

The Short Circuit

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The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

March 2004

The President's Corner

Rich Stocking N7OP

Ham radio is steeped in traditions, legends, codes, and symbols. Some of the most frequently asked questions are, "Where did the word Ham come from?" "Where did the Q signals come from?" "What is a Wouff Hong ?" Why are hams so involved in public service? I'll limit this month's column to the last question.

Hams have adopted many special radio traditions over the years. In 1928, Paul M. Segal, W9EEA composed an Amateur's Code. Ham radio operators proudly uphold the Amateur's Code today, just as in the past. Of particular interest always to me was his section that read: "Patriotic... station and skill always ready for service to country and community."

Our next meeting will have a talk on the upcoming Rim of the World Performance Rally. The Subaru Rim of the World Rally, Round 3 of the 2004 SCCA Pro-Rally Championship, is a performance rally: flat-out racing on a stage-by-stage basis, with production-based, street-legal cars and trucks run at one or two minute intervals rather than wheel to wheel. Competitors race over the grueling, unpaved, fire roads of the Angeles National Forest just north of Los Angeles, which makes for exciting views for both spectators and workers.

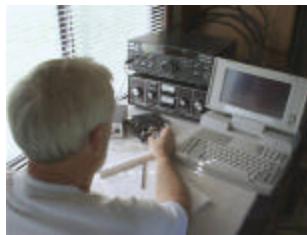
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**UNITED
WE STAND**

Meeting Notice

Thursday, March 25, is the next meeting of the AVARC at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Lancaster City Hall, 44933 N. Fern Ave. in Lancaster. Talk-in is available on 146.73 MHz. if you need directions. This month's meeting will feature **Mike Jones K6IL** and **Paula Gibeault N6OQQ**, who will be talking about Rim of the World, and **Chuck Turner K6ARU**, who will talk about radios for Field Day operation. This promises to be a very interesting and informative presentation. Please join us!



Blast from the past - KØBGL operates at the AVARC 1997 Field Day

From The Veep

Charles Turner K6ARU

March 2004, This month first we will talk about Rim of the World Rally for May 7th & 8th by Mike K6IL and Paula N6OQQ. They will give updates and information about the rally. There web site is www.rimoftheworldrally.com. Talk about racing, if anyone is interested in racing, I'm racing at Ventura, Ca. in VRA sprint class Saturday nights Bring the family to see the best little dirt track in America.

Second I will talk about ham radio equipment in general but mainly for Field Day set up. We are working on the Club's Field Day generator and antenna tower trailers, and any volunteers are welcome to help out.

The basic and preventative maintenance of Field Day radios should be kept in the simplest set up possible, so no time is wasted learning how to operate or repairing radios at the Field Day site. It should be a quick and easy set up for all levels. There will be new beginners, and pro operators at the tables, and the public will be watching us operate - and we like to look professional at Field Day! If you have any questions, loaner equipment, and any ideas, please bring to the meeting to get it started and organized the radio equipment. I have a very busy schedule so if we get started early, I can get the radio equipment ready for Field Day in time. If we run out of time at the meeting, we can continue next month in conjunction with Karen

(Continued on page 2)

President's Corner...

(Continued from page 1)

My son Justin, KD5PEV, and I volunteered for this event last year. It was a blast, ... cold, rain, snow, hail, slippery mud and all. We will definitely be back again this year. (I'm just hoping that most of the mud from last year's event has finally fallen off the under-carriage of the truck before participating in this year's event. My mileage definitely "varied" for several weeks after the Rim.)

This event, far from being an emergency communications drill, tests many skills that are very appropriate to preparedness in our local area. The area of the Angeles National Forest is often the scene of large wild fires. The terrain is rugged and tests the resourcefulness of the communications infrastructure and the communicators. The portable repeaters, the directional antennas, the number of simultaneous nets that accompany the event with the large amount of traffic all contribute to a

complicated and arduous exercise that rivals emergency training events. The event's success owes much to the can-do spirit and technical ingenuity of the planners and participants.

I'm glad that this particular event is one of our AVARC traditions and would encourage anyone that could participate to consider it. This event, much like the others that AVARC supports, is in the true spirit of the Amateur Code of service to our community.

Following the Rim presentation at our next meeting is a related talk by Chuck K6ARU on Field Day preparation for radios and gear. This timely talk is relevant for FD as well as emergency operations (or Rim!). Looking forward to the next meeting,

73,

Rich N70P

Help Wanted Field Day 2004

Seeking any and all Hams interested in assisting with Field Day preparations and on day of Event. Must be enthusiastic, energetic, and willing to help. Looking for someone to steer the publicity wagon, be the head Safety Officer, and help man the Disaster Preparedness Information table. I am also looking for QSL scrapbooks and displays. Other suggestions always welcome. All interested parties should apply to KD5PLF, Karen Stocking, at 949-1039. Thanks.



From The Veep...

(Continued from page 1)

KD5PLF, when she will talk about the rest of the Field Day set up. So let's have the best operating station around.

Lastly we need volunteer help with The Short Circuit publication printing-anyone has any experience in printing and equipment, please let us know.

73,

Charles Turner

K6ARU

Membership Dues Notice

If you have not paid your 2004 dues, please renew right away by postal mail, or by paying our membership chair, Bruce, N6SFV, at the next meeting. AVARC is a nonprofit educational organization under IRS Part 501©3.

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From the Secretary's Desk

AVARC MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 26, 2004

Location: EOC, City Hall, 44933 N. Fern Ave., Lancaster, CA 93534

The President called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with 53 members and 2 non-members present, constituting a quorum of at least 10% of the total eligible voting membership. After the Pledge of Allegiance, it was moved and seconded that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Starting balance of \$1,696.24; \$254.00 dues deposited; ending balance \$1,950.24. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that the Secretary's Minutes of the last General Membership meeting and the last Board of Director's meeting be accepted as printed in the last issue of the Short Circuit (newsletter). Motion carried.

Announcements:

1. Karen, KD5PLF, said the Field Day reservation is in and is seeking old and new station captains. Also, several groups of boy and girl scouts have been invited to Field Day. Plans call for using the old and new trailers and the new generator.

2. Pat, N6RMJ, announced the M² Open House on March 27 in Fresno. Come for many great antenna bargains and the food. Ron, K6WLC, said the trip to M² was well worthwhile last year and encouraged everyone who could to attend this year.

3. Adrienne, WA6YEO, said the next VE test session is at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 6 at the Kumon Center. It is an ARRL session costing \$12.

4. Dave, KX6Z, said Dan, KG6PQA, has served as net control for the Wednesday night AVARC net and has done a great job. Many thanks to Dan for helping with this important function. The net meets at 8 pm on 146.73 MHz, PL 100, callsign K6OX. Please join us there and get all the latest local news as well as Amateur Radio Newsline.

5. Michael, K6IL, announced the Rim of the World road rally first mailing is out. The event will be held on May 7 & 8. Also, the program next month will be Rim and the hams role in the event. Big changes are coming this year. The pre-event picnic and BBQ will be on Sunday, April 17 and will be

followed by two training sessions for old and new participating hams. All volunteers are encouraged to register at the web site whether you have worked the Rally before or not: www.RimoftheWorldRally.com

6. Rich, N7OP, announced that Don, W6DMM, has submitted his resignation for the position of Board Member. Nomination and election of a replacement Board Member was conducted in accordance with Club By-Laws, Article VI, Section 4. The nominees were: Dan, N6SLH; Katie, KD5PLE; and Harold, K6HAB. Voting was conducted by written ballot with Harold, K6HAB, receiving the most votes. Congratulations to Harold, our new Board Member.

Program:

Rich, N7OP, presented the program entitled "Antennas and Antenna Modeling" after the business meeting was closed. For more information visit the web site of W4RNL.

The next General Membership meeting will be held on March 25, 2004 at this same location and time. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on March 11, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at Claude's, K7TEN, QTH in Lancaster, CA. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm after the program.

**Submitted by Claude A. Brown, K7TEN
Secretary, AVARC, 2004**

AVARC Board Meeting March 11, 2004

Location: Claude's QTH, Lancaster, CA 93536. Members Present: Rich Stocking, N7OP, President; Chuck Turner, K6ARU, Vice President; Dave Alpert, KX6Z, Treasurer; Claude Brown, K7TEN, Secretary; Vern Eubanks, KØLVS, Past President; Elizabeth Alpert, KG6JDH, Board Member; Keith Hoyt, K6GXO, Trustee; Members Absent: Gary Mork, WA6WFC, Master at Arms. Others Present: Bruce Mowers, N6SFV, Membership Chairman; Justin Stocking, KD5PEV; Delores Bragg.

The President opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m. with at least five Board Members being present to constitute a quorum.

Discussion:

1. Keith, K6GXO, asked if payment of \$10 had been made to the Council of Radio Clubs. Will ask Dale, KØBGL

2. Bruce, N6SFV, reported that 59 of the 189 members had yet to pay their 2004 dues. Reminder, as per our By-Laws, if dues are not paid by March 15, members must be dropped from the active membership list. Vern, KØLVS, suggested putting a sticker on the last issue of the newsletter a member will receive reminding them that it is their last issue until membership is renewed.

3. The program at the next general membership meeting will be on the Rim of the World rally, presented by Mike, K6IL, and Paula, N6OQQ. Also, Chuck, K6ARU, will present a program on radios for Field Day operation.

4. Reminder, the M² Open House is March 27 in Fresno, CA. Be there or be M².

Also, on May 22 the Western States Weak Signal Society (WSWSS) meets; see Ron Hammel, K6WLC.

5. Dave, KX6Z, gave the Treasurer's Report: Checking balance is \$2,241.62; Savings is \$731.97

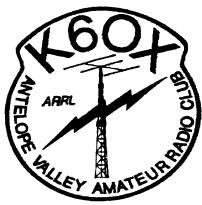
6. Harold, K6HAB, said postal fees for bulk rate mailings are not economical for the Club and use doesn't result in forwarding or return to sender. Consensus is not to consider further.

7. Rich, N7OP, will host a "work party" at his place on March 20 at 10 am to work on the new generator. We need multiple skills (electrical, etc.) to assure the readiness of the unit for Field Day. Keith, K6GXO, will bring the Field Day trailer also and its annual maintenance will be done as well.

8. Vern, KØLVS, asked if Beth's, N6PMN, new hams were being contacted. Karen, KD5PLF, is working to invite all of them to Field Day events. Elizabeth, KG6JDH, thought the young hams would like a T-Hunt with prizes. Some of the new hams are still at her school and have shown continuing interest in amateur radio.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 1, 2004 at Keith's, K6GXO, QTH. The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

**Submitted by Claude A. Brown,
Secretary, AVARC, 2004**



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2004 Officers

President	Rich Stocking	N7OP	949-1039
Vice President	Chuck Turner	K6ARU	945-9097
Secretary	Claude Brown	K7TEN	948-2672
Treasurer	Dave Alpert	KX6Z	267-0338
Master-At-Arms	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
Board Member	Elizabeth Alpert	KG6JDH	267-0338
Board Member	Harold Bragg	K6HAB	256-7465
Board Member	Bruce Mowers	N6SFV	942-5986
Trustee	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
Ex Officio	Vern Eubanks	KØLVS	822-8772



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