

The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

September 2017

President's Corner

Dan Sherwood W6DAS

An editorial: Is the ARRL your ARRL? That is the question I have been hearing as of late. The American Radio Relay League is amateur radio's advocacy organization. No other organization does this now, nor it is likely in the future. Without a strong advocacy organization to represent amateurs before federal, state, and local governments, our hobby/service would soon cease to exist. Thus, a strong, effective, and well-funded ARRL is essential to our continued future ad radio amateurs.

The ARRL has two leadership structures. The business affairs are run by the CEO. This position is held by Tom Gallagher NY2RF. He takes care of the business of running headquarters and getting QST published. Policies and direction of the ARRL are controlled by the Board of Directors, run by the President, Rick Roderick K5UR. The Board members, representing the 15 ARRL regional divisions, along with their Assistant Directors are elected by the membership in their respective divisions. These members in turn elect their President, Vice Presidents, and appoint the CEO whenever that position becomes vacant. In short, the general membership elects the Board members, who in turn select executive leadership. No direct election here by the members at large. All the contact information is listed in every issue of QST under "Officers, Division Directors, and Staff".

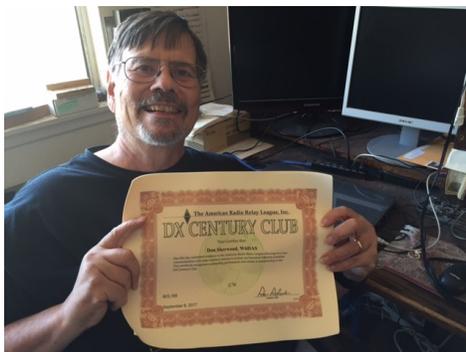
So, what's the problem here? Let's start with a recent policy which you can download at: <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ODV/ARRL%20Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf>. This document is titled "ARRL POLICY ON BOARD GOVERNANCE AND CONDUCT OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF

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Meeting Notice

Thursday, September 28, is the next meeting of the AVARC at the Quartz Hill Library, 5040 West Avenue M-2. 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.

This month's program will feature our own **Dan Sherwood W6DAS**, this year's AVARC President, who will be talking about going paperless with the ARRL's Logbook of the World (LotW). Be sure to mark your calendars and join us!



Dan Sherwood W6DAS

From The Veep

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR

This past weekend was HAMCON 2017, which was held at the Marriott Redondo Beach Hotel located in the city of Torrance. I spent 4 days working the convention doing the site registrations. This after I have volunteer worked for the past 18 months on pre registrations for the event. There were 12 clubs that handled all the pre planning and the individual activities that took place each day. All in all, they all did a wonderful job bringing this ARRL Southwestern Division Convention locally to all of us.

There were a total of 38 vendors comprising 60 booths. There were also a number of other hams and non-hams presenting talks on subjects relating to ham radio and other topics that ham radio enthusiasts could relate to. The meals were tasty and done well. The keynote speakers for each event were very knowledgeable.

Our breakfast speaker, sent to us from Connecticut was Bob Allison WB1GCM, ARRL Assistant Lab Manager. Bob spoke on the Future for Ham Radio Equipment and discussed how they do the testing of various amateur radio equipment items. He talked about how they compare different equipment from many different manufacturers by both types of equipment and performance. He does not refer any particular piece of equipment to potential buyers, but offers information in his articles as to their historical performance and quality.

When Bob was talking about the future of radio equipment, he may have just said that it may be more like looking at the 90's and the 2000's from the age of the 50's to the Jetson's as so many things in technology have changed over the last 100 years. Kids as well as young adults are growing up in a world full of computers and smart phones and texting, so there

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From the Secretary's Desk



AVARC General Meeting August 24, 2017

President Dan Sherwood W6DAS called the meeting to order at 7:31pm at our new location, Quartz Hill Public Library, followed by the flag salute and introductions. Number of individuals attending was 22.

Program Intro: Diana Feinberg AI6DF – Field Day presentation and Dayton 2017 by Margie Hoffman KG6TBR.

Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to Diana.

Diana Feinberg AI6DF told us that the lawyers did a good job with the language of the Parity Act although they did not live in CCNR communities. More communities have underground utilities so aesthetics becomes primary disagreement with hams and their antennas.

Break

Minutes of the July 2017 club meeting were taken by Pat Okawa. A motion to approve them as printed in the Short Circuit with 2 corrections was made by Mike Beckers KC6YQO, and seconded by Bob Farmer KK6DTP. The motion was approved by the members present. The 2 corrections were Ron Kline asking for help on August 15, and Board Meeting Topics for Discussion were making Membership &

Short Circuit Editor positions appointed.

Treasurer's Report: Matt Stewart K6MES - Checking balance: 1,055.00, petty cash: 150.43 Total: \$1,205.43.

Invoices submitted for payment: Membership: Total members 90, percent ARRL 81.1%.

OLD BUSINESS

Future programs: Margie Hoffman KG6TBR –September will be by Marty Woll N6VI.

HAMCON: To be discussed under new business.

Web Site: Old domain used only as an autoforwarding link. Dan Sherwood W6DAS does not maintain it.

NEW BUSINESS

AVARC Officer nominations will start next month, with further nominations and election in October. This is a chance to make a difference in the Club and to get involved. Nominee must have been a member for one year.

HAMCON is coming in three weeks. Margie and Adrienne to discuss what is needed to fulfill our obligation as a sponsoring club for the VE session.

Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO–NEW FCC form 605, containing the “I’ve been convicted of a felony” box. Discussion of what happens to those who answer “yes”. Per the September QST, FCC News p.81, those answering “yes” will have to

submit a written statement justifying that granting or renewing a ham license would “be in the public interest”. Not all these folks are hard core murderers, bank robbers, gang-bangers, or terrorists. More often than not, it’s folks who have been caught up in domestic squabbles in past lifetimes that went “sideways”. Will they be removed from the airways? Discussion led by WA6YEO –another government requirement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Short Circuit Articles - Needed by: Sunday, September 10.

Club meeting: 9/28/17 – Officer nominations open. Program by Marty Woll N6VI.

Exam: 9/9/2017 Saturday 9:00AM – ARRL.

Board meeting Thurs. September 7: TBD due to my recovering from hip surgery.

Announcement: Keith Hoyt K6GXO has more aluminum antennas for sale.

50/50 drawing won by: Chuck Constantine KR6C \$ 20.00

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Okawa KJ6CJI
AVARC Secretary 2017



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



(Continued from page 1)

DIRECTORS AND VICE DIRECTORS". This is a policy by which our duly elected officers must abide by. When reading this policy, articles 6, 7 and 8 troubled me, and a lot of other folks too. These deal with confidentiality, and the restrictions on discussing Board decisions publically. Basically, our representatives must "toe the line" or they're out the door. Majority rules, dissention and possibly new and novel thought loses. Not good!

Last weekend I attended the ARRL forum at HAMCON. This was the hot button topic there. All of the 100 or so ARRL members there were in agreement, more transparency is needed in Board proceedings. The ARRL needs to represent its membership, and NOT a cadre of its directors. Lack of transparency is toxic to ARRL's membership growth, and its financial well being. The only non-member in the room Saturday was the fellow who went from non-ham to Extra class in one sitting of our exam that morning. What was he thinking during all of this?

What can we do about this? First off, do not drop out. Start by being informed. The minutes of the Board meetings can be found online at: <http://www.arrl.org/board-meetings>. Then communicate your displeasure by writing to your regional director – in this case Dick Norton N6AA, and perhaps all the members of the Board. Their contact information is in QST. We need to take down the "Codfish Curtain". It's up to us, and ultimately it's up to them.

73,
Jan W6DAS



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could very well be new ways to text through ham radio. But then, where would Morse code fit in? Not sure. Please note, that the above are not quotes from Bob, but my personal observations after listening to his presentation at the luncheon last week.

When asked about how the young people fit in or how we can encourage younger folks to be interested in the future of ham radio, Bob Allison WB1GCM said these three things: (And I quote)

- 1) "It all depends on you".
- 2) "Everyone in this room has responsibility to ensure that society is aware of our radio service".

3) "Everyone in this room is responsible for helping at least one person to become a Radio Amateur. Be a mentor! These were a perfect takeaway from his talk. I think that the AVARC and all other clubs, as a whole, need to remember Bob's words. So, make those contacts, both on the radio and in person. It will make a difference for all.

Our guest speaker this month will be Dan Sherwood W6DAS, reminding us how to utilize Logbook of the World and how to renew it if you are already using LOTW for all your radio QSL's.

See you at the meeting.

73,
Margie KG6TBR

VE TESTING SCHEDULE 2017

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 Eastside Wall Mart).

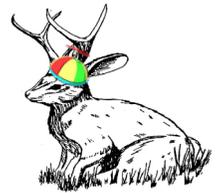
Please enter parking lot off the end of the cul-de-sac 17th Street East, enter the classroom annex, and look for the "FCC Exams" sign outside the correct classroom. Monday Nights: Please do not disturb the A.A. group or other groups that may be using the facilities.

Dates/times may be subject to change.



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	Matt Stewart	K6MES	264-4629
Master-At-Arms	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
Board Member	Paul L'Heureux	KD6SMC	305-1838
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 Newsline, and all members and guests are invited to check in.

The Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club K6OX
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