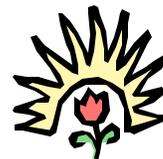


The Short Circuit

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



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

May 2006

President's Corner

Eugene Humpherys KG6SLC

Field day! This activity, the last full weekend in June, occurs for many reasons. Among them is the opportunity to keep our skills sharp, and to be ready to set up and communicate in the event of an emergency. It gives us the opportunity/motivation to haul out the radio gear and perform public service. It also gives us the opportunity to share our hobby with non amateurs. A few years ago, before I was licensed, I recall driving on the 14 freeway and seeing huge antennas while passing Lancaster City Park. My wife, Carol, knowing that I had an interest in amateur radio suggested that we stop and check it out. We made our way around to the various operators, observed their activity, and briefly spoke to them. We then noticed a rather tall fellow holding what appeared (to a non ham) to be a small TV type of antenna. He was pointing it at the sky just above the horizon and was moving it in small sweeping motions. Our curiosity was piqued and began chatting with him. He introduced himself as Dave, KX6Z and as we talked we realized that he lived in our immediate neighborhood. He explained that a satellite was scheduled to appear over the horizon and he was searching for a signal. I had not been aware that this aspect of amateur radio even existed. We also spoke of other aspects of amateur radio and discovered that I had more than a casual interest in pursuing this hobby.

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**UNITED
WE STAND**

Meeting Notice

Tuesday, **May 23**, 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 is a departure from our usual meeting day.

This month's meeting will feature our Field Day Chairman, **Nelson Reuschling**, who will lead a discussion of our upcoming Field Day event. We will also view slides of past Field Days. Please mark your calendars and join us!



Lancaster Mayor Frank Roberts K6EDF visits AVARC Field Day in 2004

From The Veep

Bill Feldmann N6PY

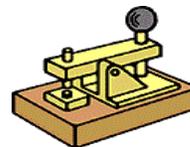
I would like to thank all of you who worked communication for the Rim of the World Rally. Especially the net control team of Myrle KQ6Y, Dan WA6PZK, and Eugene KG6SLC, who did an excellent job of holding communications together under often-difficult conditions up on Grass Mountain. Also Paula N6OQQ for her great job of making the Rally and its ham radio communications system a success.

It's now time to start thinking about and planning for our club's next event, the ARRL Field Day coming up the weekend of June 24th and 25th. This is a great event for improving our radio skills of operating under emergency conditions along with educating the general public in the importance of Amateur Radio to the Antelope Valley. In the past years our club has made a strong showing in this event.

For those of you new to Amateur Radio, Field Day is an exercise to set up portable stations remote from our home stations and use portable power sources not dependent on the public utilities like our own generators or solar and battery power. This event is run much like a contest, our club stations, K6OX, will contact as many other stations throughout the USA and the rest of the world on as many of the Amateur bands and possible. The operating part of the event starts at noon on Saturday June 24th and ends at noon on Sunday June 25th. But this event is also to educate the general public by inviting them to

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President's Corner...



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During that Field day I realized that the amateur radio hobby was more than Morse code or talking to one unknown person hundreds of miles away followed by talking to another unknown person hundreds or even thousands of miles away in a different direction. I am proof that non hams can have an interest sparked in amateur radio while visiting Field day. It was just after that Field day, while my interest level in amateur radio was raised, that I decided to get my license. I attended the next club meeting and learned that in September a test session would be held at the ham convention in Long Beach. That is where I received my ticket that got me into amateur radio.

Field day will give us the opportunity to show the general public what we, and our hobby, are about. Most people do not understand what amateur radio is and incorrectly categorize us with the CB crowd. Let's spread the word for this coming field day! Let's talk to our friends and neighbors, and hang some field day posters at shopping centers and other places where people are likely to become aware of our activity, visit us and just perhaps become interested in at least one of the many aspects of amateur radio.

Emergency communication is an integral part of amateur radio. It gives us a little extra piece of mind knowing that we can communicate when no one else can. In an emergency we cannot remain calm or be effective until we know that our spouse and family is safe and out of harms way. Licensed husbands and wives and other licensed family members have another communication option open to them when the phone system goes down and

chaos and panic abound on all sides. While the chaos and panic may still be there we can at least know that our loved ones are safe and OK. With this in mind, my wife is taking her technician exam at the May 6th session and should have her license by the time this is published.

The question regarding emergencies is no longer "if they will happen". In

today's world it has become "when they will happen". Whether or not we participate in field day this year lets take this opportunity to make certain that we have adequately prepared for ourselves and for our loved ones in the event of an emergency.

73,

Eugene KG6SLC

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

AVARC General Meeting 27 April 2006

The meeting was called to order at 1930hrs by the club President Eugene Humpherys. There were thirty members present for the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was performed; minutes and treasurer's report were read, voted on and accepted.

Adrienne stated that the next test secession will be on the 6th of May at 9AM and will cost four dollars.

Our guest speaker was unable to

make it to the meeting so Bill Feldmann was nice enough to fill in. Bill showed a DVD called "The Voice of Victory." This was a WWII film about the SCR-299 radio manufactured by Hallicrafters.

Next month's meeting will be on the 23rd of May. The 23rd is a Tuesday, please do not forget! The meeting will be about Field Day.

Submitted by
Robert Holland, KG6DHQ
Club Secretary, 2006



Don't forget that the May meeting of AVARC will be on Tuesday, May 23rd instead of on our usual fourth Thursday.

Mark your calendars now, so you won't forget!

From the Veep...



(Continued from page 1)

visit our Field Day stations and observe Amateur Radio in action. In the past this has led to many new members joining our hobby.

This year, as in the past, we will set up the club's stations in the Lancaster City Park located between avenues K and L just east of the 14 Freeway. This is an excellent location with good radio propagation, low man-made electrical noise, lots of shade from the sun and room to park trailers and set up tents for the stations and those camping out Friday and Saturday nights. Also Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO will be feeding the club's Field Day operators and workers her traditional sour dough pancake breakfast, which is one of the high points of this event.

However, this event is not just operating the stations but also setting them up and tearing them down. So many of us will start working on set up on the afternoon of Friday June 23rd and will stay after the event to tear down these stations and properly store our equipment for the next event. To properly represent our club in this event we will need the help of as many AVARC members as possible, myself I plan to be available to help with set up and tear down from Friday afternoon through Sunday Afternoon.

This event takes lots of work and planning by the club members and especially our Field Day Chairman, Nelson Reuschling. Nelson has been very gracious to step up and take on this job so we all need to give him all the help needs. For this reason the program for our Tuesday May 23rd

meeting will feature slides of past Field Days showing the fun and fellowship and also the work that has to be done to pull off a successful Field Day. Nelson will also lead us in a discussion of what teams of hams along with additional equipment are needed for this year's event.

Don't forget that only the coming

May meeting will be on the fourth Tuesday of May, the 23rd, instead of the following Thursday because of a scheduling problem for the meeting room.

73,

Bill N6PY



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