

The Short Circuit

<http://www.avarc.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

February 2016

President's Corner

Carol Humpherys AF6OV

This week I was pondering the history of radio--from Hertz proving that radio waves exist in 1888, to Marconi creating a communication system with them in the 1890s, and Hiram Percy Maxim W1AW co-founding the American Radio Relay League in 1914. But what about the women of radio? What role did they play? I did some research and found amazing things!

Gladys Kathleen Parkin (1901-1990) was one of the earliest and youngest women to obtain a license. She became an amateur radio operator at the age of nine and obtained a professional radio license at the age of fifteen. Taking the exam on a lark just to see if she could pass, she was the first woman in California to obtain her license! She designed all her own equipment, including a ¼ kilowatt spark-gap transmitter. Her call was 6SO.

Graynella Packer of Jackson Florida began practicing telegraphy as a young girl in order to send messages in code to her school friends. At the age of 22 was the first woman to be a wireless operator on a seagoing vessel, the *Mohawk*. The year was 1910, two years after the first wireless distress call from a ship at sea, and two years before the sinking of the Titanic made heroes of wireless operators. The Wireless Ship Act of 1910 required United States ships to be equipped with wireless equipment and to have an operator on board who was capable of sending and receiving messages.

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Meeting Notice

Thursday, February 25, is the next meeting of the AVARC at Jane Reynolds Park, 716 West Oldfield Street, in Lancaster. Talk-in is available on the Hauser Repeater (146.73 MHz. PL 100) if you need directions. Eyeball QSO starts at 7 pm, and the meeting starts at 7:30.

The new phone number for the club is **(661) 265-6131**.

Keith, Lois, CJ and Dick of the Tehachapi's Southern Sierra Amateur Radio Society will talk about how the Yukon trip came about and all the fun they had planning it. Also a few of the things they learned about Ham Radio in the Yukon and Field Day. They will talk about YARA (Yukon Amateur Radio Association) and all their assistance to make the 2015 Field Day possible. How APRS played into their travels and the special call sign of VY1USA.



From The Veep

Eugene Humpherys KG6SLC

As Vice President, I am responsible for club presentations. There are ten months/opportunities each year for club presentations and 2016 is turning out to be a great year for them. The other two months where we have no presenters are October, when our club has the annual Anchors aweigh (away?) and the other being December which is, of course, the club's yearly Christmas party.

January we heard about Baker 2 'Vegas from an administration point of view by our own Margie Hoffman. For our upcoming February presentation we will learn of "local" ie Tehachapi hams that traveled to Alaska to do Field Day in the Yukon! What an opportunity it will be for us to hear of the exciting things these people experienced that led up to this event and their success as they went on the air in the great state of Alaska.

Our March presentation promises to be exciting as well! We have a special guest speaker from the base that will enthrall us with discussions of electronic warfare, radar jamming and other electronic technologies that are used to protect the freedoms and way of life that each of us enjoys every day. This topic will be of interest to all and, I'm certain, will keep us on the edge of our seats as we are brought to a better understanding of the technologies that are present and currently in use in our today's world.

April will also bring a special guest in that we have contacted the person that oversaw and developed navigation and communication systems on a recent aircraft. While we can't mention which particular aircraft this is or get into any government secrets, this presentation will be geared to an unclassified audience. Even the unclassified experiences and informa-

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From the Secretary's Desk



AVARC General Meeting January 28, 2016

Location: Cedar Street Center for the Arts – Downtown Lancaster

Opening: Carol Humpherys AF6OV
President

7:30 pm call to order followed by flag salute and introductions.

Minutes from last meeting: Taken by Dan Sherwood W6DAS. Corrections? (Carol's call in the Short Circuit). Motion to approve as printed in Short Circuit made by Margie, seconded by Brian N6CVO Approved? Y

Treasurer's Report: Gary Barr WA6TWT: Balance \$5,123.61 (Inc cash \$81.00). Matt Stewart K6MES and Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC conducting financial audit as per the bylaws. Motion to approve the report made by Allen, seconded by Pat Okawa. Approved? Y

Membership Report: Gary Barr WA6TWT: Members # 105 ARRL members 74.25%, Members present tonight 23.

Certificates of Appreciation for Outstanding Service presented to outgoing officers Margie Hoffman KG6TBR, John Isles K6GXO, and Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC.

LAACRC Report: Margie Hoffman KG6TBR:

Club Net Manager Report: Margie Hoffman KG6TBR: Net controlling done by Margie and Jon Clark.

Vice President's Report: Eugene Humpherys KG6SLC: New speakers for 2016 are coming in. Including talks on Burma radio ops, and Electronic Warfare. Also folks who build and operate satellites. Marty Woll on Katrina operations. February will be done on FD in the Yukon.

President's Report: Carol Humpherys AF6OV: Several board members visited the Southern Sierra Amateur Radio club in Tehachapi on Jan 20. Club participat-

ing in ARRL's 2016 'National Parks on the Air' once a month or once per quarter. First venue: Caesar Chavez National Monument. AVARC club members invited to participate. Club Program consisted of AH6TX presenting his experiences on an Amateur Radio Cruise. Next cruise opportunity is Jan 2017. Contact AH6TX@ARRL for more information.

Other club officers or committee chair reports: 2016 Field Day Chair: Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC

Old Business:

- 1) The December Holiday Party very successful with close to 50 attendees. Thank you to Brian Hoffman for the terrific magic show!
- 2) Board member US Bank signature card changes planned for February 6 immediately after the VE session.

New Business:

- 1) President's 'State of the Club' comments: AVARC is financial strong. Membership numbers strong, but attendance at meetings declining. Finding a new meeting location is a top priority. Board designing activities and programs to enrich club members' amateur radio experience. Dues to remain the same: Moved Pat Okawa, seconded Paul L'Heureux. Approved – Yes.
- 2) Paul looking into a senior center for a meeting location. Larry has a church that may have a room. Carol looking into an LDS location.
- 3) Carol looking into meeting programs that are hands-on classes and building projects.
- 4) Eugene has a speaker on signal propagation sometime in March.
- 5) Carol looking at easier activities to do as a club. Also to promote conventions. Promotion of the Jacalope award.
- 6) Club-sponsored licensing classes.
- 7) Brian: Acton Club will be doing classes and VE session. TBD.

Announcements:

- 1) Club member Shirley Hosman KB6HNF is in sharp decline. Family members are unable to attend club meetings as they care for her.
- 2) Jim WA6SLJ is selling new and used radio equipment from a silent key. Please contact him at klosterhom@aol.com if you are interested.
- 3) Next VE Session at First Christian Church on Saturday February 6 at 9 am. Address 1702 E. Ave J across from Wal-Mart. Session is GLARG with a \$5 fee.
- 4) Next Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 4, at Gary Barr's QTH, Arrive at 6 pm for dinner. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm and should end by 8:30 pm. The meeting is open to all AVARC members.

Reminder: Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO needs the next Short Circuit articles or any other submissions by Sunday night, February 14. Please submit them directly to Adrienne at wa6yeo@sbcglobal.net

Club program: Margie Hoffman KG6TBR, Baker to Vegas

Drawing: \$10 was won by W6DAS Dan . Meeting adjourned at 9:06PM.

AVARC Board Meeting February 4, 2016

Call to order by Carol Humpherys AF6OV at 7:00 pm

Thank you to Gary Barr WA6TWT for hosting the meeting.

Minutes from last meeting: Secretary Dan Sherwood W6DAS. Any corrections?

Motion to approve as printed in Short Circuit Made by: Matt Stewart, Seconded by: Dick Miller, Approved? Y

Treasurer's report: Gary Barr WA6TWT - Checking \$5127.61, cash \$163, total \$5290.61.



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Treasurer's audit status: Matt & Paul: In process per Matt. Matt needs club assets and any possible liabilities.

Membership Report: Gary Barr WA6TWT Membership at 106.

Council of Clubs report: Margie Hoffman KG6TBR, did attend the meeting. Will get report when she can return.

Members present tonight: Carol Humpherys AF6OV, Eugene Humpherys KG6SLC, Gary Barr WA6TWT, Gary Mork WA6WFC, Dick Miller KJ6W, Matt Stewart K6MES, Keith Hoyt K6GXO, Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC. Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO, Dan Sherwood W6DAS

Goals/Vision:

- Provide members enriching amateur radio activities, experiences and opportunities.

- Be an AVARC ambassador to other clubs and the community.

- Increase meeting and net participation. Paul suggests doing more activities during the year other than field day. Provide activities interesting to new members.

Old Business:

1. New Board Member transition: Change bank signatures Saturday, February 6, after the VE session. Secretary to bring last year's office list, this year's list and a copy of the short circuit.

2. Weekly Club Net: Margie updated the schedule and script. Status of participation metrics? Goal: increase participation this year. Margie will be working out some participation metrics. Ask Margie for a list of email addresses of volunteers doing net control.

3. General meeting venue: Paul - Option to meet at the Senior Citizen Center on Jackman in Lancaster. Involves a date change to Tuesday and a start time of 6 :30 pm. Must leave the building by 8:00 pm. Excellent security, parking and acoustics. Discussion: Early time constraint a major

Secretary's Desk...



issue due to commuters returning later. Early shut down. Vote taken - decision to table the issue. Another suggestion - AV Hospital. Dana King N6GLT may be a contact. Carol may be able to get an LDS facility but no coffee or smoking in these facilities. Possibility of meeting at AV First Christian - \$50.00 rent per meeting in the sanctuary. Adrienne suggested a bank may have a conference room.

4. Jacklope Award: Example from Keith. Discussed award guidelines. Old guide - working 5 members on the air. Paul suggested a multitude of various ways for people to earn this. Keith suggested someone volunteer to be certificate administrator. Adrienne and Dan to try to find the old blank certificates. We need to determine a purpose for people to chase this award. Keep the process simple, straw vote taken to require 10 contacts with members. Paul will contact Allen WB6ZYQ about a K6OX patch for application to a jacket.

5. Club contact cards: Eugene - We had two sizes of cards, business and post card. Consensus was to make the business sized cards rather than post cards. Card should contain logo, and full contact information. Keep it one-sided.

6. Membership cards: Carol - tabled.

7. Distribution of old badges: Matt will send an article for the Short Circuit regarding pickup of old badges.

8. Visits to other clubs: Visited Southern Sierra (Tehachapi) in January. Visiting Acton/Aqua Dulce in February.

9. Club Partnerships: Tehachapi club: March 10 meeting. National Parks on the Air. Dick Brown in Tehachapi will feature Steve J Noll on March 10 in Tehachapi. Subject - X-Band operation and propagation.

9. Vice President's report: Eugene Humpherys KG6SLC. Speaker program: February - Yukon Field Day, March - Electronic warfare, (tentative). Activities: Antenna building, T-Hunts, Solar, other? Dick might look into solar presentation.

10: Non profit status: Gary & Matt - Matt will lead in getting non-profit reinstated.

11. Communication of Ham opportunities in the Short Circuit: Carol - publish a calendar of regional activities in the Short Circuit.

12. Ham Classes: Keith received an email from Bill Bradley concerning promotion of ham classes. Need for Extra Class to be taught. He has a web site used for advertising classes.

New business:

1. Field Day report: Paul - acquired K6A call sign. Will reach out to the Scouts. He needs to contact Diane McFarlane at Parks and Recreation to use Tierra Bonita park again.

2. B2V - Eugene: Meeting February 19 at Eugene's house potluck.

3. Other: Adrienne - test session 2/6. January is a bad month for VE testing - many dead sessions reported.

Announcements:

Next VE Session Saturday, 6 February First Christian Church. Address 1702 E. Ave J - Across from Wal-Mart. Session is GLARG with a \$ 5 fee.

Next Club Meeting 2/25/16: Subject Yukon Field Day.

Next Board Meeting TBD March 1, Tuesday at the Humpherys' QTH, Arrive at 6 pm for dinner. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm and should end by 8:30 pm. The meeting is open to all AVARC members.

Close: 9:02 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan Sherwood W6DAS
AVARC Secretary 2016



President's Corner... From the VEEP...



(Continued from page 1)

Olive Carrol grew up in Vancouver, British Columbia. She wanted to travel the world, but with war raging she thought to join the Navy. Hoping to better her chances, she earned her operators license. During the war she remained on land, learned Japanese code and served as an intercept officer. After the war ended, she jumped at the chance to work on a Norwegian passenger ship the *Siranger* as the wireless operator. As such, her travels were those of an adventuress-- from the communist rebellion in Chile, Evita's homecoming celebrations in Argentina, dealing with knife welding bandits in Brazil, meeting a Maharajah in Calcutta, to a confrontation with the Soviet Army in Leningrad. (No, I'm not making this up! What an amazing life due to an interest in radio!)

Clara Reger was first licensed in 1933 at the age of 35, a bit older than the other outstanding women noted here. After the War, she managed disaster communications in New York and was appointed the official Red Cross Station of Buffalo, NY. She was known for her

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tion will be riveting, entertaining and educational.

In May we will have a presentation regarding the use of infrared. How this technology is used in cameras and other electronic equipment. Our presenter will bring equipment, demonstrations, and expertise to answer any questions you may have surrounding this fascinating subject.

Another interesting presentation will be by a ham that was in Burma when amateur radio was outlawed there and how he was able to deal with the situation and still get on the air. This presentation was originally going to be in February but due to the notorious gas leak at Porter Ranch he was displaced and will not be available until this issue is resolved. He has agreed to come to our club once he is able to return home and things settle down for him and his family.

There are even more topics on tap. One of which will be by a person that oversees communications satellites being designed, tested, manufactured, and possibly how they are placed in orbit. While this person is a local, and also a ham, we would not recognize him from the club nor would we have heard him on any of the local repeaters. He is well spoken and well respected by government officials.

When I was the ARRL High Desert District Emergency Coordinator, I was privileged to have heard David Greenhut speak at an ARES meeting of his experiences when he volunteered to help with communications during Hurricane Katrina. He has interesting, and sometimes humorous stories of how sometimes things went well...and sometimes when they did not. One of his experiences I particularly found interesting was when he told of local authorities not wanting to let him into the area to assist during this time of crises. Another speaker we want to invite back that is interesting whenever he presents and on any topic he speaks is Marty Woll. Other topics we are working on or have considered are t-hunting, air traffic control for the western United States, Solar technology, experiences of being a military test pilot, having an Edison representative teach us about electrical safety and even opportunities to build projects!

Aren't these topics exciting? Isn't it great to be in a club that has such interesting and educational presentations? I know I'm excited and can't wait to attend each and every topic mentioned!

73,

Edgar KG6SLC



...to pay your dues for 2016

President's Corner...

(Continued from page 4)

exceptional Morse Code skills and spent much of her life teaching others. She is best known for the salutation "33" which means "love sealed with friendship" which is only used between one YL and another YL.

No history of women in radio would be complete without a mention of Hedy Lamarr, the famous Hollywood actress, and the inventor of the frequency hopping system of spread spectrum radio transmission, which is the basis of our cell phone system today.

These are just a few of the remarkable women that used radio as their communication medium of choice!

73,
Carl AF6OV

Swap Shop

FOR SALE

ICOM IC-2720H (dual band) - New in Box \$300.00

MX-72D Duplexer - New in Box \$45.00

Contact Frank Fedor N6SRZ 661-733-0789



Margie KG6TBR and Paul KD6SMC show off certificates which were presented to them in appreciation for several years of service to AVARC.

VE TESTING SCHEDULE 2016

3/14/2015 Monday 7pm. ARRL

The regular exam location is the First Christian Church of the Antelope Valley.

1702 East Ave. J., Lancaster, CA (Across the street from the Eastside Wall Mart).

Please enter parking lot off the end of the cul-de-sac 17th Street East, enter the classroom annex, and look for the "FCC Exams" sign outside the correct classroom. Monday Nights: Please do not disturb the A.A. group or other groups that may be using the facilities.

Remainder of 2016 TBA as VE schedule is determined and participation assessed.

Dates/times may be subject to change.

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| President | Carol Humpherys | AF6OV | 722-4616 |
| Vice President | Eugene Humpherys | AF6OV | 722-4616 |
| Secretary | Dan Sherwood | W6DAS | 264-1863 |
| Treasurer | Gary Barr | WA6TWT | 946-2717 |
| Master-At-Arms | Gary Mork | WA6WFC | 948-8317 |
| Board Member | Matt Stewart | K6MES | 264-4629 |
| Board Member | Dick Miller | KJ6W | 285-3333 |
| 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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