
The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

April 2019

President's Corner

Mike Beckers K6YQO

With Baker to Vegas freshly behind us, it's time to think about the next event. Diane and I attended the 70th Annual International DX Convention in Visalia, which was sponsored by the Northern California DX Club, and took place from April 12th to 14th at the Visalia Convention Center. We even met a few local hams up there! Al, N6JZ, was there with Dan, N6SLH, and George, N6EPM, who was out here from Arkansas, and rode to Visalia with Al. This was Al's 50th year attending the International DX Convention!

If you're into chasing DX, then this is the annual convention that you'll want to attend! This convention is one of the closer ham radio events, in terms of distance from the Antelope Valley, and would take you less than three hours to drive there from much of the valley. If you're a DXer or interested in any aspect of Ham radio, then International DX Convention is the place to be.

There was a special event station, N6V, that was on the air from the convention. Attendees could sit at the station and log a few QSOs if they wanted to.

There was also a full day class on Friday called "Contest Academy" that one can attend there for \$40, that included subjects like "Train Your Weaknesses Using Contest Super Simulator", "Contesting Overseas - Advantages, Pitfalls, Tips", "Multi-Operator Contesting", "How to Record an Entire Contest and Learn From Your Mistakes", "FT8 Contesting Overview", "Conceptual Treatment of Inter-Station Interference" and "How To Attend WRTC (and get the most out of it)". The World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) is an on-site ham radio competition held every four years. Previous WRTCs have been held in Seattle (1990), San Francisco (1996), Slovenia (2000), Finland (2002), Brazil (2006), Russia (2010), Boston (2014), and Germany (2018). The next WRTC in 2022 will be in Italy, so this session could be useful if you're planning on attending WRTC in Italy!

When you register, you get one raffle ticket, with There is also an opportunity to take a Saturday tour, which includes a visit and lunch at Sequoia National Park. QSL card checking is available Saturday afternoon.

All attendees of the International DX Convention received a 70th anniversary patch and one raffle ticket. Each attendee also had the opportunity to buy additional raffle tickets in books of 20 for \$20.00 each. There were several prize raffles that took place during the event.

There were 36 vendors in the Exhibit Hall. Among the vendors we visited were FlexRadio and Yaesu, each of whom were displaying their latest

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Meeting Notice

Thursday, April 25, 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 **Steve Noll WA6EJO**, who will be giving a presentation on antennas and propagation. Steve is a well-known expert on this subject, and has authored a number of articles for various ham magazines. This is an important subject for all hams, so this will be a very interesting and informative evening for all of us. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan on joining us!



Steve Noll WA6EJO

From the Secretary's Desk



AVARC General Meeting March 28, 2019

President Mike Beckers K6YQO called the meeting to order at 7:33pm at the Quartz Hill Public Library, followed by the flag salute and introductions. Number of individuals attending was 29.

Minutes of the February 21, 2019 club meeting were taken by Pat Okawa. A motion to approve them as printed in the Short Circuit was made by Doug KM6KQP, and seconded by Frank N6FOD. The motion was approved by the members present? YES

Treasurer's Report: Matt K6MES -
Checking balance: \$6,025.41,
petty cash: \$77.28
Total: \$6,102.69

Membership: Total members 101,
percent ARRL 70%.

OLD BUSINESS

Presentation: Margie KG6TBR - Baker to Vegas 2019-Stage 16. Mike KA6ALF came from Anaheim to manage it.

Dan, W6DAS Received permit from the City of Lancaster for Rawley Duntley park for Field Day. (The Board suggested returning to Rawley Duntley park for Field Day weekend in June.)

Lake LA park fund raiser-Larry KI6BKP Mar 15-17. Set up radio booth. Should be only Sat. Have club banner & hand out material for Field Day.

Vets for Vets 5K color run May 19 asking for club support. Betsy was going to attend 1st meet Sun Mar 10, QH Library noon. Petaluma Vista Park. HF on simplex. Betsy & Dan doing walk thru this weekend.

NEW BUSINESS

Dan was able to obtain the K6A call-sign for the GOTA station for Field Day.

Future Presentations:

April - Steve Noll WA6EJO Antenna & Propagation Phenomenon talk

Later - Bob Heil by Skype, Betsy AJ6AF on Electrical Safety for 1st Responders

Matt announced a change in vendor for our badges with a price increase for both pin (\$9.00) and magnetic backing (\$11.00) effective March 7, 2019. Price does include sales tax.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Keith K6OX made a suggestion that the club buy an upgraded Public Address system for its use with a wireless microphone, 2 portable speakers 100 watt, This will be discussed at the Sat April 6, Board Meeting.

PROGRAM -Quartzfest by Dan W6DAS

This is 2 meetings: 1) ARRL conference for hams that is free in Sonoran Desert and 2) General technical meeting of various groups: Road Runner Camp (no hookups)metal detectors for prospectors, old mine enthusiasts, drones & RC, geocaching, 4x4 orientating, open carry firearm owners, makers, Gem & Mineral show. Must register in 2 locations: BLM host tent for 14 day permit, and Activity Registration for free raffle ticket (good prizes). Run by volunteers on donations. Plan to give generously. Dan & Adrienne went with Good Sams radio chapter. Many using mesh network; lots run on solar power. Windy near Blythe. Gordon West K7AGE attends. Chris Weed began gathering. Walk abouts within refuge are offered.

DONATION 3 issues of CQ magazine

ANNOUNCEMENTS

· Short Circuit Articles - Need by: Sunday, April 14.

· VE Exam: Saturday April 6 at 9:00 am. This is a GLAARG exam, (fee \$5).

· Next Board Meeting is Saturday, April 6 after the test session, at about 10:00 am

· Next club meeting: Thursday 4/25/2019: Presentation will be by Steve Noll WA6EJO Antenna & Propagation Phenomenon

Other items:

· 50/50 drawing won by: Adrienne WA6YEO \$ 24.00

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Okawa, Secretary

AVARC Board Meeting April 6, 2019

Opening: Mike Beckers K6YQO, President

Call to order by Mike K6YQO at 10:37 AM.

Minutes from last board meeting: Motion to approve by Keith K6GXO Second by Diane K6DER_, Membership approval YES.

Treasurer's report - Matt K6MES: Checking account :\$ 6,161.41 Cash on hand: \$ 50.28

Total: \$ 6,211.41

Membership Report: 77 ARRL members: 61 %.

Members present today: Matt Stewart K6MES, Keith Hoyt K6GXO, Larry Mock KI6BKP, Gary Mork WA6WFC, Pat Okawa KJ6CJI, Mike Beckers K6YQO, Diane K6DER, George

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Secretary's Desk...

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Becker KC6UVM, Bob Garth KG7ENJ, W2AJG Andy Gippetti, Web guy John Harrison Isles.

Old Business:

- Dan presented the Quartzfest 2019 presentation at the March general meeting. A big thank you to Dan!
- Baker To Vegas wrap up was given by Margie KG6TBR.
- Vets for Veterans Color Blast Fun Run on Sun May 19th at Pelona Vista Park. HTs on simplex. Betsy, Dan & Larry did walk-through last weekend. 0600-1330. need 15 operators.

Upcoming programs – Larry KI6BKP

- April - Steve Noll WA6EJO Antenna & Propagation Phenomenon talk
- Later - Bob Heil by Skype, (makes micro, headsets)
- Betsy AJ6AF on Electrical Safety for 1st Responders
- George KC6UVM suggested Dennis Vernacchia on MARS in Vietnam.

New Business:

- Keith K6OX made a suggestion that the club purchase an upgraded Public Address system for its use with a wireless microphone, 2 portable speakers of 100 watt. He will go to Costco. Other members need to gather info.



- Field Day, June 22-23. We did a walk-through of the park last year at this time. Larry KI6BKP will do the walk thru. Look at tree branches.
- Around the room: Pat will be out of state Mon April 8 to Thurs April 18 for CAP school.

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles - Need by Sun April 14.

Next club meeting Thurs 4/25/2019 Program: Steve Noll WA6EJO – Antenna & Propagation Phenomenon

Next VE Exam: Monday, 5/6/2019 at 7:00 PM GLAARG \$5.00

May Board meeting: Thurs. May 2. Location TBD.

Meeting adjourned time at 11:24 AM

Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Okawa KJ6CJI
AVARC Secretary 2019

President...

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radios.

FlexRadio, makers of Software Defined Radios, had their 6000 Signature Series radios. The model ranges were the 6400 with a price of \$1999, the 6400M at \$2999, the 6600 at \$3999, the 6600M at \$4499, and the 6700 at \$6999. I was able to test each model that was on display. My favorite model is the 6400M, which I hope to own one day.

Another one of the booths that we visited were the folks at the Yaesu booth, who were displaying their latest models. Yaesu's new mobile radio FT-857D was one that I looked at. It covers HF to UHF, and the new model includes coverage of the 60-meter (5 MHz) band. This radio retails at \$799.95.

The forums included a YL forum, DX Forum, Contest Forum, DXLab User Forum", and ARRL Forum.

Presentations included were "DX Contesting as a Tourist: The Road Less Traveled", "The RIB: Radio in a Box for DXpeditions" and "NCDXF Beacon Program Update".

There were also presentations on DXpeditions, such as "The Italian DXpedition Team: 9X0T and More", "Andaman Islands DXpedition", "Mayotte Islands DXpedition" and Christmas Island DXpedition".

This was our first visit to this convention, and all in all, I'd say it was an enlightening experience, and I'm looking forward to attending next year's convention!

73,

Mike K6YQO

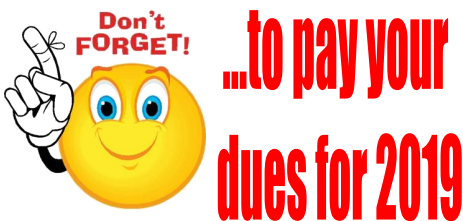
Swap Shop

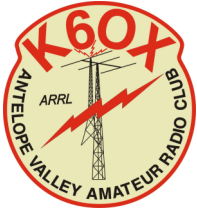
SOLAR PANEL FOR SALE

Harbor Freight solar panel kit with controller and panel support brackets. Never used \$50 OBO

Margie KG6TBR 661-297-6567

Swap Shop ads will be run at no cost to local hams. Ad must include price and contact info - phone number and/or e-mail. Contact Adrienne at 661-264-1863 or wa6yeo@sbcglobal.net





Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2019 Officers

President	Michael Beckers	K6YQO	805-906-9555
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	Diane Roberts	K6DER	805-444-4430
Board Member	George Becker	KC6UVM	488-6894
Trustee	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
Ex Officio	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS	264-1863



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
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