

# The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

August 2019

## President's Corner

**Mike Beckers K6YQO**

These are the dog days of summer. The dog days of summer are taken to be the hottest, most uncomfortable part of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. This might be a good time of the year to go climb a mountain and escape the heat of the desert floor!

We had a presentation a while back about Summits On The Air, or SOTA. SOTA is an amateur radio operating award program launched in Great Britain in 2002, which is now known worldwide. SOTA's aim is to encourage licensed amateur radio operators to operate temporarily from mountainous locations, combining hiking and mountain climbing with operating their amateur radio station from the summits of hills and mountains. Those who set up a station on a summit (usually for a few minutes to a few hours) are known as activators, and those who contact ("work") activators on summits are known as chasers. Points are awarded to the activator for operating from "activating" a summit, and to each of the chasers working the activator. The higher the mountain is, the more points the activator and each chaser receive.

All equipment must be operated from a portable power source (batteries, solar cells, etc). Operation is expressly forbidden using permanently installed power sources or fossil-fuel generators of any kind. The rules state the elevation must be at least 150 meters or 492 feet. Activators must also be within the Activation Zone which is within 25 meters (or 83 feet) of the top of the summit.

There are plenty of mountaintops that can be accessed from the Antelope Valley. Table Mountain, with its peak at 7,507 feet, can be easily accessed by a short trail from nearby parking at the Mountain High North Resort. The only real drawback is the radio coverage is about 180 degrees centered at North, and blocked by higher mountains to the South. Coverage to points north, including Nevada, should be relatively easy, especially on single sideband.

Another peak not far from Table Mountain is Blue Ridge, with its peak on Wright Mountain at 8,505 feet. This one has a more omnidirectional view, and should have excellent coverage. Wright Mountain can be accessed from Guffy Campground, which is the next campground past Blue Ridge Campground. The summit is a more difficult climb, and a 3.5 mile round trip from the campground.

The tallest local summit is Mount Baden-Powell at 9,407 feet. This will require a hike that is four miles from the Vincent Gap parking area on Angeles Crest Highway, which includes 41 switchbacks, and 2,800 feet in elevation gain. This location should net you contacts from hundreds of miles away in any direction!

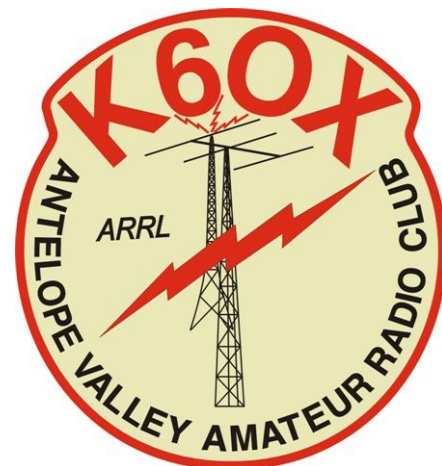
There are many things you can do to escape the heat of the summer, but this one should be able to net you many more contacts on VHF and UHF than other activities!

73,

Mike K6YQO

## Meeting Notice

**Thursday, August 22**, 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.



# From the Secretary's Desk



## AVARC General Meeting July 25, 2019

President Mike Beckers K6YQO called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm at the Quartz Hill Public Library, followed by the flag salute and introductions.

Minutes of the June 2019 club meeting were taken by Pat KJ6CJI. A motion to approve them as printed in the Short Circuit was made by George KC6UVM, and seconded by Keith K6GXO. The motion was approved by the members present? YES

Treasurer's Report: Matt K6MES – Gave the financial report. There were 2 bills paid.

Membership: Total members 69, percent ARRL 88.41 % We had 2 people join tonight.

### OLD BUSINESS

Thank you to Randy Estrella, KR6DR for last month's presentation on fox hunting.

Dan sent the Field Day report to ARRL. Next year's Field Day will be June 27-28, 2020. Next year we should check equipment before Field Day. With no publicity, we had half of our normal participation.

### NEW BUSINESS

The Earthquake Expo is on Saturday, September 14th from 9am-1pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints across from the College. Would like us to have a booth and we can do sign-ups for classes also. Larry Volmer, KJ6CJY, has been in communication with Debbie Kent, and suggested that the classes can be held in the library meeting room. Need to see if we can use it for free. If no venue can be arranged, Dan will hold the classes at the church. (Debbie can be reached at 661-492-2224)

Mike, WB6SCI commented on the Wednesday net that since he is no longer able to attend the general club meetings, he would like to see if we can provide a more detailed description of what goes

on and is discussed at the monthly general club meetings, for those that are unable to attend. It was discussed at the board meeting that we can read the meeting minutes on the Wednesday night net.

Net control schedule is needed. Call Pat KJ6CJI to sign up for a Wednesday night (661-718-3986)

Adrienne WA6YEO has prepared a new script. Sign in to practice for that BAD DAY.

Future Presentations:

Bob Heil by Skype,

George KC6UVM suggested Dennis Vernacchia on MARS in Vietnam.

Kawika Feltman, AVH Emergency Director

### OTHER NEW BUSINESS

**What should members do in an earthquake?** Wait for shaking to stop. Then call on Hauser with your name, call sign and location. Have paper & pen ready. First operator on becomes Net Control until a more experienced person signs in.

### 20 MINUTE BREAK

### PRESENTATION:

Betsy AJ6AF on Electrical Safety for 1<sup>st</sup> Responders

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Short Circuit Articles - Need by: Sunday, August 11.

VE Exam: Saturday August 3 at 9:00 am. This is a GLAARG exam, (fee \$5).

Next Board Meeting is Sat. August 3, following VE exam (10 am) at First Christian Church site.

Next General club meeting: Thurs. August 22, 7:30 pm Presentation will be...?

Other items:

Members attending tonight: 27.

50/50 drawing won by: George KC6UVM \$ 25.00

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Okawa KJ6CJI  
Secretary

## AVARC Board Meeting August 3, 2019

**Opening:** Mike Beckers K6YQO, President

Call to order by Mike Beckers K6YQO at 09:48 AM.

Minutes from last board meeting: Motion to approve by George KC6UVM Second Larry KC6BKP.

Membership present approval: YES

Treasurer's report – Matt K6MES gave the financial report & it was accepted.

Membership Report: 71 ARRL members: 88.4%.

Members present today: Dan Sherwood W6DAS, Matt Stewart K6MES, ,Larry Mock KI6BKP, Pat Okawa KJ6CJI, Mike Beckers K6YQO,, George Becker KC6UVM,Allen KG7ENJ.

### **Old Business:**

Any old business?:

### **New Business:**

The Earthquake Expo is on Saturday, September 14th from 9am-1pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints across from the College. Would like us to have a booth and we can do sign-ups for classes also. Larry Volmer, KJ6CJY, has been in communication with Debbie Kent, and suggested that the classes can be held in the library meeting room. Need to see if we can use it for free. If no venue can be arranged, Dan will hold the classes at the church. (Debbie can be reached at 661-492-2224) A venue for the class that was suggested at the general meeting was the Learn4Life Center, 177 Holston Dr, in Lancaster (Off of Business Center Parkway [Where Division transitions to 4<sup>th</sup> East north of Avenue L]).

Randy, KR6DR mentioned Phil Dolber would like to get together for a multi-club T-hunt.

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**From the Membership Chairman  
Matt Stewart K6MES**

I know that you are tired of my notes, but I would like to get my briefcase a bit lighter. So I am asking that the members listed below, please pick up your badges.

KK6QYJ	Mike Van Dyne
KK6RHO	Don Kennedy
KM6HWA	McNeill Gardner
N6RAF	Bob Fogelman
KN6BQK	Adobin Schroth
KD6RND	John Daniel Hendricks
N1ROE	Bud Turner
K2QLY	Bill Weber
KR6C	Chuck Constantine
KM6SSC	Maria Clinton
W6GLC	Greg Clark
KM6SSD	Jack Comish
KQ6S	John Bigler
	Barbara Stam

I will have all of these badges for these members at the August meeting at the Quartz Hill Library.  
Thank you,

**New Rules Regarding Baofeng HTs**

Summary from the Survivaldispatch.com website regarding importation of Chinese radios, capable of transmitting in multiple radio services:

While the FCC did clean up the Part 95 rules and did expand the frequencies for FRS by combining them with GMRS (with power limitations), they were not consistent in some of their wording in the various subparts. However, it is quite clear that the operating, manufacture, import, sale or offer for sale any radio that: 1) is not certified and/or 2) can operate in more than one service, will be a violation of FCC rules after September 30th. What is notably absent from the new rules is the possession of a radio that can operate in multiple services, so you don't need to throw out all the Baofeng's and similar radios (however, if you are worried about possessing a radio that violates the rules I'll pay shipping and you can send it to me and I'll make sure it is not used in violation of the rules).

Between now and the end of September I think you are going to see a lot of flash sales and then very discounted prices as none of the manufacturers or sellers are going to want to have any stock on hand after September 30th.

**Secretary...**

*(Continued from page 2)*

Field Day –May meeting should be how to preparation for Field Day

New Net Control Schedule needed.

Financial info should be omitted from the meeting minutes that are published.

Other new business: new member: John Bigler.

Future Presentations:  
Bob Heil via Skype  
George KC6UVM suggested Dennis Vernacchia on MARS in Vietnam.  
Kawika Feltman, AVH Emergency Director  
Presentation for the August meeting? TBD

**Announcements:**

Short Circuit Articles - Needed by Sun August 11, 2019  
Next general club meeting Thurs 8/22/2019 – Program: TBA  
Next VE Exam: September 9, 2019 at 1900 VEC: ARRL Test fee: \$15.00  
September Board meeting: following VE session.  
Gorman Rally Aug 24,  
AV Fair

**Meeting adjourned** time: 10:24 AM  
Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Okawa KJ6CJI  
Secretary

**Tuesday Morning HAM Brunch**

Al Almeida N6JZ invites all hams, prospective hams, and interested folks to the Tuesday morning brunch out at Foxy's Landing, (restaurant inside the Fox Airport terminal), between 9:30 AM and noon, (sometimes later), every Tuesday morning. Great food and great camaraderie has been the tradition for many years. The location is Ave. G and 50<sup>th</sup> West – north of Ave G. Follow Wm. J. Barnes Ave. north around the bend and into the terminal area. Unlike LAX, plenty of free parking. Many amateurs monitor the Mt. Cam repeater on the way there: 444.575+ pl 173.8.

**WHY DOES THE CLUB NEED A SECRETARY?**

Most social clubs have a set of BYLAWS to give structure and accountability. A secretary is needed to take the minutes of any Board Meetings and the General Meeting to have an accurate history of the direction of the club and to hold the officers accountable to the general members. Regardless of the amount of funds in the Treasury, history is important for any organization.

That is why your secretary is a NAG.  
P Okawa

**Swap Shop**

**STATION ACCESSORIES**

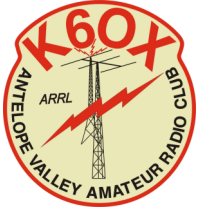
Low Pass Filter Kenwood LF-30A 1 Kw 2x SO-239 good condx \$17.00

FAN ETRI113XN 115V 50/60 Hz 12/11W 165/135mA Impe dance protected, 3,6 x 3,6 inch, Metal black, never used, \$14.00

Wolf N2SJO  
dityolgl@hotmail.com.

**SOLAR PANEL FOR SALE**

Harbor Freight solar panel kit with controller and panel support brackets. Never used \$50 OBO  
Margie KG6TBR 661-297-6567



**Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2019 Officers**

<b>President</b>	Michael Beckers	K6YQO	805-906-9555
<b>Vice President</b>	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
<b>Secretary</b>	Pat Okawa	KJ6CJI	718-3986
<b>Treasurer</b>	Matt Stewart	K6MES	264-4629
<b>Master-At-Arms</b>	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
<b>Board Member</b>	Diane Roberts	K6DER	805-444-4430
<b>Board Member</b>	George Becker	KC6UVM	488-6894
<b>Trustee</b>	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
<b>Ex Officio</b>	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  
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 Lancaster, CA 93584-1011

Place  
 Postage  
 Here

**To ARS:**

