
The Short Circuit

<http://www.avarc.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

April 2017

President's Corner

Dan Sherwood W6DAS

President's Column – April 2017

On April 1, a number of amateur radio operators participated in communications in support of the Vets 4 Veterans running events starting in the early morning and ending shortly before mid-day. The Vets 4 Veterans organization is a charitable veterans support organization with a mission of providing mutual support for others that may have special needs. These special events, being fundraisers, consisted of a half marathon, a 5K and 10K run, and a Patriots' Mile run all with staggered start times but running concurrently.

The event itself received support from LA County Sheriffs, assisting in road closures and traffic control, and the Antelope Valley Transit Authority, AVTA in the form of a command communications trailer. Having set up the NCS station the night before, I arrived shortly after 5:00AM to get things going. Working with the race organizers through Steve Hofbauer KM6AIT we managed to get our communicators placed out on the route along with a rover, Adrienne WA6YEO out in the SAG vehicle. Being a first time event for us, things were untested and challenges were presented. Things

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Meeting Notice

Thursday, April 27, is the next meeting of the AVARC at Antelope Valley First Christian Church, 1702 E. Avenue J 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 phone number for the club is **(661) 265-6131**.

This month's meeting will feature **Orv Beach W6BI**, who will give a presentation on digital mesh networking. Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for a fun and informative meeting!



Orv Beach W6BI

From The Veep

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR

It seems like each month is busier than the last one and my list of "to do's" gets a little longer when it should be getting shorter.

Last month was Baker 2 Vegas and once again was a success. I recruited over 300 stage ham operators and although there were a few snags here and there, luckily, because we all are a pretty flexible group by nature, it all worked out. Thanks much to all who were able to volunteer in any capacity. Thanks to the AVARC & ARES members for their work on stages 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 & 15.

This month, some of us will participate in the annual MS Walk in the city of Lancaster. It's being held on Saturday April 29 from about 8am to noon. While it's a much smaller event, it is very important as the hams assist in providing communications for the walkers in this most needed charity drive.

Being the AVARC delegate for the Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs and for HAMCOM, Inc., I am currently in the midst of the planning cycle for the 2017 ARRL Southwestern Division HAMCOM to be held in Torrance in September. The dates are September 15-17, 2017. The website is live and waiting for you

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From the Secretary's Desk



AVARC General Meeting March 23, 2017

Antelope Valley First Christian Church President Dan Sherwood W6DAS called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm followed by the flag salute and introductions.

Minutes of the February club meeting were taken by Pat Okawa KJ6CJ. A motion to approve them as printed in the Short Circuit was made by Frank O'Dell N6FOD, seconded by Keith Hoyt K6GXO. Motion was approved by members present.

Treasurer's Report by Gary Barr WA6TWT: Checking account balance of \$4,638.46, with cash on hand of \$ 112 for total of \$4,750.46.

Membership Report by Gary Barr WA6TWT: Members - 84. ARRL members - 83.33%. Individuals present tonight - 30.

LAACRC and HAMCON Reports by Margie Hoffman KG6TBR: (not present)
Club Net Manager Report by Margie Hoffman KG6TBR: (not present)

Non-profit update status: Matt indicated the submission is under review.

OLD BUSINESS

1) Field Day 2017 will be held at the Sgt Steve Owen Memorial Park in Lancaster. Paperwork for Lancaster City has been finalized. With the help of Steve Hofbauer KM6AIT and Marvin Christ, (Vice Mayor), a rather steep usage fee for the park was waived, which could have been a deal breaker for the use of the park.

2) Website: No change.

3) Vets for Veterans Marathon, April 1. A signup sheet for volunteers was circulated. Event time estimate 6:00 AM – 2:00 PM (TBD). More participation needed.

4) Meeting venue change? Pat Okawa was not present to report on the effort with the Quartz Hill Library for the use of their meeting room.

Other Old Business:

NEW BUSINESS

1) Margie – upcoming presentations: Orv Beach is speaking in April on Mesh Networking.

2) Volunteer Examiners needed! Almost needed to cancel the February VE session due to insufficient participation. Kudos to John Berger and Karl Verren who showed up at the last minute as we were about to send everyone home. Without VE's our local testing program and our role at HAMCOM are in jeopardy.

4) No-cost meeting location: Any ideas? This is a great venue, but unsustainable with our current dues structure. Would the membership be willing to change meeting nights to pursue a high quality but free venue?

5) NASA / Armstrong Radio Club putting on a T-hunt and picnic at Apollo Park on April 8. Flyers distributed.

6) Kevin Reilly, who sent Dan the info on the T-hunt, also mentioned the possibility of setting up a ham station at the California Veterans home in Lancaster. More TBD.

7) Dan W6DAS has been diagnosed with chronic low back problems, which impact his mobility and ability to set-up/tear down equipment. Between this and Dale not attending field day this year, the club needs increased Field Day participation to bring and deploy stations. Also appreciate help cleaning up and locking up the Church facilities after the meetings.

6) Betsy KK6RHN expressed concerns regarding declining club membership and suggested the club could be involved with local schools. Need an individual to take ownership and move the concept forward. Action: Board to follow-up.

7. Keith Hoyt K6GXO is liquidating ham equipment for the widow of a silent key. See Keith if you are interested.

8. Keith read a letter dated April 1 2017 regarding the FCC's deregulation of Amateur Radio. The letter stated that effective Jan 1, 2018 ham radio would be self policing, creating their own rules and regulations. (APRIL FOOLS!)

PRESENTATION: Dan Sherwood W6DAS discussed small antennas. (Thank you Dan for the excellent presentation!)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1) Next VE session is Monday, April 3, at 7pm at the First Christian Church, 1702 E. Ave J across from Wal-Mart. Session is GLAARG with a \$5.00 fee.

2) Next Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 6 at the Humpherys QTH.

3) Next Regular AVARC Membership meeting will be held Thurs, April 27 (the normal 4th Thursday) at the First Christian Church. Presentation by Orv Beach on MESH Networking.

Reminder: Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO needs the articles for the Short Circuit by Sunday, April 16th. Please submit them directly to Adrienne at wa6yeo@sbcglobal.net.

50/50 drawing of \$ 17 was won by Wes W6QQ.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Carol Humpherys AF6OV
AVARC Ex Officio

AVARC Board Meeting April 6, 2017

Carol and Eugene's QTH

Opening:

Call to order by Dan Sherwood W6DAS, President at 1855.

Minutes from last Board Meeting were taken by Secretary Pat Okawa KJ6CJ.

Motion to approve them as printed in the Short Circuit made by Larry Mock KI6BKP.

Seconded by Dan Sherwood W6DAS. Approved by all those present.

Treasurer's report: Gary Barr WA6TWT was not present. Sent the report by email.

Checking account : \$4,638.46 . Cash on hand: \$142.00. Total: \$4,780.46.

Membership Report: 87 current members. ARRL members: 81.6 %.

Members present today: Dan Sherwood W6DAS, Matt Stewart K6MES, Keith Hoyt K6GXO, Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO, Margie Hoffman KG6TBR, Pat Okawa, KJ6CJ, Larry Mock KI6BKP, Gary Mork WA6WFC, Carol Humpherys AF6OV, Eugene Humpherys KG6SLC.

Old Business:

LA Council of Clubs report - Margie Hoffman KG6TBR: Met in Torrance at the Toy-

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Secretary's Desk...



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ota Museum. A new club, Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club W6JW joined the Council.

They reviewed events listed.

Net Operations report-Margie Hoffman KG6TBR: Only 3 members serving the net.

Baker to Vegas – Was a success. Another Stage 15 effort was mounted by our local group, plus we helped in other capacities. Keith Hoyt K6GXO was asked by Margie Hoffman KG6TBR to be the communication lead on Stage 10 this year. No problems were experienced and they closed prior to midnight. He thanked all the communication workers.

Upcoming Club Programs – Margie KG6TBR: April program by Orv Beach W6BI on digital MESH networks.

Vets for Veterans race April 1: Event was a success. Worked well with Steve Hofbauer KM6AIT and LA County Sheriffs' DCS. Larry Mock KI6BKP said our operators were under-used because race organizers did not know what we could do for them. Congressman Steve Knight toured the AVTA command post trailer to see the race map and where the different radio operators were placed. We participated in a good debrief that listed several instances where radio operators could make a difference next year. We suggested how a designated Tail-End Charlie could aid the organizers and pick up the radio operators in a final sweep. Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO enjoyed her first time riding around the course in the SAG (Supplies & Gear) car.

Web site update: Dan Sherwood – Nothing New.

Another meeting place: Pat Okawa KJ6CJI got an application for Quartz Hill County Library. Room amenities were discussed. Application approval has changed from on-site librarian to her Supervisor. Pat Okawa KJ6CJI was

directed to fill out the application for a June meeting.

Rent to the First Christian Church is due. Carol Humpherys AF6OV moved to pay rent for another quarter. Larry Mock KI6BKP seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Check must come from Gary Barr WA6TWT.

Field Day will be here soon. Margie Hoffman KG6TBR will contact Denise McFarland to confirm fees have been waived and inquire about when the insurance binder adding Lancaster as an additional insured must be submitted. Gary Barr WA6TWT renewed the insurance policy from August 1, 2016 to August 1, 2017.

We received a notice from the IRS that our 501©3 non profit status was effective from May 15, 2013.

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR had inquired about the cost of small folding tables from Costco. Keith Hoyt K6GXO asked who will store them if we buy them. Following discussion, it was decided to have members bring their own tables and chairs for use at Field Day.

New Business:

Field Day Prep – Other than GOTA station by Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC, 6 meter station by Keith Hoyt K6GXO, and Margie Hoffman KG6TBR with her Boy Scout VHS radio link to Brian Basura N6CVO in Acton, are there any other ideas for stations? Carol Humpherys' AF6OV neighbor was asking about bringing her boy scouts to the event. Margie Hoffman KG6TBR will call Tommy Haliburton K6YE for DXing. Larry Mock KI6BKP will ask Tom Fischer KI6CHH about the CERT trailer.

FD BBQ dinner update: Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC was not at the meeting, but sent his suggestion that refreshments be purchased from Costco or catered in some way rather than cooking the food.

Conejo Valley ARC's club project inquiry was received from Yoshi. Survey Monkey web address: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TY5YQX6>. There is no interest at this time. Perhaps later in the year, we can try building a loop antenna.

At the last Board Meeting, Betsy Haslett K6RHN suggested we contact local STEM schools to expose teens to amateur radio as a hobby. The Palmdale Aerospace Academy is being built on the eastside. Is there a website to contact them? Dan Sherwood W6DAS offered to ask Steve Hofbauer KM6AIT for help contacting this group.

The NASA Armstrong radio club is holding a T Hunt on Sat. April 8, at Apollo Park. Was anyone planning to attend?

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles are needed by Sunday April 16.

Next General Meeting is on April 27, 2017, at the First Christian Church. Address 1702 E. Ave J across from Wal-Mart. Normal 4th Thursday.

Next Board Meeting is on Saturday, May 6, 2017 at 10 am following VE Session at First Christian Church. Address 1702 E Ave J across from Wal-Mart.

Next VE Session at First Christian Church on Sat. May 6, 2017. Address 1702 E. Ave J across from Wal-Mart. Session is GLAARG with a \$5.00 fee.

Meeting adjourned at 1950 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Okawa KJ6CJI
AVARC Secretary 2017



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

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were busy at times, but eventually everything that needed to be done got done.

The nice thing about this operation was working in conjunction with the Sheriff's communications people right along side me in the command trailer, so having a direct link to Sheriff's communication was invaluable and response was immediate. We also had a direct link to medical support, although I found the FRS radio was problematic so naturally we went through Steve via amateur frequencies. All in all, I'm a firm believer in working with volunteers wearing many hats, whether it be DCS, ARES, CERT, VOPS, AVARC, or even an interested and dedicated amateur operator. We all have something to bring to the table, and practicing with these events will help when the "bad day" comes.



The command post at the Vets 4 Veterans event. L-R Congressman Steve Knight; Steve Hofbauer KM6AIT; Pat Okawa KJ6CJI; Dan Sherwood W6DAS; Tom Fischer KI6CHH; Keith French KJ6TAG

I'd like to thank the following volunteers: Pat KJ6CJI, Larry KI6BKP, Frank N6FOD, Adrienne WA6YEO, Chuck AF6YS, Keith

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to explore your options and make your hotel reservations at the Torrance Marriott and complete your convention registration. Please go to www.hamconinc.org

This month AVARC hosts Orv Beach W6BI, as our guest speaker. His topic is the Digital Mesh Network. This should appeal to all. Please come out to hear his presentation, learn and enjoy.

73,
Margie KG6TBR



Margie KG6TBR receives the Larry Moore Memorial Award, presented each year to an outstanding B2V volunteer.

Swap Shop

The TANA Foundation is looking for a working Refrigerator, 20 CF or larger to be donated to TANA. 661-946-9212 Gary WA6TWT.



Unfortunately Frank, N6SRZ, passed away recently. I am trying to help Bea (his XYL), N6VNR, dispose of his amateur radio equipment. Currently, everything is at my QTH in SE Palmdale. For anyone interested you are welcome to inspect what I have. I will say that most everything is in good, clean condition and it came from a non-smoking environment. As expected, all funds will go to Bea.

I have a list of most items which I can FAX or e-mail to interested persons but I will not post here (too much). The list includes radios, antennas, power supplies, and co-ax. I have many other items such as test equipment and even Heathkit items. Some items have been spoken for and I will be taking them to the buyers at Visalia (the DX Convention). I do not wish to ship but I might consider personal delivery.

I can be contacted at home (661-533-4025) or my cell (661-478-9179) or by e-mail (my call sign at as.net)

DE Keith K6GXO

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 29 - MS Walk
- May 19-21 - Dayton Hamvention
- June 17 - Santa Maria Hamfest
- June 24-24 - Field Day
- Sept 15-17 - Hamcon Convention
- Oct 20-22 - Pacificon Convention

This is a partial listing of events and activities that present opportunities for you to get more active in ham radio. Public service events are a great way to increase your skills, contribute to the community, and have a lot of fun! The more you participate, the more you'll enjoy our hobby!

President...

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K6GXO, Matt K6MES, Ralph KJ6NET, Elbert KG6JXA, Steve KM6AIT, and Betsy KK6RHN. I also want to thank our Sheriff's volunteers: Tom KI6CHH, Bill KC6ZTM, John AB3VY, and Keith KJ6TAG. The feedback I received from the organizers was positive – we made things run a lot smoother. I'm looking forward to participating next year.

73,
Jan W6DAS

Field Day T-Shirts now available for pre-order

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR will be taking orders at the meeting for shirts and any other Field Day related items. She will order them and pay for them herself from ARRL right away and we should get them in plenty of time for Field Day. Please be prepared to pay with cash or a check when she takes the order. She will have a list of the prices at the meeting as she needs to add on the price of tax and or shipping.



VE TESTING SCHEDULE 2017

5/6/2017	Saturday	9 am	GLAARG
6/5/2017	Monday	7 pm	ARRL
7/1/2017	Saturday	9 am	GLAARG
8/7/2017	Monday	7 pm	GLAARG
9/9/2017	Saturday	9 am	ARRL
10/2/2017	Monday	7 pm	GLAARG
11/4/2017	Saturday	9 am	GLAARG
12/4/2017	Monday	7 pm	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 East-side 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.

Dates/times may be subject to change.



...to pay your dues for 2017



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2017 Officers

President	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS	264-1863
Vice President	Margie Hoffman	KG6TBR	297-6567
Secretary	Pat Okawa	KJ6CJI	718-3986
Treasurer	Gary Barr	WA6TWT	946-2717
Master-At-Arms	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
Board Member	Matt Stewart	K6MES	264-4629
Board Member	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
Trustee	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
Ex Officio	Carol Humpherys	AF6OV	441-4671



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:

