

The Short Circuit

<http://www.avarc.av.org>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

April 2004

The President's Corner

Rich Stocking N7OP

The calendar under daylight savings time has almost let me see the sunrise again in the morning on my way to work. As I drive up to the plant, the first of the commuters heading south on the Hwy 14 start checking into the Hauser repeater. The discourse of Pat N6RMJ, Matt K6MES and the other commuters as they start towards Palmdale en route to the 14 usually starts up just as I pull into the parking lot.

Seems like the repeater is much quieter as I pull out of the plant in the evenings, but at least the sun hasn't set yet. (It gets depressing to never see the sun.) The long days and hectic schedules can sure cause one stress and tension. After staring at a computer screen all day the thought of sitting down to a radio or computer seems far from my mind. The excitement of the old days of rushing home from high school to "warm up" the ham radio transmitter and receiver and to talk past midnight to DX seems like a universe away. (Yes, they were tube radios, homebrew, too.) ... I miss that feeling.

Ham radio is a patient hobby; it seems to outlast most life changes, phases and even some extended absences. The wavery sounds of aurora propagation, doppler shift and distortion over the

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UNITED WE STAND

Meeting Notice

Thursday, April 22, 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 Field Day Chairman **Karen Stocking KD5PLF**, who will do a presentation on our preparations for Field Day. This is one of the premier events for our club, so you won't want to miss this very important meeting!



The Stockings at FD 2002 - Rich N7OP and Justin KD5PEV

From The Veep

Charles Turner K6ARU

This month we will have preparedness and discussion on 2004 Field Day by Karen Stocking KD5PLF.

What is Field Day? Field Day is an operating event designed to test emergency preparedness in less than optimal conditions.

It is the largest on-the-air operating event sponsored by the ARRL. Field Day gives both experienced operators and neophytes a chance to share ideas and new experiences. Each year tens of thousands amateur radio operators and guest join the excitement and camaraderie.

Field Day is FUN! Whether you are a hardcore contester, someone who likes to build antennas, a casual operator, or someone just curious about the hobby, there are enough things happening at most group Field Day sites to capture your interest and get you involved.

There are six operating categories for Field Day. Class A is made up of any group or club of at least three persons which operate "in the field" away from a normal station location. Class B is for one or two person operations also operating away from a traditional station location. Class C is for mobile stations. Class D is for home stations operating on commercial power. Class E is for home stations operating on emergency power. Class F is for stations operating from an establish Emergency Operation Center.

Our score for 2002 Field Day 3A was 1937 QSOs, under 150 watts, 40 operators, 5,578 in points. 2003 Field Day 2A was 1147 QSOs, under 150 watts, 50 operators, 4,196 in points. So come out and see AVARC Field Day in action this June 26th & 27th and help bring the points back up also.

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President's Corner...

(Continued from page 1)

poles sounds the same on the newest IF DSP radio as it did when coming out of the old 6CG7 detector followed by a venerable 6AQ5 pentode. Well, perhaps the sound was a bit warmer, more natural somehow off the old tubes than the precise filter shaped sampled and reconstituted IF and audio of the newest radios. But nonetheless, the joys of ham radio transcend the time frame of the various radios, station setups and QTH's we all seem to QSY through.

Thank goodness we have scheduled Ham events to keep that feeling and goodness quotient intact. We are looking forward to the MS Walk this Saturday, the Rim of the World training and the Generator work party on Sunday. I guess that should

give me my Ham radio minimum daily requirement for about a week. The AVARC serves me in that function. It keeps us involved in activities, presents operating opportunities and most importantly keeps me in contact with good people.

This month's talk will be the annual Field Day preparation presentation by our FD chairman Karen, KD5PLF. Bring your enthusiasm, plans and station setup ideas. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

73,

Rich N70P

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.

This would be a good time to check the mailing label on your copy of the Short Circuit. If anything needs to be corrected, please let Bruce know so that he can make the necessary changes.

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)

Next month we will have our own Pat N6RMJ demoing his 10 GHz microwave setup, and discussing weak signal work and the upcoming ARRL June VHF QSO Party Contest.

73,

Chuck K6ARU

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From the Secretary's Desk

AVARC MEMBERSHIP MEETING March 25, 2004

The President called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with 40 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. The checking account balance is \$2,241.62. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that the Secretary's Minutes of the last General Membership meeting be accepted as printed in the last issue of the Short Circuit (newsletter) and the minutes of the last Board of Directors meeting in the last issue of the newsletter be accepted as amended to show Board Member Harold, K6HAB, as present. Motion carried.

Announcements:

1. Karen, KD5PLF, Field Day Chairman, reported the first work party to prepare our equipment (trailers) for Field Day was held Saturday, March 20. The next ones will be on Saturday, April 10 at 8 am at Keith's, K6GXO, QTH and Sunday, April 18 at 10 am at Rich's, N7OP, QTH. At Field Day, Randy, KR6DR, will hold a T-hunt and Rich, N7OP, will be a counselor to help scouts earn a radio merit badge.
2. Vern, KØLVS, said Merle, W6MJB, moved to Sunrise, AZ and might not be here for Field Day. We might need a volunteer to cook for the event.
3. Bruce, N6SFV, Membership Chairman, reminded all that the active member list must be updated to include only dues paying members effective tonight. Thanks to all who have paid promptly and renewed their membership.
4. Pat, N6RMJ, said the M² Open House is Saturday, March 27 in Fresno, 8am – 1pm.
5. David, KD6MSU, announced Dr David Warner made a presentation at the Barstow ARC on the Autonomous Car Race, an unmanned (remote controlled/programmed vehicle) race which used amateur radio for communications.
6. Adrienne, WA6YEO, will host the next VE test session on Monday, April 5 at 7 pm at the Kumon Center. It will be a \$4.00

GLAARG session. VEs are needed.

7. Also, the MS Walk is Saturday, April 17. Volunteers should be in place 8 am to noon at the Lancaster Market Place (formerly the Outlet Mall). This year will be a 5K and 10 K walk. She needs a total of 6 more hams to volunteer: 1 mobile, 2 at rest stops and 2 at intersections.

8. Dale, KØBGL, announced Adam Quant, WA6OCI, is a silent key.

Program:

Mike, K6IL, and Paula, N6OQQ, presented the program on Rim of the World Rally to be held May 7 & 8 on Angeles National Forest fire roads. For more info go to www.RimoftheWorldRally.com. The BBQ picnic will be on Saturday, April 17 at Desert Sands Park in Palmdale. The training session begins at 1:30 – 3:30 for old and new volunteers.

Chuck, K6ARU, presented a display and presentation on Field Day radio communication equipment.

The next General Membership meeting will be held on April 22, 2004 at this same location and time. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 1, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at Keith's K6GXO, in Palmdale, CA. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

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

AVARC Board Meeting April 1, 2004

Location: Keith's QTH, K6GXO, Palmdale, CA

Members Present: Rich Stocking, N7OP, President; Chuck Turner, K6ARU, Vice President; Claude Brown, K7TEN, Secretary; Gary Mork, WA6WFC, Master at Arms; Harold Bragg, K6HAB, Board Member; Keith Hoyt, K6GXO, Trustee

Members Absent: Dave Alpert, KX6Z, Treasurer; Vern Eubanks, KØLVS, Past President; Elizabeth Alpert, KG6JDH, Board Member

Others Present: Bruce Mowers, N6SFV, Membership Chairman; Dale Snider, KØBGL; Bill Feldman, N6PY; Delores Bragg

The President opened the meeting at 7:30

p.m. with at least five Board Members being present to constitute a quorum.

The membership drawing is not serving its purpose and should be terminated. Motion to abolish the membership drawing by Gary, WA6WFC, was seconded by Claude, K7TEN. Motion carried.

Motion by Harold, K6HAB, for the Club to pay \$10 dues to the LA Council of Amateur Radio Clubs for 2004 was seconded by Claude, K7TEN. Motion passed

Because of the uncertain due date, it was decided to ask the general membership to pre-approve the payment of the liability insurance policy at the next meeting so as to avoid any lapse in coverage due to late payment of the premium.

Bill, N6PY, says we need a solar powered station and volunteer operator at Field Day. We also need volunteers to set up, take down, and operate other stations. Rich, N7OP, said the Club could have won for California in Category 3A last year if we had qualified for that category.

The program at the next Club meeting will be Field Day presented by our Field Day chairman, Karen, KD5PLF.

Rich, N7OP, says the generator is operational due to efforts of workers at the last work day. Thanks to all who came out to help. The next work party will be at Keith's, K6GXO, on April 10 and the last one will be at Rich's, N7OP, on April 18.

Bruce, N6SFV, Membership Chairman, said we had 50 members not renew their membership for 2004. Our active membership stands at 132 currently. Last years members can still renew by paying their dues for 2004 retroactively and thus avoid a break in their membership.

Reminder: The MS Walk and Rim Rally picnic and training session are on Saturday, April 17. Also, the International DX Convention is set for April 23-25 in Visalia, CA.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on May 6, 2004 at Bill Feldmann's QTH in Palmdale, CA. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.



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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