
The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

September 2018

President's Corner

Dan Sherwood W6DAS

The Challenge of Elmering – Part 2: Motivation

The biggest impediment to the growth of amateur radio is lack of motivation in the ranks of the target audience that we need to reach out to. Ever since the early 1980's, the prime reason for people studying for their licenses has been the gaining access to a tool that they could use to accomplish *some other* endeavor more easily. Before cheap cell phones came into being, it was the autopatch. Remember the Motorola *Carfone*? A telephone in your car, (only something like six bucks a minute to operate and a couple grand to install). A status symbol indeed! As to the Rest of Us, gee, you heard about getting a Technician license and a few bucks a month to join a closed 220 MHz system with an autopatch? Many a student populated licensing classes in the early 80's through the mid 90's. These were joined by a small cadre of model airplane enthusiasts seeking out "quieter air", (in a control sense), on 6 meters vs. the overloaded unlicensed channels. The CQ DX folks were a minority. Radio for the sake of radio! Not many takers these days. The 11-meter CB boom of the early 1970's swept in the last hurrah of the "CQ DX" folks. I was one of them.

The End of the World As We Know It! And yes, the preppers. Individuals, families, school districts, corporations, CERT groups, even some governmental entities – *All Aboard!* Backup communications, relatively cheap, flexible, and reliable. Radio for the "bad day". What about the good days? Buy a Baofeng, throw it in the go bag, and life's good. Most students and examinees are on the prepper track these days. Serious preppers knew more has to be done to be effective. To be serious, you have to understand the stuff and work with it. These folks join ARES, DCS, participate in nets.

A serendipitous approach to *Radio for the Sake of Radio*: There is a sense of curiosity, and often a longing for the "old days", accompanied by a sense of accomplishment for doing something the "hard way", that is taken for granted if done the "easy way". Audiophiles doing vinyl and tube amps. Computer geeks beating \$20 Raspberry Pi's into submission. And then you have the maker movement. Technology is getting too slick, too big for its britches these days. Too many appli-

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Meeting Notice

Thursday, September 27, 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 meeting will feature **Diana Feinberg AI6DF**, who will be talking about the linked multi-repeater systems of Southern California, such as WinLink, the PAPA system, and the DARN system, among many others. Diana is our ARRL Los Angeles Section manager, and is a frequent visitor to our club. Her presentations are always of great interest to our members, so you won't want to miss this one. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to join us!



Diana Feinberg AI6DF

From the Secretary's Desk



AVARC Meeting Minutes August 23, 2018

President Dan Sherwood, W6DAS called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm at the, Quartz Hill Public Library, followed by the flag salute and introductions. Number of individuals attending was ?<fill needed>.

PROGRAM FIRST

Dennis Kidder W6DQ

VOA Station Delano Decommissioning

BREAK

Minutes of the July 2018 club meeting were taken by Pat Okawa. A motion to approve them as printed in the Short Circuit was made by ?<fill needed>, and seconded by ?<fill needed>. The motion was approved by the members present.

Treasurer's Report: Matt Stewart K6MES – Checking balance: \$5997.74 , petty cash: \$51.13
Total: \$6048.87

Invoices submitted for payment:

Others:

Membership: Total members 110, percent ARRL 74.55%

OLD BUSINESS

LAACARC: (Margie): New bylaws were printed up. Their website is up and running.

Upcoming Club Programs – Larry Mock: Chris Abramson “Electronic Warfare”

City of Lancaster EOC: W6DAS – follow up with Andrew Noga, Emergency Manager for Lancaster. Phone call to him on 8/13 – “Project on hold for now”. Nominations for officers next month. Be thinking about running for office – new blood always needed.

Post-exam promotional handout and or business card: Interim leaflet to be passed out at exam sessions. See sample.

Other old business: None

NEW BUSINESS

Elmering and outreach, (Dan W6DAS): Since retirement, I've joined the “Grub Grabbers” net daily net. Making it a point to announce Club meetings and

upcoming examination sessions. Many hams in our area NOT in the club.

In process of adding a repeater section page to the web site. I've received inquiries regarding choice of repeaters to use in this area. Most other clubs have this on their web sites. Suggestions on which repeaters to add???

Eugene – Quartz Hill repeater.

Adding links to manufacturer sites, (manuals etc.) for gear. Youtube links good for Chinese gear.

Adding an elmer@k6ox.club address to the contacts page. Need volunteers to be responders.

Future of the Hauser repeater, (do we have a backup?):

Other New Business:

Earthquake Fair 9/29/18 LDS church. VHF/UHF demo.

Larry Mock: Baker to Vegas on 3/23/19. Volunteers needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Short Circuit Articles - Need by: 9/13/18

Next Board Meeting: 9/8/18 Saturday after exam session.

Club meeting: 9/28/2018 Program: Nominations open + “Electronic Warfare”

Exam: Monday Sept 8, 9:00 AM. This is an ARRL exam, (fee \$15)

Other items: None

50/50 drawing won by: Ron KB6WBO \$ 14.00

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Sherwood W6DAS, (Based on incomplete casual notes)

AVARC Board Meeting September 8, 2018

Opening: Dan Sherwood W6DAS, President

Call to order by Dan Sherwood W6DAS at 9:56 AM.

Minutes from last board meeting: N/A (No meeting in August).

Treasurer's report – Matt Stewart: Checking account :\$6034.74 . Cash on hand: \$41.27
Total: \$6076.01.

Membership Report: – 84, ARRL members: 71%.

Members present today: Dan Sherwood W6DAS, Matt Stewart K6MES, Keith Hoyt K6GXO, Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO, Larry Mock KI6BKP, Gary Mork WA6WFC, Mike Beckers K6YQO, Diane K6DER, George Becker KC6UVM

Old Business:

Upcoming Club Programs – Larry KI6BKP: Chris – subject: Electronic warfare, Diana Feinberg AI6DF for November.

Club tri-fold brochure: Draft version by W6DAS was reviewed. Matt suggests re-pagination and use of smaller fonts. Use link to web site for membership application, more content describing Club activities. Include repeater links. Make back of it for address label, (mailable). Use “sticky dots” rather than staples to seal it.

Business card, review draft: Eugene will send Corel master of old card. If not usable, card will be updated and reprinted.

Nominations: Who wants to run? – Dan W6DAS termed out, (ex officio). Candidates considered – President Mike K6YQO, VP Larry KI6BKP, Secretary Pat KG6CJI, Treasurer Matt K6MES, MAA Gary WA6WFC, Board George KC6UVM / Diane K6DER. (Candidates not present pending acceptance)

Other Old Business: None

New Business:

Adding Elmer@K6OX.club. Who wants to be in this group? So far W6DAS, KI6BKP, K6YQO, K6MES, K6GXO. Question to be posed to entire membership.

“Elmer Housecalls”: W6DAS will look into getting second “Elmer Hotline” Telephone number on the website. This in addition to the Elmer mail list. There may be cost involved. Dan reminded the Board about notifying those answering phone or email mes-

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President's Corner....



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ances – not enough challenge. This is where I think the future of amateur radio lies. I'd like to see it as being pegged, "Open-Source Telecommunications" – not your Grandpa's HAM radio. I'm hearing the motivated preppers moving in this direction. This is a good thing. We just need to get the percentage of these folks up. It's this group we need to engage on the air and at the Club meetings. Discovering the full world of amateur radio *after* they have gotten in to it. This is where our elmering program comes in.

How about the kids? Youth in amateur radio is a good thing, and highly promoted by the ARRL. This is all good, but my concern is about retention. As we all know, kids go through adolescence, college, career, marriage, raising kids, and no time. Retention is poor. How about targeting middle age. These folks should not be forgotten and I am sure have a much higher retention rate.

Having three hams active for 25 years is better than one ham being active for 50 years.

Family motivation: Familial pressure to become amateurs is a real double-edge sword. In fact, if you want to make an *anti-ham*, pressure a kid to get a technician license by delaying the driving privileges. Harassing spouses – not good. Believe me, you would NOT want one of these people sitting on your HOA Board twenty years down the line! Dad's got to come up with a better approach – a better way to stimulate interest.

In short, the unmotivated licensee will go nowhere if they even get to earn a license. I see this time and time again. Elmering is over before it begins.

73,
Jan W6DAS



ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION HAM RADIO CONVENTION

"Sounds Like Fun"

Produced by the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

October 19, 20 & 21, 2018
San Ramon Marriott
2600 Bishop Drive
San Ramon, California 94583

Secretary...



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sages about notifying the group when issues are handled.

Creating a "New Ham" page on the web site. What would be good to put on it? ARRL links, ARES links, YouTube links, vendor links, Ham Nation, Our brochure, and some original content.

Wednesday Net: Moving to a "post Hauser" era? Hauser repeater receiver sensitivity seems now to be in the multi-millivolt range for it to pass audio. Should we look for a new repeater to use? Discussion – Eugene KG6SLC gave verbal offer of using Quartz Hill repeater. Larry recommended written MOU. One problem is exclusion of hams outside the Valley. System tests suggested. Net to be left on Hauser for now at least until it becomes unusable.

Thoughts on a simplex net? Perhaps a second HF net? The PAPA system has a new ham net on Wednesday evening. A technical roundtable on Thursdays: Larry suggested doing something once a month.

Upcoming Earthquake fair at LDS Church: Sept 29. Lancaster Stake Center. W6DAS will bring "go box". KI6BKP will bring antennas. WA6YEO will contact Debbie Kent, (organizer). Will have brainstorming session on future licensing classes.

Around the room. Other items? WA6YEO requested more Newsline volunteers step up for the net.

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles - Need by 9/17/18

Club meeting 9/27/2018 – Program: Electronic Warfare presentation.

Exam: Monday 10/1/2018 GLAARG \$5.00 fee.

Board meeting: 10/4/2018 Thursday night.

Meeting adjourned time: 11:15 AM

Respectfully submitted: Adrienne Sherwood, WA6YEO with contributions from Dan Sherwood, W6DAS

LANCASTER STAKE *EARTHQUAKE* EXPO

Saturday, September 29, 2018

9 am- 12 pm

Lancaster Stake Center, 3140 W. Ave. K



Join us and learn how to prepare to care for yourself and your family in the event of an earthquake (or other disaster). This family-friendly, event will feature informational booths, demonstrations and an interactive, life sized exhibit "Living Amongst the Rubble". Stop by any time between 9 am-Noon and learn about water storage, creative outdoor cooking, emergency food options, 72-hour and First Aid Kits, pet preparedness, portable sanitation, Amateur Radio, the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and much more! You won't want to miss out on our special presentation which **begins at 10 am.**

"Natural Disasters, Be Prepared"

by **Guest Speaker Andrew Noga, the City of Lancaster Emergency Services Administrator**

To top it all off, we will have Give-a-Ways and foods to taste

FRIENDS, FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS WELCOME

Swap Shop

SILENT KEY ESTATE SALE

HF Station
 Kenwood TS-520S HF Transceiver \$450
 OBO
 Dentron Clipperton QRO HF Amplifier
 \$650 OBO (rare item)
 Dentron AT-3K High-power antenna tuner
 \$300 OBO
 VHF Station
 Kenwood TR-9000 2M all mode base
 station with BO-9A Dock/Power Supply
 with Mirage B10B 80W amp - \$250 OBO
 Have miscellaneous antennas and towers
 here in Boron.
 Please contact Michael Henderson at (760)
 680-1357

ESTATE SALE

I am trying to dispose of the unwanted
 items left over from the estate of a SK,
 which includes several pieces of Heathkit
 equipment, some station accessories,
 connectors, and miscellaneous odds and
 ends. Everything goes as a lot for \$400.
 Here is a partial listing of the larger
 equipment:

Heathkit:

- Mohican Receiver with original
 manual
- HW-101 with power supply
- SB-610 Monitor
- VFO HG-10
- VTVM IM-5218
- Counter IM-4100 with original
 manual
- DX-20 with original manual
- HP-10 with original manual

Two D-104 microphones
 Loudenboomer Mark II amplifier with
 power supply
 hy-gain transmit/receive direction
 control
 Proto Board PB-503
 Proto Board 203A
 2 Yaesu handhelds
 Yaesu FT-2FB with original manual
 Dentron Jr Monitor Transmatch with
 original manual
 Telrad Frequency Standard

Jim, K7JAJ
 661-478-1698

VE TESTING SCHEDULE 2018

10/1/2018	Monday	7 pm	GLAARG
11/3/2018	Saturday	9 am	GLAARG
12/3/2018	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 WalMart).

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 class-
 room. Monday Nights: Please do not disturb the A.A.
 group or other groups that may be using the facilities.

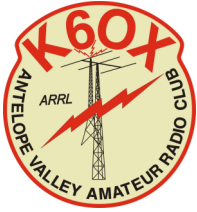
Dates/times may be subject to change.

UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

- August 23 - AVARC Club Meeting
- August 25 - ARES Meeting at AV Hospital
- September 8 - ARRL VE Test Session
- September 29 - Earthquake Preparedness Fair
- October 19-21 - Pacificon convention

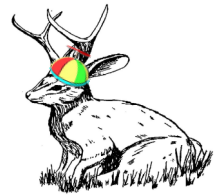
ELECTIONS ARE COMING

AVARC WANTS YOU TO RUN FOR OFFICE



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2018 Officers

President	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS	264-1863
Vice President	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
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	Michael Beckers	K6YQO	805-906-9555
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

Place
 Postage
 Here

To ARS:

