

The Short Circuit

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



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

May 2010

President's Corner

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR

The month of April definitely has been the busiest for me in a while, what with trips that involve ham radio or other fun things to do. First of all, I spent four days with my sister Adrienne WA6YEO at Primm, Nevada for another relaxing and exciting "Girls Only, No Boys Allowed" week. The next week was the MS Walk in Lancaster in which we volunteered together with Dan WA6PZK and other club members in communications for this fund raising event.

The next week, the three of us traveled to the mountains in an area near Sandy Valley and Pahrump, Nevada again volunteering for the Baker to Vegas Run. That turned out to be different than last year, as the temperature was about 20 degrees higher during the wee hours of the night, only getting down to about 48 degrees. The bad part was when the wind picked up and made it still feel like it was 30 degrees. But we were all prepared and stayed warm and toasty on our shift, which ran from 9:30pm until 6am the next morning. We were able to combine that event with some camping, quad riding and finished it up with an overnight stay back at Primm to clean up and get cleaned out (I am trying to make a pun) at the casino. I guess that was not very funny? And, yes, I was just making a joke. We enjoyed spending the time meeting other amateur radio enthusiasts at the B2V event.

The month ended with me spending a relaxing weekend at home with my family and I was able to see my grandson Zachary play in his first T-

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UNITED WE STAND

Meeting Notice

Thursday, May 27, 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.

We will be discussing plans for the upcoming Field Day event, so you won't want to miss this month's meeting. Bring your enthusiasm and ideas, and help plan our club's participation in this annual event!



From The Veep

Larry Bianchi KG1B

Give me a dit dit dah dit .. !

Yes, an "F" for Field Day. That time of year is swiftly coming upon us. We have had some very good participation in the past with the different stations and the club members coming out and supporting us. And, once again, we will be having a BBQ Saturday evening, provided by Eugene and Carol Humpherys, and the famous WA6YEO sourdough pancakes on Sunday morning.

We also have a new ham .. Bob Foster KJ6DEH, who is taking the lead as the Field Day Chairman. We would like to applaud him for volunteering for this responsibility, though he is just learning all that goes into this.

On that note, I would like to address those who are the new hams and those that have been around for quite awhile. The old adage "Many hands make light work" applies in this case. I would love to see more people come out and help with setup on Friday, as well as helping to run the different stations on Saturday and Sunday.

We have a rare treat this year. We will be having a scout troop sleeping over Friday to Saturday! They will also be working on requirements for a few merit badges dealing with radio and communication!

The GOTA (Get On The Air) Station is one where hams not used to HF (High Frequency) can try their hands at getting out beyond the boundaries of Hauser and talk with people across the nation and possibly Mexico and Canada!

On a more personal note, awhile back I had my fiberglass mast split and fall off the roof at my QTH. Luckily there was no real damage and no one was hurt. Since then, I have found a 40 foot tubular crank up mast .. thanks to Pat Coker N6RMJ. That will be going in sometime this early summer.

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From the Secretary's Desk



AVARC Club Meeting April 22, 2010

Meeting called to order by Margie Hoffman at 0730 at the Lancaster City EOC. Flag Salute.

Member Introductions.

Minutes of the last meeting in Short Circuit: Moved and seconded. Approved.

Don: Treasurer's report - bank balance \$3,245.29.

Gary Barr: Approx 107 members now. Four joined tonight.

Old Business: Bob Foster, KB6DEH is FD chairman. Boy scouts will be participating.

Saturday, 4/24: Antenna party and equipment checkout party at Keith's QTH at 8:00 AM. Someone brings donuts.

SteppIR antenna will be checked out.

Margie: FD shirts and pins. Too late now - members can order from ARRL web site.

Baker to Vegas - Margie reported event was successful although short handed.

John Mason, K6MLU out of the hospital resting at home.

New Business: Dayton - May 14. Sandarc SW convention coming later in the year. EMCOMM West convention next month.

Field Day Insurance: Motion to pay insurance premium, \$400, moved by K6GXO, Dan Rowlan seconded. Carried unanimously. Don to cut the check tonight.

Ron's open house: K6WLC weekend of May 22-23. Lockwood valley. Potluck BBQ - camping welcome. Former WSWSS members in attendance.

Adrienne: Sat May 1, 9:00 AM. First Christian Church in Lancaster. Contact Adrienne if accommodated testing is required. Email Adrienne for further information.

Jon Clark: First ARES meeting also scheduled for Saturday 4/24 at 0900. Conflicts with equipment checkout. Birdies restaurant in Palmdale, (Sierra Hwy).

Larry: WB6DCO brought a J-POLE antenna as an emergency emcomm antenna. Break called at 0751.

Larry introduced Marty Woll, for a presentation on emergency power systems, and current ARRL issues along with update on local antenna ordinances.

Note: Amateur Radio Defense Foundation. Tax-deductible 501c charity to make tax-deductible contribution for antenna defense

Larry presented a plaque - certificate of appreciation to Marty.

50/50 Raffle: Gary Mork - Won by

Margie, KG6TBR - \$25.00

WB6DCO - mouse pad. N6RMJ -

mouse pad.

CQ Zone map - Tully. DX T-shirt - Pat, N6RMJ

Eric will demonstrate Tesla coils in the parking lot.

Adjourned 0900 by Margie Hoffman

AVARC Board Meeting May 6, 2010

Present: Gary Barr, Larry Bianghi, Carol Humpherys, Don Jackson, Dan Sherwood, Adrienne Sherwood, Keith Hoyt, Dan Rowlan, Gary Mork

Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM

Don: Form 990-N non-profit form was filed. 5/6/2010

Carol: Jamming on the repeater. What is being done? Digital stuff has been handled. There are other issues. Do not discuss on the air.

Carol: New Hams - Carol is working with the LDS hams to get them comfortable to get them on the air. She had a get-together, with an overwhelming response at her house. Items like programming radios, field day, etc.

Keith suggested programming radios for the input of the frequency - listening for jammers, etc.

Gary Barr: Adrienne to provide list of new licensees.

Don: State taxes need to be done. Current balance \$3144.73, with the insurance check not included. Balance will be lower. Keith recommends Larry be reimbursed for the donuts he purchased for the antenna work party.

Don: Insurance rider has arrived to cover the field day event. Larry will deliver a copy to Lancaster City parks and recreation to secure the FD site.

Dan, WA6PZK - Who borrowed my climbing harness, (blue and yellow)? Been missing for about a year.

Dan, WA6PZK: Relationship with Ray Cramm formerly with Palm-

caster. Expressed our relationship to an employee, who will relay my message to the new manager. He will get back to me.

Adrienne: Need submissions for the Short Circuit at least a week ahead of publish date. For this month, the deadline is May 15 for president, VP, Secretary, Ham Ads, and any other articles including the meeting notice from the VP. For future reference, two weeks before the Club meeting is recommended. This may flex slightly depending on schedules and the calendar.

Adrienne: VE session in Acton on May 20, (Thursday), 7:00 PM, for the Boy Scouts. Adrienne will field VE team working through GLAARG. Volunteers needed. This is the week before the Club meeting. Expect about 12 applicants. Carol offered to provide a handout to pass out to new licensees. Discussion followed regarding handling new hams in general.

Gary Mork: PO Box key is missing. To get another one, a form needs to be filled out and submitted to the post office. Form will be handled by Dan Sherwood. Try to get a new lock and two new keys.

Gary Barr: Has provided new rosters to

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President's Corner...

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Ball games. It is fun to watch him learn to become a member of a team. I sure love seeing the big smile on his face when he gets up to bat.

Well, one fellow in our club is getting his turn up to bat and that fellow is Bob Foster KJ6DEH. Together with our Vice President, Larry Bianchi KG1B, they are co-chairmen of this year's 2010 Field Day, that will be held the last full weekend of June at the Lancaster City Park. Bob will be bringing his Boy Scout troop members to participate in this annual event. I have been getting daily updates from Larry on their progress and they seem to be coming along fine. Larry has put together some Excel spreadsheets as he organizes the lists of tasks and goals. Both Larry and Bob will be speaking to our club at the May meeting about Field Day, so be sure to attend and get involved. Please sign up with them and offer your skills as we would like to see everyone participate in this very important event.

I would like to thank Larry for covering for me at the May 6 Board Meeting that I had to miss. I did have surgery on my left wrist and it has not allowed me to be able to drive until I get the bandages and cast off. I will find out next week if I will be allowed to drive when I get a replacement cast that I am told will be much smaller. I know I will be able to make it to the meeting the following week, as I have had several offers for designated drivers. Thanks, all. See you at the meeting!

73,

Margie KG6TBR

From the VEEP...

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The thought of having something substantial to hang some antennas on is quite exciting. I can then work on getting my DXCC (DX Century Club) .. DX meaning distance. Each country, including the US, Alaska and Hawaii count towards this. I want to get that by next April when I attend the DX convention in Visalia. Along with that goal, I have promised myself that I will lose one pound for every country I confirm. Feel free to ask me how these two goals are progressing.

The one neat thing about ham radio is that there are so many different avenues one can pursue. It is up to the individual to determine which one or ones he/she wishes to pursue. The more we learn about ham radio, the more our appetites can be whetted!

Having a station that I can do DX is one of my appetites. During the convention last April, I met a gentleman I had met on Hauser who was from Germany. He was passing through the area on his way to the convention. He and I met - eyeball to eyeball - at the convention. I am looking forward to working him during the year and seeing him next year.

So such are appetites. If it is a good one, fulfill it!!

Last month, we had the pleasure of having Marty Woll N6VI present us with very insightful and useful info on emergency power!

And this month at our club meeting, we will be discussing - 3 guesses and the 1st two don't count - Yes!!! Field Day!

Happy Hamming!

73,

Larry KG1B



Secretary...

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the Board, including members by name, call, and roster of those whose calls are about expire.

Field Day: Larry passed out a list of people responsible for various FD tasks. Bob Foster, Dan – WA6PZK, and Larry walked the site last week. Per Dan, site usable for trailers. Locations for trailers / towers depending on who shows. Larry deciding between N1MM, and N3FJP(?), software. WA6PZK recommended support for Cabrillo logs and CAT rig interface. The 40-meter beam is shot, Keith suggests using the SteppIR vertical in lieu of the 40 meter beam. It is understood that Dale would prefer the use of the 40-meter Yagi. Broken rotor – Keith will look for parts for the rotor at Dayton. Per Gary Barr – we may NOT have the use of the NASA equipment, as his work situation has changed. Action items: Follow up on tables, (Palmcaster), and the Club generator at Rich Stocking's place. Larry and Keith working on Solar Power options for FD. Larry will back up Bob Foster should work duties prevent him from handling FD tasks.

Keith Moved the Meeting be adjourned. Dan R. Seconded. Approved – adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:
Dan Sherwood WA6PZK
AVARC Secretary 2010





Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2010 Officers

President	Margie Hoffman	KG6TBR	297-6567
Vice President	Larry Bianchi	KG1B	538-9142
Secretary	Dan Sherwood	WA6PZK	264-1863
Treasurer	Don Jackson	K6GET	948-4762
Master-At-Arms	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
Board Member	Dan Rowlan	KG6PQA	944-1123
Board Member	Carol Humpherys	AF6OV	722-4616
Trustee	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
Ex Officio	Jon Clark	N6NQ	661-305-6969



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