The Short Circuit

http://www.avarc.av.org

The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club November 2009

President's Corner

Jon Clark N6NQ

The New Year

Every time we elect news officers, we create a new opportunity to steer and shape the club. New officers bring new opinions about what the club should be. That could mean new ideas about what the club should be doing as well as thoughts about what previous ideas and traditions should continue.

New club members also bring new ideas about what the club should be. New ideas are good. They make the club fresh and dynamic. How should members approach new ideas? If you have an idea, be ready to support it. Officers might not be as excited as you or they may not have the time to work the idea. Remember that this club is run by volunteers. They may have limited time, other responsibilities and families. Don't expect the officers to do everything.

Don't expect others to be enthusiastic, but look for those who are. They might help you. Be willing to do some or all of the work to get an idea to turn into something. That might be the only way your idea will happen.

Please don't let these cautions slow you down, though. I'm just trying to point in the direction that will

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UNITED WE STAND

Meeting Notice

Thursday, November 19, 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. **Note that this month's meeting is a week earlier than usual, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.**

This month's meeting will feature our own **Don Jackson K6GET**, who will give a presentation on GPS. This promises to be a very interesting program, so be sure to join us!

Don Jackson K6GET

From The Veep

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR

Hello all! I have just been saved from having a photo of me sleeping at Baker 2 Vegas published in this newsletter as a result of the wrath of our Short Circuit Editor, Adrienne WA6YEO making good on her threat if I did not submit an article for the Short Circuit. So, here goes:

On the weekend of October 24-25, I participated in another radio contest known as The CQ Worldwide DX Contest up at Ron's Ranch (K6WLC) in the Lockwood Valley. This contest is a phone event and not CW.

Together with my fellow ham friends Ron K6WLC, Dan WA6PZK, Bill AB6CF and Jay KG6BXN, we ran using my call sign so therefore stayed within the General Class Band Plan using one radio and worked stations on 15, 20, 40, and 80 meters. The object was to work as many countries as we could through the duration of the weekend. We were able to make contact with a lot of countries and many in the Canadian Provinces but definitely could not hear all the countries. We made about 80 QSOs

which was by no means spectacular, but we had fun, learned a lot and gained more radio experience in order to increase our operating skills and hopefully collect and exchange some interesting QSL cards in the near future.

This is what we were running: On 15 meters, we ran a 4 element mono beam at 65 feet in the air. On 20 meters, we ran a 5 element M^2 mono beam at 80 feet in the air. On 40 meters, we ran a 3 element M^2 mono beam at 75 feet in the air. We had 2 phased 80 meter beams which had 6 80 meter 1/4 wavelength verticals at 65 feet in the air. We also were ready to use 160 meters in which we had a full 1/2 wavelength dipole at 80 feet high, but did not use this one. Dan WA6PZK, our team leader said we were running so good with 80 meters at night, that we never cranked up the 160.

One again, this was a great operating experience and if anyone wants to come out to Ron's "antenna farm" and check out the arrays, please contact me and we can arrange a time to get together, or even better, join us in our next contest!

I will not be able to make the November meeting so will miss Don Jackson speaking about GPS, but look forward to seeing you all at the December meeting.

73,

Margie KG6TBR

President's Corner...

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allow you all to have the club you want.

What can the club do?

What can the club do to support new ideas? For all members, don't shoot down other peoples ideas just because you are not interested. If you are interested in the idea, then consider helping out with it. This may be the only way it will happen.

As an officer, consider whether the club might be able to support the idea without diluting the other activities of club.

The club can be the communication medium for these r any group. You can use the net and the newsletter to facilitate any activities.

What kind of club are we?

Are we a educational club? Are we a social club? Are we a emergency communication club? DX? Kit building? I contend that we are all these things.

We have some social traditions that should be preserved. Our version of Field Day is a lot of fun for a many members. We also have our Anchors Away and the Christmas Potluck. We have also always worked to bring interesting and educational presentations at the meetings. We should strive to keep all of these traditions alive. That is already quite a bit of work for the club officers.

To make the club more than this, requires that others jump in and do some of the work as well. So if you have ideas, bring 'em. But be prepared to support them with your efforts.

73,

Jon N6NQ

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MARIE WELSH W6JEP-SK
1930-2009

It is with great sadness that we report that Marie Welsh W6JEP has passed away after a lengthy illness. Marie was the wife of Bill Welsh W6DDB, and a long-time Extra Class licensee. Marie and Bill were married for 60 years. Services for Marie were held at Forest Lawn on November 15. AVARC extends condolences to Bill and the Welsh family. Marie was loved by many, and will be greatly missed.

From the Secretary's Desk

AVARC General Meeting Minutes
2 Oct 2009

Opening:
Jon Clark N6NQ called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. The Flag Salute was conducted. Introductions and roll call followed: Forty Eight individuals participated.

Anchors Away:
Individuals had the opportunity to view the items before the sale began.
Good deals were made: Eugene KG6SLC and I (AF6OV) picked up 3 antenna turners!

Club Business:
Club officer elections were held. The new 2010 officers are.....*Drum roll please…*
- President – Margie Hoffman – KG6TBR
- Vice President - Larry Bianchi – KG1B
- Secretary – Dan Sherwood – WA6PZK
- Treasurer – Don Jackson – K6GET
- Master at Arms – Gary Mork – WA6WFC
- Board Member – Carol Humpherys – AF6OV
- Board Member – Dan Rowlan – KG6PQA

Presentation;
Eric Goodchild KI6LPX received a certificate for his August Tesla Coil presentation.
Eric graciously did an encore demonstration.
Meeting participates scattered and adjourned early (~8:30 pm) after the Tesla Coil triggered the fire alarm. ☺

Respectively Submitted,
Carol Humpherys AF6OV
Secretary 2009

AVARC Board Meeting
11/5/2009

In attendance: Eugene KG6SLC, Don K6GET, Carol AF6OV, Dan WA6PZK, Margie KG6TBR, Dan KG6PQA, Larry KG1B, Jon N6NQ, AND Keith K6GXO.

Jon: Per Joe, WB6DCO, newsletter should contain frequencies to be in the local area. Jon suggests putting just three frequencies up on the web page. Eugene does not want all ARES frequencies published as they are used by other groups for events and other trivial traffic.

WA6PZK: Suggest making web space available with calendaring, document storage, and contact information.

Next Meeting: Need people to bring GPS units to the meeting. Bring projector and screen and laptop.

Christmas meeting: About $200 available for prizes. Suggestion to buy a handbook as a prize. Club should match donations for door prizes. Moved and seconded. Figure out to maximize number of gifts. Little things in lots of hands. Discussion of strategies to purchase out of state. Need suggestions for these gifts by the November club meeting. Find some stuff online. Email suggestions to Jon.

Next board meeting Dec. 3 IF HELD.

Larry: Money for new memberships next club meetings.

Need a new membership chairman as Larry is now VP.

Special push-to-talk buttons presented by Larry to Carol.

Keith: Club's license has been renewed.

Club's vertical being used for the ARRL CQWW. Has worked out radial configuration for 75/80 meters. Keith will try antenna on CQWW CW test.

Dan KG6PQA Suggests trying vertical on tower.

Don: $2958.79 in bank. No dues change recommended. Signature cards 1st week in January.

Newsletter: Keith wants QSL commemorative Hidetsugu Yagi scanned and run in short circuit.

Adjourned 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Sherwood WA6PZK
AVARC Board Member 2009

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

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***To ARS*:**

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