, regardless of season of year or weather conditions. A "parking area" is defined as lots, areas or other accommodations for the parking of motor vehicles off the street, alley or other way, which said lots, areas or other

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accommodations are available for use by the public either with or without charge.

Parking for volunteers is available in the parking area and to a limited extent near the loading dock, while maintaining the fire lane. It may seem a bother to park farther away, but emergency response vehicles arrive and become operational on the scene very quickly. People who park in fire lanes would probably have a different perspective if they ever had to move 150 feet of fire hose around someone's car or delivery truck to put out a fire or if they ever had to carry a severely ill or injured person to an ambulance. Every step, every foot, every car or truck in the way makes a difference in the efficiency of fire and life safety.

Amatuer Radio Field Day

By Matthew Parker

Amateur Radio Field Day is a nationwide event taking place each year on the last weekend of June. The event is sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, the national association of amateur radio (ham) operators. During the event, amateurs are encouraged to set up and operate their equipment at field sites where normal shelter and power are not found in order to simulate conditions frequently encountered when providing communications during emergencies or disasters. The two-fold purpose of the event is to give amateurs practice in the skills used while providing emergency/disaster communications and at the same time to provide the general public the opportunity to learn more about amateur radio. The 2003 event will take place on Saturday, June 28 through Sunday, June 29.

Amateurs from the Reno, Nevada area will be spearheading the establishment of a Field Day station at the Portola Railroad Museum for this event. The museum promises to provide a unique location for a field day station with the potential to present ham radio to many visitors while also providing an added attraction for those visiting the museum on that weekend. Special event call sign W6P, commemorating the Museum's focus on the heritage of the Western Pacific Railroad, has been reserved for this operation. With sufficient equipment resources, a "Get on the Air" station, reserved for the use of current non active amateur licensees as well as interested members of the general public not yet licensed, may be established, allowing these people to operate ham equipment themselves in communicating with others around the world. Other possibilities for public demonstration exist as well, including the possibility of setting up an operating telegraph from the field day site to the Museum's operating office. This outstanding opportunity to combine the excitement of amateur radio with that of railroading for those with a mutual interest in these two pursuits will make for a most worthwhile visit to the museum on that weekend.

Participation in the operation of this Field Day station is open to any interested amateurs. Those who are also members of the FRRS, or are interested in learning how to become a member active in supporting the operation of the museum, are particularly encouraged to visit the museum during this event. For further information or to volunteer time/equipment for the event contact Matt Parker, N7TOD via e-mail at n7tod@arrl.net. West coast hams can find Matt most days on the Jefferson Noon Net on 7232.0 khz at noon pacific time (net control station on Mondays). Interested hams are also encouraged to send inquiries to Matt utilizing the National Traffic System (NTS).

THE TRAIN SHEET