

The Short Circuit

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



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

February 2012

President's Corner

Larry Bianchi KG1B

Can anyone spare some change?

The one thing that seems to remain constant is change! But that seems to be what happens as we continue to follow the course that has been laid out before us.

There are two changes that have been made and I will discuss what they are and why they have to be made.

The first change is to the Wednesday evening net. It is a minor change, but one that we felt was necessary. A few weeks ago, I asked for input regarding Newsline. There were a lot of opinions expressed on Hauser which I greatly appreciate. The opinions ranged from being not really interested in Newsline, presenting a shortened version, to really liking and listens to Newsline.

All things considered, making the presentation of Newsline as the very last thing presented on Wednesday night allows all net checkins, business, traffic, questions and comments to be concluded before Newsline, so those that want to listen it can, and those that don't want to don't have to without missing anything the net has to present.

Enough on Newsline. The second real change concerns Field Day. In past years, we have had 4 working stations and one station that was known as the GOTA (Get On The Air) station. This year three of the four stations will not be participating. And that leaves plenty of room for hams that have never setup a station or those that haven't set up a station in a while to come and participate. This will be an exciting opportunity to come and learn, operate and above all HAVE FUN!

Our own V.P. Paul KD6SMC will be the the Field Day chairman with Steve Harnos KC2RKK on our F.D. Committee with

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Meeting Notice

Thursday, February 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 the Hauser Repeater (146.73 MHz. PL 100) if you need directions.

This month's meeting will feature **Joy Matlack KD6FJV**, who is the head of ham radio communications for the annual Baker to Vegas race. Joy is a frequent visitor to our club, and will be talking about B2V communications and how our club can participate in this annual event. Many of our members have been involved in B2V for a number of years, and we have received many compliments on our operation at Stage 15.

Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for a very interesting and informative meeting.



Joy Matlack KD6FJV watering the famous "magic bush" at B2V 2011

From The Veep

Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC

Hello again. If you're reading this, we've made it through the first month and a half of 2012. Hooray! The world hasn't come to an end yet. Maybe I should wait till next year to upgrade to Extra class. And I made it through my first meeting at the front of the room. When you're used to seeing the backs of everyone's heads, it's a little disconcerting to suddenly be looking into the side with the eyes. To say that I felt a bit awkward is an understatement. But I survived.

This month's speaker is Joy Matlack, who will talk on the Baker to Vegas Relay. Joy gives a good presentation and someday I'd like to try working this event. I love the desert and everyone seems to have a good time.

I realize that this club has been in the A.V. for a long time and most of the things I would like to see happen have been done before. As I said last month, I would like to see the club be more visible in the Valley. I would like to see a club booth at the Poppy Festival or the A.V. Fair with possibly, a special event station. It's too late for the Poppy Festival (Feb. 17th deadline) and the A. V. Fair is very expensive, though we're trying to figure out a way around that. I would also like to see t-shirts and hats with the club logo and orange safety vests with the club name to be used at special events. I spent the morning at last year's MS walk-a-thon in the middle of a four way stop intersection directing traffic. An orange vest would have been helpful.

I've been to two club Field Days so far and have enjoyed both of them. This year's Field Day will be a different animal but still good. The last two years, we've invited the Boy Scouts and they were no shows. I'd like to extend an invitation to cub scouts, brownie and girl scouts and high school and college elec-

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From the Secretary's Desk



Meeting Minutes for the AVARC January 26, 2012

Meeting Opened: The meeting was opened promptly at 7:30 p.m. by Club President Larry KG1B.

Flag Salute and Introduction of Members and Guests: Flag Salute was conducted followed by introductions of members. We had 23 members present with 1 guest (Bradley Lykins) and 1 guest speaker.

Minutes: Gary WA6TWT made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Lynn. All members were in favor to accept the minutes as presented in the Short Circuit.

Treasurer's Report: Dan, KG6PQA was not at the meeting due to his being at Quartzite with many other club members, so the treasurer's report was not given.

Membership: Gary WA6TWT announced we have 120 members, 39 have not renewed yet. Of the members that we have 70.89% are members with the ARRL.

Vice President's Report: Paul reported that he has submitted our club information to the A.V. Press and has been printed in the Sunday paper in the Bulletin section. The information will be posted each month adding speakers and events. Paul has set up a Club Field Trip to the Nethercutt Museum, Saturday, March 10th, at 1:30 p.m. to meet at Sylmar. Please contact Paul via his information on our club website. He would like to get a caravan from Lancaster and Palmdale together. Please note: No children under 10 are allowed in the museum. Paul will bring this up on the net to see if

he can get some sign-up for the event.

Old Business: December's Potluck and Magic Show was a big success. Larry Mock KI6BKP won the grand prize – "20 amp power supply."

New Business: None discussed

Announcements:

2012 Yuma Hamfest, Feb 17 & 18; for more information go to www.yumahamfest.org.

Palm Springs is also having their Hamfest. Go to the following URL to view their site: <http://desertrats.am/>

Club badges are now \$4.00. New member's dues will increase to \$4.00 to cover the cost of the badge.

VE Test Schedule on the website. Adrienne is now the new heard for the VEC for GLARD. Congratulations Adrienne.

CERT Training information is available online at AVCERT.org. For more information about CERT and ARES, contact Larry Mock, KI6BKP.

Gary W6TWT spoke about the TANA Foundation. The TANA Foundation is an organization that helps to find homes for animals of all kinds that need to share their life with a good family. Gary takes care of dogs, cats, horses, donkeys, etc. Gary has requested that when ordering on-line for items at Amazon.com to please sue the TANA Foundation.org website to go to Amazon.com. This allows TANA to receive a percentage from Amazon.com to help with operations of the TANA Foundation. There is also a contest going

on that could provide TANA Foundation with money for their operations. Just log-in to TANA.Foundation.org and click on the link to vote for TANA Foundation. You'll be able to vote once each day. Once you have entered the site and voted, just book mark the site and you can go to it each day and vote again.

STATE of the Club Address by Club President Larry KG1B:

Larry stated that he was proud to be serving as our new club president and hopes to continue the great work or past presidents. He would like to keep the club evolving as new programs are introduced. He was glad to hear that over 70% of our members are also members of ARRL. He hopes that in the future the numbers will continue to grow. Larry gave participating club members a well deserved BRAVO for their time that was and still is being donated for the various club projects and service in ham radio.

Break: Larry called a break from 8:00 to 8:10 before presenting our speaker for the night's program.

At promptly 8:10 p.m., Larry KG1B called the club meeting to order and introduced Marty Woll, N6VI, ARRL, Vice Director of the South West Division. Marty gave a wonderful presentation about the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL). He stated that the ARRL is an organization that is all about its members and provide a wide variety of services to ensure the future of the Ham Radio hobby. He discussed about Public Service that hams perform, Advocacy with legal matters for hams, Education for the ham

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President's Corner...

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myself as an advisor. We hope to add one or two others to the committee. Other than getting more operators to participate, we are going to put a great emphasis on getting the public out to our event. Paul has some exciting thoughts on the publicity end of Field Day.

The overriding desire that I have is to provide for the members of the club those things that will make our club more interesting and FUN! We have been a service oriented club with us participating in Baker to Vegas and the MS Walk along with other events as they have come up.

These are ways for us to give back to the community and put ham radio in view of our public and as a byproduct of this to draw more people into the hobby.

As always, I invite any comments, suggestions or complaints that will help our club become a better and stronger one. I can be reached by email, Strad3@Hotmai.com, or by phone 818 237-0706. Even if you just want to rap about Ham radio please give me a jingle.

Well, that about wraps it up for this month. Keep having fun with our hobby and feel free to tell us about your accomplishments.

73 and Happy Hamming!

73,
Paul KG1B



Secretary's Desk...

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and non-ham, advances in Technology that hams have contributed to, and membership. For more information as to what ARRL does, go to www.ARRL.org and visit their site.

Raffle Winner: Frank, N6FOD was the grand winner of \$19.00.

Adjournment: Larry KI6BKP made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Ken; all in favor to close the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

**AVARC Board Meeting
2 February 2012**

Called to Order: The AVARC board meeting was called to order by Larry, KG1B at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Margie Hoffman KG6TBR (Ex-Officio), Larry Bianchi KG1B (President), Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC (Vice-President), Lou Figueroa KA6VVD (Secretary), Larry Mock

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Secretary's Desk...



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(Board Member), Gary Barr WA6TWT (Board Member/Membership), Gary Mork WA6WFC (Master-At-Arms), and Keith Hoyt K6GXO (Trustee), and Dan Rowlan K6PQA (Treasurer).

1. **Minutes:** Lou read the minutes of the January board meeting. Missing from the minutes was the financial data from the dues received for that period and proceeds received from HAMCON 2011 which was \$1379 minus the \$200 for seed money from our club actually came to \$1179. The minutes were amended and approved.

2. **Treasurer's Report:** Dan Rowlan reported that we presently have \$4973 in the bank.

3. **President's Report:** Larry B. reported that the committee for this year's Field Day will be Paul KD6SMC as chairman, Steve KC2RKK as committee member, and Larry B. as advisor. Documentation has been submitted for the use of Lancaster City Park. The board approved the selection of this year's Field Day Committee.

4. **Membership:** Gary B reported at present time we have 38 members that have not renewed their membership. Gary turned in \$50 to the club treasurer for membership fee collected in January.

5. Old Business:

a) Margie reported that she conducted her research for the purchase of a club projector. The prices have come down quite a bit and that she found some good projectors priced between \$400 and \$500. She recommends that the board ask the membership for au-

thorization to spend \$400 to \$500 for a club projector. The board agreed and the recommendation will be presented at the next general membership business meeting.

b) Margie also informed the board that she had taken action to get the club president's information corrected on the ARRL website. She is also listed as a contact person for the club.

c) Gary B reminded the board when making purchases at AMAZON.COM to please use the link from the TANA Foundation (found on every email sent out by Gary). The foundation receives a donation for purchases made via the TANA Foundation link at www.thetanafoundation.org.

6. New Business:

a) Dan R Informed the board that a fellow ham from the Sam's Radio Hams has a Honda EU 1000 generator for sale at a price of \$500. Dan said that this generator is very quiet and would make a great addition to the club trailer. The generator weighs approximately 27 lbs. Dan made a motion to present this possibly to the general membership with Larry M seconding the motion. All board members were in favor. Dan also informed us that he now has a new call sign – K6PQA. He was able to drop the first "A".

b) Larry M made a suggestion to invite Adrienne Holmes, an advisor for the Robotics Program at Hall Academics, to give the club a talk at one of the club meeting about her youth ro-

botics program. Larry will get together with Paul L to make arrangements.

c) Keith reported that a former club member and club treasurer, Dave Shapiro KD6MSU, had passed away last month in Barstow.

d) Margie made a recommendation for a club outing to Jet Hawk Stadium for the near future. She also presented Dan R with a DVD that she won at Quartzite last month. The DVD is of a webinar that the ARRL conducted to discuss the 501©3 Non-Profit program.

e) Larry B stated that he had received comments/complaints about the order of business in reference to the club weekly Wednesday Evening Net. He will do some tweaking to the script to make it flow more efficiently.

f) Larry B reported that the Santa Clarita Club has invited our club to participate with them in Field Day at Santa Clarita. It was decided that since we already have our permits and the spaces already reserved that we would invite them to join us instead. We also had a discussion about the Acton club and inviting them back again this year. Larry B will contact the clubs and discuss this issue and what support we will require for their participation.

Meeting Adjournment: Motion made by Larry M and seconded by Dan R. Meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:
Lou Figueroa KA6VVD

From the VEEP...

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tronics classes to come see what ham radio is all about. If you have kids in any of the above organizations, and have access to names or phone numbers of troop leaders or such, I'd appreciate that info so we can get in touch with them.

Finally, there is still room for members and families for the March 10th field trip to the Nethercutt Museum in Sylmar. The tour starts at 1:30 and will last about an hour and a half. Bring the spouse and kids over 10 years old. Let me know if you would like to carpool or caravan down there and we can work something out. I will be contacting those who have already expressed an interest at the end of the month to get an idea of how many will be going so I can give the museum an accurate head count. Call me at 661-305-1838 or e-mail me at kd6smc@yahoo.com for more info.

Till next month,

73's
Rob KD6SMC

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VE Test Session

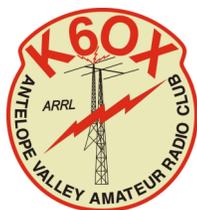
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For more information, please contact John Pritchett, W6JWK at w6jwk@aol.com or by phone at (559) 577-8813.

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Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2012 Officers



President	Larry Bianchi	KG1B	(818) 237-0706
Vice President	Paul L'Heureux	KD6SMC	305-1838
Secretary	Lou Figueroa	KA6VVD	(760) 373-8920
Treasurer	Dan Rowlan	KG6PQA	944-1123
Master-At-Arms	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
Board Member	Gary Barr	WA6TWT	946-2717
Board Member	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
Trustee	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
Ex Officio	Margie Hoffman	KG6TBR	297-6567

AVARC board meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month. All members are welcome to attend, although they should let the president or another officer know that they are planning to attend, as the meetings usually include a pot-luck dinner at the home of one of the officers.

The club net is on Wednesdays at 8:00, on the Hauser repeater (146.73 MHz PL 100). The net includes Amateur Radio Newslines, and all members and guests are invited to check in.

The Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club K6OX
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