

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION

Report for the month of March 2015

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Hello San Joaquin Section;

MY APOLOGIES – OVER A MONTH LATE DUE TO COMPUTER ISSUES!

Where are you in your goals for your hobby of Ham Radio? If you are like most hams, you are frustrated by time constraints and commitments to Clubs and Organizations close to your heart. This is a good thing. we continue to advance the art and we strive in our personal goals. All is part of Ham Radio.

There are some lightly addressed parts of Amateur Radio and I want to mention them here to recognize the importance and realize the value of them in Amateur Radio. Those are DIY and Elmers.

DIY (do it yourself) is still alive and well. Yes, you can buy something off the shelf but doing your own wiring, small projects, interconnecting interfaces and such, give you confidence and accomplishment. These allow additional modes and administration aspects like logging, internet connectivity for QSL purposes, digital

modes, satellite and weak signal communication. Oh yes, building your own antennas that fit or work as you want them. Also if you have done these things, this leads right into Elmering.

What is an Elmer? I think of them as Mentors, but more than that.

They are the hobby's coaches! Just like sports, there are coaches for every aspect of the sport. Each of us have the ability to at minimum, help a person get their license. We all have one so we can pass this on. Now it doesn't stop there. We all have our likes and dislikes, goals and priorities. As we advanced, someone gave us advice, offered their own experience or gave us avenues of study.

Think about it. Now what could you pass along to another Ham that wants the same things? OK, now how do you make that known? This is another venue of our Clubs. Do a presentation at a meeting. Make yourself available on nets or with the organizations you spend time with, charitable, DX, Contesting or social.

My final comment on these areas, volunteer to work within your church, scouting or youth programs and have fun! The organizations will offer structure. You will have a better opportunity to find like minded persons.

Get your sites posted for Field Day and send out invitations to operate on the GOTA station or free VHF station.

DX Convention in Visalia coming up!

Remember to support HR-1301 and get your letter to ARRL and your

Congressional Representative. Go to the link on the ARRL website

www.arrl.org/hr-1301. We have to start now to finish the Amateur Radio

Parity Act, this year.

73;

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