

The Short Circuit



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

The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

December 2004

President's Corner

Rich Stocking N7OP

We are headed down to the low on the sunspot cycle with the depths predicted for mid 2006 to early 2007. This is my favorite part of the sunspot cycle ... seems everyone thinks DX is non-existent and HF just won't work. (A quiet secret ... HF still works and it's less crowded, and there's still DX!)

I remember that in 1994 the 3Y0PI DXpedition to Peter 1st Island was in such a slump. Everyone thought that such a rare DX spot would be hard or impossible to work in the depths of the cycle. After all, it was antipodal to most of the US. That's fancy talk for really being on the opposite side of the earth.

I was living in a restrictive covenant neighborhood in north Dallas at the time. The mere sight of any antenna would be cause for a Texas Neck Tie party ... well maybe just a homeowner's association fine. Anyway... the lure of real rare DX prompted me to build a 3 element wire beam to place on the roof which serendipitously lined up with a close bearing to Peter 1st Island. I carefully crafted the antenna and somehow got the cables and wires to blend with the asphalt shingles through a good bit of paint and camouflage. The gambit worked

(Continued on page 3)



**UNITED
WE STAND**

Meeting Notice

Thursday, December 16, 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 our traditional December potluck dinner. We have collected some mighty fine prizes for this year's Christmas Party Membership Raffle. There will also be gifts for the kids, so come and join us for an evening of fun with your fellow hams and their



The traditional AVARC Christmas potluck is a great family activity!

From The Veep

Chuck Turner K6ARU

WOW! It's the end of the year already, and hope next year goes well. This month we are busy with pot luck, prizes, club business, and holidays. I hope all of you enjoyed some of the meetings this year. Our new Vice President for 2005 is Dan KD6PQA. Congratulations and hope it will be better next year. I enjoyed serving as AVARC Vice President for 2004, and maybe I'll run again sometime in the future, and try to do better of course, have more emphasis and time to get better presentations, hi hi. At least now I've got some experience to help to run the club. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on December 16th... HAPPY HOLIDAYS

73,

Chuck K6ARU



From The Secretary's Desk

AVARC Membership Meeting

Date: November 18, 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 31 members present, constituting a quorum of at least 10% of the total eligible voting membership. After the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions 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. No Treasurer's report was presented due to non-availability of the treasurer.

1. The President reported that the Field Day report as presented in QST showed that the club had placed 15th in the US, 2nd in CA and 1st in LAX in Category 4A. Thanks were expressed to all who contributed to the fine showing this last year.
2. The issue of raising annual Club dues was offered up for general discussion and consideration by the general membership. The President offered a graphical representation of the yearly outlay of funds that the Club historically spends. The lack of a plus-up from HAMCOM as present last year indicated that the Club would require expenditure of savings to meet future obligations. Several members offered suggestions as to cost saving methods employed by other organizations. These included the ability to offer electronic distribution of the Short Circuit instead of a mailed copy. Additional cost saving and fund raising ideas were dis-

cussed. A motion by Vern, KØLVS to cease discussion on the matter was seconded by Bill, N6PY. The motion passed and Vern offered up a subsequent motion to increase Club dues to \$20 per year starting January 1 2005. This motion was seconded and passed by a unanimous vote. Family memberships will remain at 25% of the full membership (\$5). Per the By-Laws a budget will be presented by the President at the first meeting of the New Year.

3. Pat, N6RMJ reminded the membership of the Leonid meteor showers that enable VHF/UHF propagation and the swap meet in Chino Hills the following week-end.

Program: A presentation by Jim N6KZ on a versatile portable vertical antenna that could be built for about \$65 was followed by a presentation by Bill N6PY on wartime training of radio operators.

The next General Membership meeting will be held on December 16, 2004 at this same location and time. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 7 p.m. at Shakey's Pizza on Avenue I in Lancaster. The meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Submitted by Karen Stocking KD7PLF

AVARC BOARD MEETING

Date: December 2, 2004

Location: Shakey's Pizza, Lancaster, CA.

Members Present: Rich Stocking, N7OP, President: Chuck Turner, K6ARU, Vice President: Dave Alpert, KX6Z, Treasurer: Claude Brown, K7TEN, Secretary: Gary Mork, WA6WFC, Master at Arms: Vern Eubanks, KØLVS, Past President: Harold Bragg,

K6HAB, Board Member: Elizabeth Alpert, KG6JDH, Board Member

Members Absent: Keith Hoyt, K6GXO, Trustee

Others Present: Bruce N6SFV, Membership Chairman: Dolores, KG6VPS: Gary, WA6TWT: Robert, KG6DHQ, Secretary elect: Dan, KG6PQA, Vice Pres. elect: Don, WA6KPP, Treasurer elect

The President opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. with at least five Board Members being present to constitute a quorum.

Gary, WA6WFC, said the Club post office box rental has been paid through Dec. 31, 2005.

Plans were discussed for the annual Christmas (December) meeting and pot luck dinner. Reminder, the meeting is Dec. 16.

Rich, N7OP, reported that the dues increase for 2005 was approved by vote at the last (November) General Membership meeting.

Possible programs for 2005 were discussed and considered. Ideas are always welcome from members. Contact Dan, KG6PQA.

Rich, N7OP, has submitted our annual letter of request for use of the EOC room for Club meetings to the City of Lancaster.

Vern, KØLVS, suggested we conduct another mail campaign for new Club membership from non-member hams in the Antelope Valley. The last postcard campaign produced many new members.

Also, the e-mail address in World Radio is K6OX@Yahoo.com.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on January 6, 2005 at Shakeys Pizza, Lancaster, CA. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

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

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



HAM
RADIO
OUTLET

Janet Margelli
Manager
KL7MF

933 N. Euclid Street
Anaheim, CA 92801
714-533-7373, 1-800-854-6046
Fax 714-533-9485

ANAHEIM, CA • ATLANTA, GA • BURBANK, CA • DENVER, CO
NEW CASTLE, DE • OAKLAND, CA • PHOENIX, AZ • PORTLAND, OR
SALEM, NH • SAN DIEGO, CA • SUNNYVALE, CA • WOODBRIDGE, VA

Turner Radio

"Your High Performance Radio Repair"

ICOM • KENWOOD • YAESU SPECIALIST

CHARLES TURNER

K6ARU

Extra Class License
FCC License #PG-GB-002420

(661) 945-9097

E-Mail: kc6aru@cwo.com
42541 6th Street East, Suite #8
Lancaster, CA 93535-5200

President's Corner...

(Continued from page 1)

and 3Y0PI was easily worked with a QRP signal and hidden antenna. One of my favorite QSL cards for DXCC!

11 years later it seems that now that I've finally escaped the life of living in restricted antenna locations and can actually run "high power" (~100 watts) it is time for a return QSO to Peter 1st. 3Y0X is scheduled for Jan 14th through Feb 10th 2005. It will probably be harder this time with a beam and QRO. Hope to get the harmonics (kids) a chance to work this one as it doesn't come around very often. Get out there and get this one because most think the HF waves are broken. They're not. Just don't tell anyone!

Thanks to everyone who turned out for the board meeting. It was a large crowd at Shakey's and we definitely had a quorum (even for a regular AVARC meeting).

The next AVARC meeting will be on the 16th. It will be our annual Holiday potluck dinner. There are a lot of door prizes for the general membership and gifts for the kids.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting,

73,
Rich N70P



TriviaTronics

By Vern Eubanks KØLVS

Dateline 16 Dec 1947, Bell Telephone Laboratories, Monmouth, NJ, The Transistor is Born! – A team consisting of scientists William Shockley, John Bardeen, and Walter Brattain observe the first-ever amplification of a signal by semiconductor means. For their "discovery of the transistor effect", the trio were awarded the 1956 Nobel Peace Prize.



William B. Shockley
1910-1989

Diode semiconductors already existed, and had been used as detectors in radar systems from the earliest days of radar. The successful 1947 transistor was a Point Contact Transistor, which demonstrated that solid state devices could amplify as well as rectify, but turned out not to be a practical device. While he shared the Nobel Prize with Brittain and Bardeen, Shockley's role had actually been as a team manager. Shockley deferred the honor for the invention of the Point Contact Transistor to his teammates. Shockley's own research, even in the late 1930's, had been toward a Field Effect Transistor, but that work had been

foiled by the difficulty in constructing such an experiment. Following the team's success on the Point Contact Transistor, he concentrated his own research in improving the Point Contact design to that of the Junction Transistor on Jan 1948 - a working demonstration of Junction Transistor technology was several years in the future. His research and achievement is undisputed, he submitted 90 patents in a broad range of scientific endeavor, and his scientific work during WW2 was unsurpassed by a single individual.

William Shockley is thought by many to have been the most brilliant physicist of the 20th century; however, in his later life he publicly espoused the controversial field of eugenics. That is, humans are principally the product of their genes, and the population can be manipulated over time to a superior race by selective breeding. He could no longer teach or lecture because mobs would disrupt classes. Outside of the scientific community, he is known only as a racist.





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

The Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club K6OX
 Post Office Box 1011
 Lancaster, CA 93584-1011

Place
 Postage
 Here



To ARS: