

# The Short Circuit

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



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

November 2010

## President's Corner

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR

First of all, I would like to thank all the members who attended the last general meeting and showed their support for the officers and board members for this year.

The elections were simple, but they enabled us to keep most of the present folks holding the positions and they will serve as your officers and board for the year 2011. Congratulations to all. Please see the list in the minutes as published in this newsletter.

Each year we have an event called Anchors Away, or as I refer to it: The Junk-A-Thon. Members show up with their items for sale and many of us look forward to this event as our own private tailgate sale. We come to it expecting to find bargains and things that we didn't know we needed until we see them. This year, I was disappointed in the turnout. Not so much in how many of us attended, but in how many of us participated. I think in the future, we should all try to take advantage of this opportunity as presented to us. It is free, it is interesting, and we basically have a captive audience and a warm venue in which to hold this event. Remember, we only hold this event once a year, so next year, let's see if we can do better.

Last week was the CQWW-DX-SSB Contest and there was just too much going on and I was not able to get up

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## Meeting Notice

**Thursday, November 18**, 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 on the third Thursday of the month because of the Thanksgiving Day holiday. The December meeting will be on the 16th of December because of Christmas. Be sure to mark this on your calendars!

This month's meeting will feature our own **Pat Coker N6RMJ**, who will talk about microwave communications and EME (moonbounce). This should be a very interesting presentation, so be sure to join us on the 18th!



Pat Coker N6RMJ

## From The Veep

Larry Bianchi KG1B

LOOK! Up in the sky! It's a Bird .. It's a Plane .. It's a .. a .. Turkey!!

Watch out for those flying turkeys this time of year! And that can mean only one thing! Football! Oh? Ok, two things! Football and being grateful for the things that we enjoy .. and of course .. relatives visiting! Hey that adds up to three things .. so I have trouble counting!! Thank Heavens for calculators (I've started my list)!

Let me take a moment and quote a part of a letter from Ben Franklin to his daughter with his feelings about our National Bird. Seems ole Ben would have been happier with the Turkey instead of the Bald Eagle being our symbol!

"For my own part I wish the Bald Eagle had not been chosen the Representative of our Country. He is a Bird of bad moral Character. He does not get his Living honestly. You may have seen him perched on some dead Tree near the River, where, too lazy to fish for himself, he watches the Labour of the Fishing Hawk; and when that diligent Bird has at length taken a Fish, and is bearing it to his Nest for the Support of his Mate and young Ones, the Bald Eagle pursues him and takes it from him.

"With all this Injustice, he is never in good Case but like those among

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# From the Secretary's Desk



## AVARC Club Meeting 10/28/2010

Meeting called to order by Margie Hoffman at 7:30 PM.  
Flag Salute  
Member Introductions. 39 Members and guests present.  
Minutes from last meeting. Moved N6RMJ, Seconded W6DAW, Approved as published in the Short Circuit.  
Treasurer's report: Don Jackson, K6GET. Balance: \$2,885.79  
Membership Report: Gary Barr – We have a total of 4 new members as of tonight, 126 total paid-up members.

### Old Business:

Nominations, to close: (MOVED / SECONDED)

### President:

KG6TBR Margie (WA6TWT / N6RMJ)

### VP:

KG1B Larry Bianchi (KJ6CIW / KG6SLC)

### Secretary:

WA6PZK Dan Sherwood (WA6YEO / WB6FWA)

### Treasurer:

KG6PQA Dan Rowlan (N6RMJ / K6GXO)

### Master at Arms:

WA6WFC Gary Mork (WA6YEO / KC6UVM)

Board Members: (N6RMJ /

K6GET)

WA6TWT Gary Barr  
KJ6BKP Larry Mock

Don K6GET moved to approve by acclamation, N6RMJ seconded. Passed unanimous. All elected unopposed.

### New Business:

Anchors aweigh. Members may optionally donate portion of proceeds to Club.

Test Session – November 6, First Christian Church in Lancaster. GLAARG.

Hamcon 2011: Margie. Sept 9-11 at Torrance Marriott. Hotel has code of HAMCON. Hotel does not appear to be aware of registration code. Margie will attend HAMCON meeting on Saturday.

Adrienne: Now teaching Tech class at LDS Church in Lake LA. Test session to be held 11/16. VE's needed. Session open to all.

Break at 8:14 PM.

### Program: Social Hour –

“Junkathon”. A small selection of items to be sold.

50/50 drawing: WA6YEO won \$15.00.

Next board meeting: Thursday Nov. 4.

General Meeting: Thursday Nov. 18 – (Third Thursday)

Discussion of the Christmas potluck and the raffle.

Keith: Reporting a found dog needing a home.

Motion to Adjourn – K6GET, Seconded by N6RMJ. Adjourned at 9:00 PM

## AVARC BOARD MEETING 11/4/2010

Location: QTH of Ron Hammel, K6WLC

Members and Guests present: Adrienne, WA6YEO; Larry, KG1B; Ron, K6WLC; Dan, WA6PZK; Gary, WA6WFC; Gary, WA6TWT; Jim, NB6V; Margie, KG6TBR; Jay, KG6BXN; Don, K6GET; Carol, AF6OV

Meeting called to order at 7:11 PM by Margie.

Treasurer's report: As Oct. 28, total checking account was \$3,174.79. It is anticipated after next month's dues income, the ending balance should be greater than the first of the year. Don recommends dues remain the same for next year. Carol moves dues be the same. Seconded by Larry. Discussion: Adrienne reported Short Circuit expenses may be more next year. Typically, about 11 hard copies of Short Circuit are printed. Carol suggests working up a budget for the year. Motion to retain dues at current level – PASSED.

Old Business: Margie spent \$100 at HRO toward potluck prizes. We had about \$198 in cash. It was voted to match this Club funds. In review of last board meeting minutes, the Club's matching \$200 of

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## President's Corner...

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to Ron's Ranch to work with the team like I expected.

First, my car was hit in the Target parking lot while I was inside shopping, but luckily, the person left me a note so I was able to have her insurance company take care of it. This left me without my car for eight days, so I didn't want to take the rental up to the ranch on the dirt roads that I normally travel on up there. In addition, there was the Hamcon 2011 planning meeting down at the Mariott Hotel in Torrance, so I was able to attend. And then there was Halloween. I went trick-or-treating with my grandkids and had a fun night.

Dan WA6PZK worked the contest up at Ron's and did extremely well what with all the work Ron K6WLC and Jay KG6BXN did on Ron's ham equipment. Ron purchased new tubes for his Henry amp in anticipation of this contest, and as Dan put it, the WX turned beautiful. He said most of the stuff was like shooting fish in a barrel. Most stations answered first call. Dedicated monoband beams with 1500 watts really changes the whole experience. Dan said he really missed having me up there, so I feel better, but not much for missing the contest. Dan's results were excellent. I don't have the exact figures, but I think he made about 150 Q's and worked about 57 countries. His final claimed score was an amazing 36,764. That's a whole

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## From the VEEP...

*(Continued from page 1)*

Men who live by Sharping & Robbing he is generally poor and often very lousy. Besides he is a rank Coward: The little *King Bird* not bigger than a Sparrow attacks him boldly and drives him out of the District. He is therefore by no means a proper Emblem for the brave and honest Cincinnati of America who have driven all the *King birds* from our Country . . .

"I am on this account not displeased that the Figure is not known as a Bald Eagle, but looks more like a Turkey. For the Truth the Turkey is in Comparison a much more respectable Bird, and withal a true original Native of America . . . He is besides, though a little vain & silly, a Bird of Courage, and would not hesitate to attack a Grenadier of the British Guards who should presume to invade his Farm Yard with a red Coat on."

I can see it now. We revere the Turkey and eat Eagle for Thanksgiving! A sobering thought!

This time of year is always reflective. For some, it is family, others .. the things they are grateful for. Thanksgiving seems to usher in the holiday seasons with the goodwill towards men and the sharing of presents. The stores have jump started the holidays by about a month or so. I am sure somewhere, some store is already putting out Easter candy!

For me, I have always enjoyed the end of the year. I can remember

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## Secretary's Desk...

*(Continued from page 2)*

the original \$200+ of cash 50/50 funds. Based on this record, Don will issue Margie a check for \$200 to go ahead and purchase the rest of the prizes.

Margie needs to schedule a transition meeting to hand over responsibilities to the incoming officers. Margie wants Officers to convene 6:45 PM before the December General meeting December 16. It was agreed the transition actually be done on Jan. 8.

Don suggests per the bylaws we audit the Club books. Two members in good standing will do this. Margie suggests Jan. 8, in accordance with the VE test session. Adrienne and Carol volunteered for the audit. We will also do the bank transition at the same time.

Anchors Aweigh: Margie thought the turnout of equipment was disappointing. Next year – try in August 2011 to promote the event better.

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### President's Corner...

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lot more than the 11,670 that we did last year.

As far as myself, I tried working from my home shack on low power of 100 watts. I heard a loud station KP2M from Christiansted VI, and tried in vain to get that contact, but there was no way he could hear me. I finally did get W5RTA from the Southern Texas DX Contest Club and he became my one and only QSO for the contest. At least I was able to confirm that my meager station was being heard and he did say I was coming to him loud and clear- 59. I realized that the whole point was the fact that at least I tried, even if it was only a single contact, I made the effort.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting, so until then, keep finding ways to incorporate your ham skills into your everyday life.

73,  
Margie KG6TBR

### AV ARES To Participate In Statewide Emcomm Drill

State Wide Emergency Drill  
November 2010 - SAVE THE DATE

**WHAT: Functional Exercise**  
**WHEN: Thursday November 18th, 2010 8:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**Objectives:**  
**Operational Area:** Interoperable communications, bed tracking, volunteer management, burn surge plan

**Hospitals: Bomb** threat response/lockdown strategies, ability to manage influx of trauma, burn and pediatric patients, PsySTART assessment tag utilization

**Clinics: Bomb** threat response/lockdown strategies, ability to manage influx of patients, PsySTART assessment tag utilization

**Fire/EMS: Medical** management of IED incident, including triage, treatment and transport of patients, disaster burn patient destination, unified command with law enforcement

**Law enforcement:** Scene safety, preservation of evidence, unified command with fire/EMS.

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**Need more information? The local ARES net meets on Tuesdays at 8:00 pm local time on the Hauser repeater. Members of ARES and guests are invited to check in.**

### From the VEEP...

*(Continued from page 3)*  
when I was a mere boy and I couldn't wait for Christmas to come. Now, the time just seems to be passing by like a bullet train.

We are also fast approaching the end of another year in the AVARC. Next month, I will write my thoughts regarding our accomplishments as a club.

Last month, we had our annual "Anchors Aweigh". Seems like the participation was not as it has been in prior years, but there was some good interest in the things that were there. And next month, is our Annual Christmas Pot Luck with our yearly raffle!

This month, we will have the pleasure of hearing from Pat Coker N6RMJ who will be our club speaker. Pat is very active in the microwave frequencies and EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) communications, affectionately called 'moonbounce'. It will be an interesting program. Pat is also very active in helping hams with their projects and acting as an elmer (ham terminology for a helper and teacher).

Well, that about wraps it up for another month. Catch y'all on the frequencies!

73 and Happy Hamming!

73,  
Larry KG1B



## Secretary's Desk...



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**Club Shirt:** Reminder of club shirt issue from last month. Ron suggests talking to Becky at 10,000 RPM for advice on this. Adrienne mentioned the ARES shirts purchased by Marcus. She will research the ARES supplier of the shirts. (Action item). Item tabled for now.

**New Business:** LACARC dues due. Margie needs a check from Don for \$10. Backup rep. was Dale. We need to see if Dale is still interested. Don moved LACARC be paid. Dan seconded. Passed. Margie reported on last LACARC proceeding from last month. Margie reported on HAMCON meeting Oct. 30.

**Gary Barr:** Short Circuit due this coming Tuesday. Adrienne needs it not later than Monday.

**Margie:** Qualification for officer. If a prior-year member has renewed membership for the cur-

rent whole year, albeit late, he/she is considered reinstated for the entire year, as dues retroactive for the entire year. If the candidate was not a member the prior year, then the membership starts the date of reinstatement, thus not eligible for office.

**Adrienne:** Test session this Saturday 9:00 AM at First Christian Church. VE's needed. She is teaching a class in Lake LA – needs to run a special test session on Tuesday, 11/16, (GLAARG). VE's needed. Location – LDS Church, Lake LA.

**Next HAMCON meeting, Dec. 11. AVARC Board Meeting, Dec. 2. Location TBA.**

**Carol moved to Adjourn meeting, Don seconded. PASSES. Adjourned at 8:54PM**

Respectfully Submitted:  
Dan Sherwood WA6PZK  
AVARC Secretary 2010

## SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS JAN-FEB 2011 DXPEDITION

*Editor's note: Our resident DXpert, Keith K6GXO, has shared the following information with us. A DXpedition like this is a huge undertaking, and provides a great opportunity for experienced operators to work some new band-modes, and for our newcomers it is a chance at climbing the honor-roll.*

Many have been asking about our low-band plans for the upcoming VP8ORK South Orkney DXpedition in January 2011. With antennas to cover 75, 80 and 160m simultaneously from sunset to sunrise, dedicated receive systems and top-of-the-line radios, we will be active on all these bands, every night, for almost two solid weeks. Rest assured that we're giving the low-bands a top priority.

We're extremely grateful to have major DX foundations such as the NCDXF, INDEXA and the ARRL funding us with large donations. We're also thankful to have support from many worldwide DX clubs and commercial equipment sponsors such as Elecraft, Acom, DX Engineering and SteppIR. But even with all that, and each team member contributing over \$12,000, it still doesn't even come close to covering the massive expense of a polar expedition. We need financial support from all of you.

If you haven't sent in a donation yet we hope you will consider joining those who have already stepped up to help. Our website [www.vp8o.com](http://www.vp8o.com) gives full details of our trip, and is where you can contribute at whatever level you feel comfortable.

We look forward to working you on all bands!

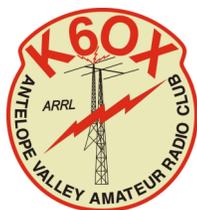
73,  
James Brooks, 9V1YC  
The Microlite Penguins DXpedition Team  
VP8ORK South Orkney 2011

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### Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2010 Officers

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



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