

The Short Circuit

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



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

May 2009

President's Corner

Jon Clark N6NQ

Calling Cycle 24, Where are You?

If your interested in HF, or talk to amateurs who are, you may have heard this question. There have been many articles in the magazines, on the net and on ARNewline. There have been articles about Cycle 24 coming and then articles that wondered when and if it was ever going to get here. We are still waiting for Cycle 24 but there have been some signs that may be starting.

One of my friends, who doesn't have to go to work anymore, has been enjoying some openings on 15 meters and 10 meters lately. Some of the openings have lasted late into the evening.

The coming of higher operating frequencies means smaller antennas and shorter minimum working heights. A 10 meter dipole is only a little over 16.5 feet in length. Another advantage of higher frequencies is that they can be effective at lower heights. A 10 meter dipole at the same height as your 40 meter dipole should have a lower radiation angle. A lower radiation angle basically means better DX. So if you've been feeling that an 80 meter antenna was too much antenna for your current situation, things could be looking up real soon.

If you get the feeling that I'm trying to talking you into getting involved in HF you would be right. If you have just recently become a ham, you chosen a good time to do it. I would really like to encourage you to consider this opportunity that is

(Continued on page 2)

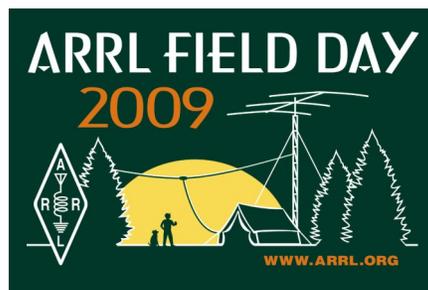


UNITED WE STAND

Meeting Notice

Thursday, May 28, 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.

At this month's meeting we will be discussing our plans for Field Day. Please join us and learn more about how you can become involved with our club's premier operating event of the year.



From The Veep

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR

From the VEEP: May 2009:

It has been a really busy month for me but I am still trying to get ready for Field Day. I have already informed my son Brian KI6LUE and his wife Jaci that I will not be able to attend my granddaughter's 2nd Birthday party if they hold it on the last full weekend in June. Remember when she was born? June 23, 2007 exactly on Field Day and I ran home from the Lancaster City Park to be there with my family and my grandson Zachary to welcome her into the family. Come to think of it, neither will her Great Aunt Addie or her Great Uncle Dan be there either as we will all be in the park. I hope they pick another day. I do, however expect to see most of this club's members out actively participating in this annual event. We will need everyone who can attend to help out build our antennas and reconstruct various radio stations. We will need folks to help out at the GOTA (Get On The Air) station and be able to mentor the public as they curiously examine our station and hopefully walk away with an interest in our hobby of Ham Radio. This is a great opportunity to try out different modes and test your experience getting on the air or just observing others making contacts. It is also a good opportunity to encourage others and show why we are interested in the field of Amateur Radio.

I will not be in attendance at our May meeting as my niece is graduating from college and I have promised to attend the ceremony. Both myself and Dan Rowlan KG6PQA are co-chairing

(Continued on page 2)

President's Corner...

(Continued from page 1)
coming your way. So start getting ready for moving to HF.

Field Day is coming!

Field day is a little over five weeks away as I write this. If you have not worked HF before or have not worked it very much, Field Day is a great opportunity. It's a chance to try HF before you decide to invest. It's a chance to learn from other more experience operators. It's a chance to help your club and benefit yourself. It's a chance to some of the typical HF equipment in action. So I encourage all of you to get out and support your club and learn about HF.

We need to get rolling on this now. There are several things that we need to get started on yesterday. If you want to be part of Field Day, start thinking about what you can contribute and come to the May meeting ready to raise your hand. We

will need help setting up and tearing down and we will need operator help on all stations. And a bunch of other stuff that we will figure out as we go.

We are talking about an antenna clinic on Saturday afternoon and a barbeque on Saturday evening.

I would like encourage all of you new hams and new members to join in on this event. It is a great opportunity to do some operating outside your normal routine. It is also an opportunity to show your friends, family and neighbors what amateur radio and emergency service are all about.

See you at the May meeting.

From the VEEP...

as Field Day Chairpersons, so either of us can be contacted with any questions regarding how you can help out and prepare for this event. Dan will be at the May meeting and we are planning to hold a preparation day on one or two weekends prior to Field Day. That date will be announced at the meeting this coming week.

My phone number is listed at the end of this newsletter, so please call me with questions and any fresh new ideas you have to offer.

73,

Margie KG6TBR

73,

Jon N6NQ



Google Celebrates Birthday of Samuel F. B. Morse

If you happened to do a search on Google on April 27, you were greeted by this version of their familiar logo:



That's "Google" in Morse code, of course, and it was in honor of the birthday of Samuel F. B. Morse. The company often changes its logo for a day in honor of a past or present event, and this one was of particular interest to hams.

Swap Shop

ANTENNA AND TOWER

I have a TH7DXX mounted atop a 30 to 40 foot guyed tower with a 20 foot chrome molly mast. If anyone is interested in the gear they can have it for the cost of taking it down. Call Chuck WA6R at 942-2165 or send an email to raven@qnet.com.

Chuck WA6R



From the Secretary's Desk

AVARC General Meeting Minutes – 23 April 2009

Opening:

John Clark N6NQ called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. The Flag Salute was conducted. Introductions and roll call followed with twenty-six individuals participating. The February and March meeting minutes were approved as published in the Short Circuit. Treasurer Don Jackson K6GET presented the Treasurer's Report. Current funds total \$3,392.93. The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

Club Business:

WB6X Court decision: The City of Palmdale has two weeks to appeal. Since the city is facing financial problems, no appeal is expected.

Antenna purchase: As approved by the club, Keith Hoyt K6GXO placed the multi-band vertical antenna order with Step IR. Final cost targeted at \$1,224. (No sales tax! Shipping anticipated to be about \$70, or may even be 'no charge'.)

MS Walk: Dan Sherwood WA6PZK shared MS walk photographs. Participants numbered from five hundred to six hundred.

Special Test Session: John Berger KN6VL indicated a special test session is scheduled at the Bass Pro Shop in Rancho Cucamonga off the 15 freeway, on Saturday, April 25th at 10:00 am. The session is sponsored by the Outdoor Ad-

venture USA club, a group combining the hobbies of ham radio and outdoor recreational activities.

4H Science Symposium: Jon Clark N6NQ presented a ham radio demonstration at the Rosamond event allowing young attendees to converse with a ham radio operator in the United Kingdom. The event made quite an impression!

Field Day: Clothing is available on line or from Dan Rowlan KG6PGA. Shirts are hunter green. Cost: Shirt - \$15.00, Pin - \$5.00, Hat - \$10.00. The field day park permit was obtained.

Elizabeth Alpert KD6JDH was awarded an ARRL college scholarship. We are proud of you Elizabeth! Way to go!

North California DX Foundation: Keith K6GXO screened a NCDXF video. The foundation not only funds Dxpeditions, but scholarships, and a world wide beacon system as well. Free videos or slides are available.

Presentation:

Margie Hoffman's (KG6TBR) presentation on *Log Book of the World* was postponed to another time.

Raffle: A calendar was won by Dan W6DAW. The cash raffle of \$16 was won by Margie KG6TBR. The meeting concluded at 9:29 pm.

Respectively Submitted,
Carol Humpherys
AF6OV

Secretary 2009

AVARC Board Meeting Minutes May 14, 2009

The meeting opened at 7:35, at the home of Eugene and Carol Humpherys.

Present were Don Jackson K6GET, Dan Sherwood WA6PZK, Eugene Humpherys KG6SLC, Gary Mork WA6WFC, Jon Clark N6NQ, Keith Hoyt K6GXO, and Margie Hoffman KG6TBR.

Check to SteppIR for \$224.07. Shipping might be covered, don't know yet.

Alec ? Wait and hold, no disposition yet.

Jon: Winch for trailer, still needs to be ordered. Est cost \$70 - \$80. Jon will order tomorrow.

FD Trailer party, SteppIR assembly. No date set.

Keith: Obtain 100' of good LMR400. Keith may be able to get some discounted from M^2. Motion to spend up to \$100 ? Jon, Carried.

Keith: Use the new vertical on top of the club tower with elevated radials.

Put stations outside. More signage to attract visitors.

Logging: Jon recommends MI Log. Dan used WriteLog. Lack of integration makes lots of labor scoring FD ? WA6PZK.

FD Problems ? actively pursue operators, not just announce at meeting. Jon.

The meeting was adjourned at 0832.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan Sherwood WA6PZK
AVARC Board Member 2009

PALMCASTER EQUIPMENT RENTALS

RAY CRAMM
Manager

Office: (661) 723-1400
Fax: (661) 949-8023

633 West Ave. M. Palmdale, CA 93551






Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2009 Officers

President	Jon Clark	N6NQ	305-6969
Vice President	Margie Hoffman	KG6TBR	297-6567
Secretary	Carol Humpherys	AF6OV	722-4616
Treasurer	Don Jackson	K6GET	948-4762
Master-At-Arms	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
Board Member	Dan Sherwood	WA6PZK	264-1863
Board Member	Larry Bianchi	KG1B	538-9142
Trustee	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
Ex Officio	Eugene Humpherys	KG6SLC	722-4616



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

Place
 Postage
 Here



To ARS: