
The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

November 2019

President's Corner

Mike Beckers K6YQO

Welcome to part three of my AM broadcast band DXing adventures. Last month, I was describing my exploration of the AM broadcast band while I was on business travel, temporarily working in Louisville, Kentucky. At the time, I ended the article as I was getting to 890 KHz, which was WLS out of Chicago.

As I am going up in frequency, I'm omitting local stations from this article, such as on the next channel above 890, which is 900 KHz, there was a local station, WFIA out of Louisville, which broadcasts a religious format. That one came in strong day and night for obvious reasons!

The next one is on 920, which during the day is a jumble of multiple weak signals, but at night, WBAA out of West Lafayette, Indiana, which is about 60 miles northwest of Indianapolis, came in strong. It was doing well with its 1,000 watts pointed away from me! West Lafayette would be about a three hour drive from where I was.

Moving further up the dial, at 1000 KHz, was WMVP out of Chicago, that was broadcasting the ESPN Sports Radio format.

At 1010 was CFRB out of Toronto, which broadcasts a news talk format, was broadcasting a comedy program at the time.

Next, there were three clear channel powerhouses in a row. At 1020 was KDKA out of Pittsburgh, 1030 was WBZ out of Boston, and at 1040 was WHO out of Des Moines, which I have only picked up here a handful of times.

At 1060 was KYW out of Philadelphia, and at 1070 was WFNI, "The Fan" out of Indianapolis, which is another station that broadcasts the ESPN Sports Radio format. I could pick that one up a little bit during the day as well.

At 1100 was WTAM out of Cleveland, Ohio. 1120 had another station on a clear channel, KMOX out of St. Louis. At 1160 was a religious broadcaster out of Chicago, WYLL, and 1190 had WOWO out of Fort Wayne, Indiana, then at clear channel 1210 was WPHT out of Philadelphia.

We then skip across several regional and local frequencies, because each of these frequencies had a jumble of several stations on each frequency, and arrive at 1510, which was WLAC out of Nashville, Tennessee, which I could also hear during the day as well. 1520 was KOLM, "The Ticket", out of Rochester, Minnesota, and was another ESPN Sports Radio station. 1530, which during the day I was receiving WCKY out of Cincinnati, Ohio, and was yet another ESPN Sports Radio station, but at night, I was receiving a religious station that I didn't identify, and listed it as "multiple possibilities", then at 1540 was KXEL out of Waterloo, Iowa.

Rounding out the list is Traveler Information Station WQFQ816, which broadcasts freeway construction information with a synthesized voice, and covered

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Meeting Notice

Thursday, November 21, is the next meeting of the AVARC at the Quartz Hill Library, 5040 West Avenue M-2. **Note that this month's meeting is a week earlier than usual, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.** 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 we will enjoy a Skype presentation by **Dr. Bob Heil K9EID**. Dr. Heil is very well known in the amateur radio world, and has made many contributions to our hobby, most recently the Pine Board Project. He is one of the regulars on Ham Nation, and many of our members own Heil microphones. Tonight's presentation will be 'UNDERSTANDING HUMAN SPEECH ARTICULATION', which will include several live demos that really bring it home. This is a meeting you won't want to miss, so be sure to mark your calendars and plan to join us!



Dr. Bob Heil K9EID

From the Secretary's Desk



AVARC General Meeting October 26, 2019

Flag Salute

Introductions: 23 members introduced themselves and signed in.

Minutes from the previous club meeting ??

Treasurers report was given by Treasurer, Matt Stewart K6MES

Invoices submitted for payment: \$0

Others:

Membership: Total members 91 percent ARRL 79.12%

Old Business:

Net control volunteers so far are Earl, KE6VAI, Trish KJ6CYR, and Loretta AJ6HO. Dan Sherwood W6DAS will cover Newline most of the time.

Brian N6CVO gave a presentation about the recent Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) with the Webloes Scouts at Edwards A.F.B. Including an HF contact between scouts in Canada and Mexico. Overall a very successful event.

Dan W6DAS gave a presentation about ARRL Pacificon in San Ramon. Event was attended by some very high tech people so a very informative event. This includes antenna designs such as Yagi elements on a curve rather than straight and how to get 12 ½ gain from a 2 element Yagi. Really high tech stuff from the SiliconValley. Speaking of high tech stuff Adrienne WA6YEO received an HW Heath CW transeiver that Dan got from the swap meet. Nice.

Adrienne WA6YEO then gave her presentation about the Technician class. This coming Tuesday October 29 at 1900 at the Learn 4 Life at 177 Holston Dr. Lancaster CA. 93535 center will be the final class and Gordon West WB6NOA will be giving a short presentation to the class via Skype and any-

one is welcome to attend. The GLAARG testing will be conducted at this same time and location on Nov. 12. All VEs are encouraged to come and volunteer. Detailed directions are on the K6OX website.

Mike Beckers K6YQO brought up the Transplants Brewery dates which are set for St. Patrick's Day weekend, 3/15/2020 and before Halloween on 10/25/2020. They will clearly need more than 4 people so it is necessary that we attend one of their meetings to discuss in detail the best way to man these events. Larry KI6BKP brought up some great points about safety concerns with having so few people, speaking from previous experience at similar events.

Silent Keys; John Meyer, N6ZJA passed away July 4, in Pearlblossom.

Mike Clark WB6SCI passed away August 26 in Lake Los Angeles. Mike KJ6IIR was unable to attend the general meeting tonight. He had difficulties getting up here due to the fires. He was going to bring some of WB6SCI's radio equipment to sell for Anchors Away. The spreadsheet is still available online.

New Business:

Pat Okawa is back home and recovering well. Hopefully she will be back on the radio soon. Betsy, AJ6AF visited with her before the meeting and says she is in good spirits as does Larry KJ6BKP.

George Becker KC6UVM then spoke of his Dad, now a silent key. Tully Becker WB6CYP was at one time President of the AVARC and also a Navy Veteran. He passed away on 10/09/2019 and was laid to rest on the 12th with full Military Honors.

Holiday Party; It will be Friday, December 20 1900 hrs at the First Christian Church of Antelope Valley 1702 E. Ave. J Lancaster. Carpets will have just been

cleaned so extra effort must be made to keep them clean. Membership dues will be accepted around 1830 before the party or at the next club meeting on November 21. Raffle items are being discussed and they include HT radios by Baofang. Purchase of new repeater

Repeater; Motion was made to approve the purchase of the new repeater on Hauser not to exceed \$2K. Dan W6DAS made the motion which was seconded by Betsy AJ6AF and voted on overwhelmingly for the yeas. W6CLA is and will remain the call sign for Hauser repeater. Short Circuit articles are due by Sunday, November 10.

Nominations for board seats;

Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO made the motion to accept nominations by acclimation and to close the nominations which was seconded by Larry Mock KI6BKP voted on by majority vote in favor of yeas.

The slate of nominees was accepted by acclimation.

President: Mike Beckers K6YQO

Vice President: George Becker KC6UVM

Secretary: Loretta Smalls AJ6HO

Treasurer: Matt Stewart K6MES

Master At Arms: Gary Mork WA6WFC

Board Member: Dan Sherwood W6DAS

Board Member: Larry Mock: KI6BKP

Larry KI6BKP brought up the Great Shake Out event this past October 17 by ARES at the AV Hospital and all went well. Other than a few bugs in the system which can be worked out, such as inter-organizational communication, David 'Kawika' Feltman was satisfied with the performance of the team. Great job to those who participated.

Next K6OX board meeting is at the church Nov. 2, 0900.

Secretary's Desk...



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50/50 drawing won by Lance AJ6CX

Meeting adjourned @ 20:45

AVARC Board Meeting November 2, 2019

Opening: Mike Beckers K6YQO
President

Call to order by Mike Beckers
K6YQO at 09:07 AM

Minutes from last board meeting:
Motion to approve Dan Sherwood
W6DAS, second: George Becker
KC6UVM.

Treasurer's Report: Matt Stewart
K6MES

Membership report: 91 members

ARRL members: 79.12%

Members present today:

Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO Gary Mork
WA6WFC Matt Stewart K6MES

Keith Hoyt K6GXO/K6OX Dan
Sherwood W6DAS Brian Basura
N6CVO

John 'Harrison' Isles "Web Dude"
George Becker KC6UVM Mike
Beckers K6YQO

Old Business:

Amateur radio support for the Transplants Brewing Company 5K/10K run; we are still actively recruiting volunteers for this event which is planned for the St. Patricks Day weekend on March 15, 2020, and the Sunday before Halloween on October 25, 2020. It is still a ways away but it is necessary for one or more of us to attend their pre event meeting to address their needs and also voice our recommendations. Loretta Smalls, AJ6HO AVARC secretary volunteered to attend to record the meeting. Their meeting date is still TBA.

Plans are still going forward to purchase the new repeater for Hauser which was overwhelmingly approved by club members at the October 24 general meeting.

New Business:

Pat Okawa is home recovering from her injuries and doing well. Larry Mock KI6BKP will be assisting her with her radio at home to hopefully get her back on the air with us soon.

There was discussion about raffle items, two of which have already been acquired by Dan W6DAS. They are Fast Track "Ham Radio Facts" 2019 edition, an excellent resource to add to your ham radio library. Other items such as Baofang HTs were also discussed but anyone can donate raffle items at this coming Holiday Party. Loretta AJ6HO will be donating a stereo headset and a Nagoya Antenna model GPK-01 Base Ground Plane kit.

The holiday party will be held Friday, December 20 1900 hrs at the church on J and 17th East across from the Wal-Mart. Once again, they will have just had the carpets cleaned so please be extra careful with food and drink. The club submitted a \$100.00 honorarium to the church to cover costs.

Discussions were brought up about alternative locations for ham testing as the church may or may no longer be available. City Of Hope, and the Learn 4 Life Center are two locations mentioned as alternative testing sites.

Other New Business:

Membership applications/renewals are available to download and print from the K6OX club website under 'quick links'. Members are encouraged to submit renewals at the next club meeting which is Nov. 21 at the Quartz Hill Library 1930 hours following the eyeball QSOs at 1900 hrs. Additional donations will be greatly appreciated even if it is only a dollar or two. With the purchase of new repeater equipment our resources will take a hit so any help regardless how small, will help.

Net control schedule was discussed and members are encouraged to volunteer to be net control on our Wednesday evening nets. The script is available on the K6OX website under 'quick links'.

Possible Future Presentations:

Brian Basura N6CVO recommended Ed Fong WB6IQN who is known for "edsantennas.weebly.com".

Dan Sherwood is presenting Bob Heil on the 21st via Skype

George Becker KC6UVM recommended Dennis Vernacchia on MARS in Vietnam.

AVH Emergency Director Kawika Feltman is another possible presenter.

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles needed by Sunday, November 10.

Ham Exam GLAARG \$5 Saturday, November 12 1900 hrs at the Learn 4 Life Center at 177 Holston Dr. Lancaster off of Division and K-10

Next AVARC club meeting Thursday, November 21 1930 hrs. at the Quartz Hill Library at 5040 Ave. M-2 off of 50th St. W. Quartz Hill.

Ham Exam ARRL \$15 Saturday, December 7 10:00 AM at the Antelope Valley First Christian Church on 1702 E. Ave. J Lancaster across from the Wal Mart. This will be followed by;

The AVARC board meeting. All members are welcome to stay for the board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:09 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Loretta Smalls AJ6HO
AVARC Secretary 2019

Local Amateurs Bring Ham Radio to Cub Scouts at Jamboree On The Air by Brian Basura N6CVO

Saturday the 19th of October arrived bringing with it this year's JOTA (Jamboree On The Air). JOTA is a worldwide Scouting event that uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in our own communities.



Myself (N6CVO) and two other Amateur Radio Operators (Jed N6JED, and Claudia KJ6CPU) headed out to Branch Park on Edwards Air Force Base where the Pack 741 Cub Scouts were having a family campout and wanted to try participating in JOTA. The weather at Branch Park was nice except for the 25kt breeze and we had five Cub Scouts show up who ranged in age from 6-12 years old. We setup a VHF/UHF antenna along with a FT-8800 in a GoBox with self-contained power. We also set up an 80m OCF Dipole and a FT-991A HF rig powered by a deep cycle battery running through a MFJ Battery Booster.

The kids were given an age appropriate talk on disaster communications, the differences between VHF and HF, as well as a description of Simplex and Repeater operations.

We also went over basic operating procedures then headed to the radios. Our goal was to get each of them seat time behind the microphone so we fired up the VHF, tuned to Table Mtn repeater, and called CQ JOTA. Two hams in the Apple Valley / Victorville area answered and shared the question and answer sessions as each Cub Scout took their turn with the only breaks for occasional Station ID's. All in all a great success which also opened up a slew of questions from the kids, and their parents.



Later in the day we tuned the HF rig to the 20m JOTA frequency of 14.290 and listened for JOTA traffic. It wasn't long before we heard a Canadian JOTA station talking with JOTA Scouts in Mexico. At the proper time we tossed our call sign out and received an acknowledgement that we were in the queue. A while later our turn came up and one of our 8 year old Cub Scouts made contact with a 12 year old Girl Scout in Saskatchewan Canada. We just sat back and occasion-

ally reminded him to ID as they had a 30-min QSO with a broad range of topics including the differences in Scouting, current and past weather, video games, and even unicorns. I'm sure it is something he and his father will never forget I know I won't.



The minimal amount of effort it took to do this paid off many fold and I hope to be able to participate in these types of events in the future. For more information on JOTA check out the following links:

<https://www.scouting.org/jota/>
<http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota>

Lastly I want to thank Claudia (KJ6CPU) and Jed (N6JED) for their help and also our local hams who were on standby to ensure someone answered the Scouts CQ calls.

**73,
BrianB N6CVO**

President...

(Continued from page 1)

Interstate 265, which was near my location and was very much under construction at the time. At 1620 was WDND out of South Bend, Indiana, and was, can you guess it, another ESPN Sports Radio station! 1630 had KCJJ out of Iowa City, Iowa, and ending the list is KCNZ out of Cedar Falls, Iowa.

I've always been an avid AM broadcast band DXer, ever since that first experience with KDWN out of Las Vegas on a New Year's Eve in the '70s, and they were playing the entire long version of Meco's Star Wars theme song, which took up an entire album side, which was and still is unheard of for an AM radio station.

If you would like to try your hand at AM broadcast band DXing from a "foreign land", you actually need to go no further than your favorite web browser, and go to www.websdr.org. From there, you can find several software defined radios (164 SDRs throughout the world at the time of this writing) that are connected to the Internet, and are there for your listening and tuning pleasure, many of which cover the AM broadcast band.

That's it for this month, and we now return you to your regularly scheduled program!

73, and Happy Thanksgiving!

Mike K6YQO



Swap Shop

TOWER FOR SALE

"Tilt-up NRG tower base and 4 sections, ~30ft tall x 7.75" tubular tower. Great for an antenna tower! Asking \$650 OBO. Email for pics! KN6AZK@yahoo.com"

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
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

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

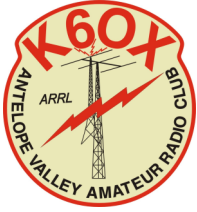
HAM QUIPS



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SOMEHOW, CLYDE NEVER FULLY GRASPED
THE CONCEPT OF HOW TO ROTATE A BEAM

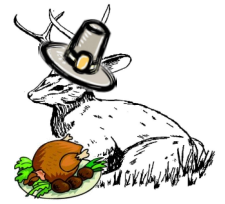
Tuesday Morning HAM Brunch at Fox Field

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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