

# The Short Circuit

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



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

May 2012

## President's Corner

Larry Bianchi KG1B

Strawberry Fields Forever?

Well, maybe not, but how about ARRL Field Day for a weekend! YES, it is indeed that time of year again where we will sweat, curse, thirst, hunger, be tired beyond belief and claim that we had FUN!

Field Day, probably the highlight of the year for hams all over the country. And this year, we have a unique opportunity for new operators to take their hand at setting up and operating.

Our May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting will be devoted to Field Day setup, who will be there setting up their own stations, who will be there as operators only and etc. So come and be part of the decision process that will define this year's Field Day!

This past Saturday, we had a checkout of the club trailer at Keith's QTH (K6GXO). This is an annual event that goes over the contents of the club trailer, which includes the 2 Yagis that are used during Field Day, along with all the hardware, cables and tied downs.

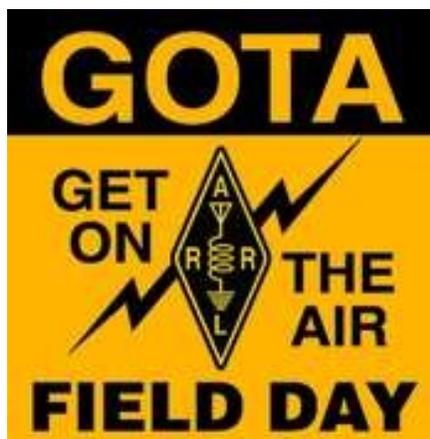
We had a very disappointing turnout and we were unable to do very much at all. So, it may be

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## Meeting Notice

Thursday, May 24, 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.

At this month's meeting, we will be discussing our preparations for **Field Day**. This is our club's premier operating activity, and all members are urged to participate. Your input is needed, so be sure to mark your calendars and plan on attending this very important meeting. Hope to see you there!



## From The Veep

Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC

First off I want to say "thank you" to Brad, who stepped up and took great notes at the April meeting. They were concise and accurate and easy to type out for the newsletter. I apologize for not knowing your last name, but again, "thank you".

In 1969, Dr. Laurence J. Peter and Raymond Hull wrote a book called "The Peter Principle". The principle is commonly phrased "employees tend to rise to their level of incompetence". Boy, do I know the feeling! Between the "Peter Principle" and Murphy's Law, sometimes it doesn't pay to get out of bed. I'm sure that we've all felt that way at times. But we do get out of bed and we keep plugging away at those things that need to get done. The thing about incompetence is that the bar can always be raised. Sometimes all it takes is practice, like improving your code speed. Or maybe just getting over a fear you have. I'm terrified of being up there in front of all of you at the club meetings. That's my "Peter Principle". But I want to be involved in the club and not just a member. We have about 100 members, yet at the meetings we get about 40 (which still ain't too shabby) present. The same 40 members each month, which means that slightly over half the members aren't participating. Why? Are we not

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## From the Secretary's Desk

### AVARC General Meeting April 26, 2012

Club president Larry Bianchi KG1B was absent and V.P. Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC had a cold so ex-officio Margie Hoffman KG6TBR opened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Treasurer's report. Dan Rowlan K6PQA reported that we have a balance of 4702.26. A vote was taken to pay insurance. Maximum check of \$500.00

Membership report. Gary Barr WA6TWT, reported that we had 2 new members for a total of 98. We had 4 visitors and 44 members present at the meeting.

Old business. Club secretary, Lou Figueroa KA6VVD, had to resign his position but promised to stay on till a new secretary was elected. Barbara Harnos KC2RUJ was elected as new club secretary.

Generator purchase. V.P. Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC brought info on several online sites. Discussion on generator put off till May meeting. DX convention.

Keith Hoyt K6GXO, and Dale Snider KØBGL, spoke of the convention. Dale won the prize of a 40 ft. crank up tower. Baker to Vegas.

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR reported that Dan and Adrienne Sherwood won "Ham of the Year"

award. There were 230 runners injured in the race, mostly from heat.

MS Walk. Adrienne Sherwood reported that the MS Walk would leave from the Harbor Freight parking lot on April 28 at 7:00 am. Adrienne also reported that a GLAARG testing session would take place at 7:00 pm on May 7th.

Break at 8:00 pm.

Guest speaker Dennis Smith, KA6GSE, spoke on D-Star.

Raffle. Margie Hoffman, KG6TBR, won \$27.00

Meeting ended at 8:50 pm.

### AVARC Board Meeting May 3, 2012

Board meeting opened at 6:30 PM. Dan not present.

Membership report: Club has 99 members, given by Gary WA6TWT.

Old business: none

New business: New club generator. Whether to buy, rent, or rely on people. We should also use the SteppIR as the main antenna. Field Day banquet considered by Carol & Eugene. Carol will get back to Larry.

Present: Larry KG1B, Paul KD6SMC, Margie KG6TBR,

Larry M. K16BKP, Gary M. WA6WFC, Gary B. WA6TWT, Steve H. KC2RKK, Barbara H. KC2RUJ.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

## Swap Shop

ANTENNA AND TOWER  
SALE: CONTACT W6FW, BILL  
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[nhoverman@verizon.net](mailto:nhoverman@verizon.net)

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40 mtr Hygain 2 element linear  
load beam \$150  
20 mtr 4 element lite weight (36 ft  
boom approx 70 lbs) \$300  
17 mtr WARC 3 element  
beam \$100  
15 mtr 5 element M<sup>2</sup> 32 ft  
boom \$200  
10 mtr 4 element 16 ft boom \$80  
Hygain TH3 tribander 10-15-  
20 \$100  
5 band Hygain vertical \$60  
9 band vertical Butternut \$300  
6 mtr 3 element beam \$60  
54 ft crankup tower 13 FT mast  
avail. \$150  
HZN Tri-Ex rotating tower 72ft  
attachments to 94 ft \$2000



# President's Corner...



# From the VEEP...

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fun? I realize that there are those who just can't do it due to work or health or family duties. Look, in about one short month, Field Day will be upon us. The Acton club will be joining us again this year. Come on out. Not to work, sure we can use the volunteers but the work will get done whether you come out or not. Come out to have fun. I'm going to have my station set up and I'm sure that for most of Saturday it will sit idle. Fire it up and work some HF. If you are a technician class licensee, we will find someone with a higher class license to sit with you. If you'd rather, come out and sit in the shade and shoot the breeze with your fellow hams. It sure beats mowing the lawn. Bring the kids, they can play at the playground. Barbeque. I'm not a competitive person. If things don't go as planned, so what. Let's make our Field Day "Fun Day" for the A.V.A.R.C. We're going to try to get some younger kids to join us this year. Namely, the Cub Scouts, Brownies, and Girl Scouts. Let's show them how much fun ham radio is.

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difficult to ensure that we can use the antennas and support equipment that are contained in the trailer.

quite well and is back home. So, once again, I really appreciate Mike and Margie for making sure I get the message about my brother.

I really hope that this isn't a precursor to the support we are going to have during Field Day. It takes a lot to put one on and a lot of time is spent making sure all the T's are crossed and all the I's dotted. I am sure we will have a Field Day, but the success and extent is up to the members of the club.

Well, that about wraps things up for this month. I will look forward to seeing you at the next club meeting on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Come ready to make this year's Field Day one of the funnest!

Till then .. Happy Hamming.

Last month, I wrote an article about my brother being in the hospital and his friend Mike using his noggin finding out how he could get a message to me. As a followup, my brother Jim is doing

73,  
 Jay KG1B



**Eric J. Christensen**  
**K6EJC**  
 Manager

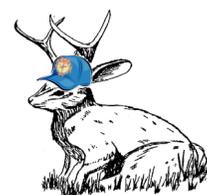
AVARC Members,  
 Thanks for letting HRO  
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 Fax 818-842-5283

73's  
 Dave KD6SMC



### Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2012 Officers



<b>President</b>	Larry Bianchi	KG1B	(818) 237-0706
<b>Vice President</b>	Paul L'Heureux	KD6SMC	305-1838
<b>Secretary</b>	Barbara Harnos	KC2RUJ	(631) 754-5853
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dan Rowlan	KG6PQA	944-1123
<b>Master-At-Arms</b>	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
<b>Board Member</b>	Gary Barr	WA6TWT	946-2717
<b>Board Member</b>	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
<b>Trustee</b>	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
<b>Ex Officio</b>	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  
 Post Office Box 1011  
 Lancaster, CA 93584-1011

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To ARS: