
The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

October 2019

President's Corner

Mike Beckers K6YQO

Well, I pulled the plug at the end of last month's article because it could have gone on and on, so I'll continue this month with part 2 of my article about my AM DXing experiences.

AM DXing these days isn't quite what it was back when I was a kid in the 1970s. These days, there are more things that seem to interfere with trying to pull in that distant station. HD Radio is one of the obstacles, due to its digital signal occupying half of each channel above and below the station on which it transmits. For example, KNX, at 1070 KHz, broadcasts an HD signal, which occupies the lower sideband at 1060 KHz, and the upper sideband of 1080 KHz, which would make pulling in KRLD out of Dallas, Texas on 1080 KHz a little more difficult than it used to be several years ago.

Another obstacle that gets in the way are powerhouse stations from south of the border. There are some stations that I have tried to pull in that are either replaced by, or are in the background of a south-of-the-border powerhouse.

I went on business travel a few years ago to Louisville, Kentucky, and I spent several nights in the rental car slowly exploring the AM broadcast band. It was just like I was a kid in the 1970s again! I was picking up so many stations from the eastern half of the country all over the band, and I wasn't hearing the obstacles that were making it difficult on this part of the country. It was easy pickings! I started at the bottom of the dial, at 530, and heard a station that was playing an "Elevator Music" format, and speaking Spanish after every few songs. That station turned out to be Radio Enciclopedia, broadcasting out of Cuba, and can be heard all over the East Coast with its powerful transmitter. I have even picked up that station here in the Antelope Valley on the occasional Winter night! On subsequent visits to Louisville, I found another station that would occasionally be on 530, overpowering Cuba, and played various types of music from other countries, and has programming in several languages. That station was multicultural station CIAO out of Toronto, Ontario.

Moving up the dial, WSM was an easy catch on 650, playing country music, with WFAN from New York City coming in on 660, a sports station from Chicago called "The Score" (WSCR), which used to be WMAQ in years past. I continued up the dial and found another easy catch on 700, which was WLW, "The Nation's Station", which has a bit of history behind it, and even broadcast at 500,000 watts for a while in 1934!

Continuing up the dial at 710, I thought that I would be hearing WOR out of New York City, but instead, I heard a fairly strong Spanish language station, which I thought might be another Cuban powerhouse station, but waiting to hear some kind of identification, I found that it was WAQI out of Miami, and called themselves "Radio Mambi".

Moving on, WGN was at 720, and CFZM out of Toronto was at 740, called themselves "Zoomer Radio", and played an oldies format.

Meeting Notice

Thursday, October 24, 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.

Elections: Next meeting will be final nominations for all officers and board members for 2019, followed by elections. Please keep in mind that according to our By Laws, in order to be eligible for nominations for election to a position for the following, you would have to be a member in good standing of the club for the entire preceding twelve months prior to the nomination.

Anchors Away: Bring your ham items for sale to the October meeting. It will be a busy and fun evening for all, so get busy, clean out your shack and plan to join us!



(Continued on page 3)

From the Secretary's Desk



Board Meeting October 5, 2019

Opening: Mike Beckers K6YQO, President

Call to order by Mike Beckers K6YQO at 10:02 AM

Minutes from last board meeting: Motion to approve George, second, Larry.

Membership approval: YES / NO

Treasurer's report – Matt Stewart: Treasurer's report was given.

Membership report 89 members
ARRL members 78.65%

Members present today: Mike Beckers K6YQO, Dan Sherwood W6DAS, Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO, Loretta Smalls AJ6HO, Keith Hoyt K6GXO/K6OX, George Becker KC6UVM, Larry Mock KI6BKP, John Isles the "Web Guy", Gary Mock WA6WFC, Ron Seixas NY2B.

Old Business:

Dan Sherwood recommended that we make a sign for the Technician class at the Learn 4 Life Center which begins Tuesday, Oct. 8, followed by three more consecutive Tuesdays on the 15th, 22nd, and the 29th. The building is not clearly marked as it is. Two weeks from the final class on the 29th, will be the GLAARG exam on November 12th, open to all the public. Anyone can find the link to all ham exams on the K6OX club website.

Still looking for volunteers to run the Wednesday night net. So far the three volunteers from last Thursday's club meeting are Earl KE6VAI, Loretta AJ6HO, and Trish KJ6CYR who is also one of our new Extra Class operators. Congratulations Trish.

The Transplants Brewing Company 5K/10K run is planned for next year on the weekend of St. Patrick's Day March 15, 2020, and also the Sunday prior to Halloween, October 25, 2020. Corey Cordova is the organizer for this event. There will be a need for at least 20 ham radio operators to run this so we will be

soliciting volunteers. It will be similar to the Vets for Vets event recently held at the Pelona Vista Park. We will need to vote on this by December of this year and we will also need to attend any of their board meetings to assess any needs that need to be met. Thank you Betsy AJ6AF for mentioning this at a previous club meeting.

We should also to invite them to one of our club meetings to speak more about the event and help generate more interest. Dan Sherwood pointed out the years of experience this club has on manning these types of events, and the expertise could go a long way to making this a great success as well.

Justin Cornwell, the Webelos II Den leader for the Edwards A.F.B Cub Scouts has their annual Jamboree On The Air event October 18-20. This event links scouts to other parts of the world using HAM Radio. The issue for us will be access to Edwards A.F.B. Brian Basura N6CVO will contact Justin.

New Business:

Loretta Smalls AJ6HO was nominated by Adrienne Sherwood at the club meeting this past Thursday to step in for Pat Okawa who is recovering from an injury. The nomination was accepted without any objections.

We had a successful GLAARG ham test with new Extra Class licenses and new Technicians. Congratulations to our new licensed hams.

Dan Sherwood has the data on the new repeater which is a Kenwood NEXEDGE VHF Digital and FM modes. There will be further review on this before a final vote or purchase is made which, as we all know, is not just about purchasing the radio equipment. There will be other incidental items along with it such as a power supply, battery back up, surge protection, and additional cables. One of the selling points of this repeater equipment is that it uses less space. As it stands now we will either replace the current repeater on Hauser or let it go and use Quartz Hill. The budget was discussed along with the repeater and as the cost of everything goes up, including maintaining the website, it cuts into our funds

considerably. This brings us to the potluck and membership.

The K6OX potluck Christmas Party is tentatively set for Friday, December 20th, at the Antelope Valley First Christian Church. We must make a concerted effort to keep the carpets clean as the church will have just had it cleaned. Raffle items are being discussed for the potluck, such as connectors, HAM manuals, antennas, and HTs. We need to keep in mind that we still need to raise funds to keep Hauser in operation. Raffle items can be donated at the potluck. The club does need to raise funds to maintain Hauser, pay for venues, as well as other events. Any additional contributions, regardless how small, along with club dues will be greatly appreciated and will go a long way to helping this club remain successful.

Other New Business:

Next club meeting 10/24/19 – The meeting will be followed by officer and board member elections then Anchors Away!

Next Exam Saturday November 12 Tuesday @ 7:00 P.M. It is a GLAARG session so \$5.00 and it will be at the Learn 4 Life Center 177 Holston Dr. off of Ave. K and Division St. Same place where CERT does their classes.

The next K6OX board meeting is November 2, 1800 hrs at the church.

Larry Mock KI6BKP motioned to approve the budget for the new repeater and was seconded by George Becker KC6UVM.

Keith Hoyt K6GXO asked about submitting to ARRL silent key list on behalf of WB6SCI a silent key. Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO, acting secretary, took phone photos of the flyer Keith brought and will submit both in writing and via e mail to ARRL silent key using the silent key form in PDF downloaded from <http://www.arrl.org/silent-key-submission-guidelines>.

Possible future presentations:

George KC6UVM recommended Tom Fisher KI6CHH as our next presenter to discuss status of DCS and CERT. Also rec-

President...

How am I remembering all of these stations? Simple! I had my laptop PC with me in the car, and I was logging all of these stations into a spreadsheet! (At least until the battery died in the laptop!)

Continuing up the dial was WSB out of Atlanta on 750, WJR out of Detroit on 760, WABC out of New York City on 770, WBBM from Chicago on 780, CKLW out of Windsor, Ontario on 800, a Spanish station out of Murfreesboro, Tennessee on 810. That was a fairly easy catch because it wasn't very far from me. WCCO out of Minneapolis was on 830, and WHAS out of Louisville was an extremely easy catch for me, because the 50,000 watt transmitter was about 8 1/2 miles from my location!

KOA out of Denver started to make a very weak appearance at 2:00 in the morning. CJBC, broadcasting in French out of Toronto was on 860, WWL from New Orleans was on 870, WCBS from New York City on 880 was broadcasting an all new format, similar to KNX in Los Angeles, and WLS from Chicago was on 890.

Well, it looks like this article is turning into a three-parter because I am going on and on, just like I said that I could at the end of last month's article! We'll see you next month for the conclusion of my AM DXing adventure!

73,

Mike K6YQO



Secretary...

(Continued from page 2)

commended Dennis Vernacchia on MARS in Vietnam.

Kawika Feltman, the AVH Emergency Director

Bob Heil via Skype.

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 A:M

Respectfully Submitted
Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO

Swap Shop

TOWER FOR SALE

Tilt-up NRG met. tower base and first 4 sections, ~30ft.

Great for an antenna tower! Asking \$1000 OBO

Will trade for IC-7300. kn6azk@yahoo.com for pics & more info.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Heathkit IF Spectrum Analyzer SB-620 IF 455 Kc clean condx \$ 100.

COLLINS RX 75S-3 Winged Emblem 10 - 80m (8 bands) CW-Filter Manual very good condx \$590

WANTED - Kenwood Mike MC-43S, Handheld/mobil with PTT, Up + Down buttons.

Wolf N2SJO
dityolg1@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

Swap Shop ads will be run at no cost to members of AVARC. Your ad should include your name and call, price, and contact info. Submit your ad to Adrienne WA6YEO, Short Circuit editor at wa6yeo@sbcglobal.net

Tully Becker WB6CYP-SK 1933-2019

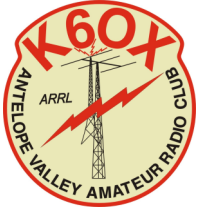


Tully Becker WB6CYP became a Silent Key on October 9. Tully was a charter member and past president of AVARC. He became a ham in the early sixties, and was very active on the bands, particularly in the digital modes and satellite communications.

He will be missed by all who knew him.

Tuesday Morning HAM Brunch at Fox Field

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 50th 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.



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2019 Officers

President	Michael Beckers	K6YQO	805-906-9555
Vice President	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
Secretary	Loretta Smalls	AJ6HO	350-7039
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
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