The Short Circuit

The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

July 2020

President's Corner Mike Beckers K6YQO

Here we are in July, four months into the COVID-19 crisis, with no real end in sight. Many folks are still not working, and some others have gone back to work, and still some others have gone back to work, only to be out of work again. Others have adapted to new rules, such as some restaurants now have outdoor seating that they didn't have before.

We are still not having our regular club meeting in the regular location. Instead, we have adapted to other venues, such as having the club meeting over the repeater during the Wednesday night net. This month, our meeting will be over the Internet, via the Zoom service, which is accessible via the web, or an app on your phone, or even via a telephone number. Our guest speaker will be Diana Feinberg, who has done many presentations for other clubs via Zoom. The club officers have been holding the board meetings via Zoom as well, and it seems to be a good tool to use during the COVID crisis.

Meanwhile, also due to COVID-19, ARRL Field Day 2020 this year was not held at Rawley Duntley Park, as it was for the past couple of years. Instead, this year several of us held our own individual field days in our homes or other outdoor places due to the social distancing rule. As for me I participated in Field Day at my new house. Since I had no antennas erected yet at our new house, I quickly put up my 75 meter dipole in the early afternoon of Field Day, in order to be able to participate in Field Day. It was a very quick installation, with the ends of the antenna suspended between a fence post in the front yard and a post the supports the front porch. The height of the antenna is a whopping five feet above the ground! Diane (K6DER) and I shared the antenna between our two radios with an antenna switch, and with that method, we were (Continued on page 3)

Meeting Notice

This month's meeting will be held on Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 7:30PM, via the Zoom online video app. Current members should have received the meeting invitation link via the email announcement of the July newsletter. If you are not a Zoom user, installation instructions can be found at: https:// zoom.us/signup. Sign up for the free account, and it will then lead you to download and install the necessary plug -ins to join our meeting. If you are a guest or former member, please send an email to meeting@k6ox.club. stating your name, callsign (if any), and interest in the Club, and we will send you the meeting invitation link.

This month's meeting will be **Diana Feinberg AI6DF**. She is the Los
Angeles Section ARRL Section
Manager, and will be doing a presentation on current ARRL affairs. As
always, Diana puts on an interesting
presentation for all amateurs.



Diana Feinberg AI6DF

From The Veep

George Becker KC6UVM

The year has gone by fast. It seems like we have come around full circle. Things seemed to start out with freezing cold weather, COVID-19, lock-downs, riots, COVID-19 again and more lock-downs. Where do we go from here? Don't even mention the "Alien Invasion." Some bad news if you haven't heard: The AV Fair has been canceled and the Fall school year is in doubt.

The groups I'm involved with are either meeting on the air, online through Zoom, Webex and others. I cut back on my travel and don't seem to get out of Lancaster often. The Lancaster CERT leadership (Zoom) meeting just finished up tonight, right before the ARES net on Hauser started. Other clubs I belong with and volunteer my time are using Zoom for their meetings. Some groups aren't meeting at all.

This was my segue towards the next AVARC club meeting: The July 2020 AVARC meeting will be on Zoom. The meeting will start with a "Virtual" Eyeball OSO starting at about 7:00 PM or 19:00 for you military folk, Thursday evening July 23th, 2020. We intend to start the meeting at 7:30 PM (19:30). It's been decided, it would be best to start the virtual eyeball portion of the meeting with the intent to help those that have never checked into a Zoom meeting to get any help you need to log in and ready to participate. For more information to get a link to the AVARC Zoom meeting, send an email to officers@k60x.club. There will be a hyperlink to the meeting and phone numbers to call if you have a capable smart phone. There will be additional information on the Wednesday Evening Club Net on Hauser Repeater prior to the meeting.

The Short Circuit

From the Secretary's Desk

Field Day Edition of AVARC K6OX club meeting on Hauser

June 24, 2020 at 20:00 hrs

Net control was Loretta AJ6HO

Officers and Board members present:

President Mike Beckers K6YQO Vice President George Becker KC5UVM

Treasurer Matt Stewart K6MES Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO

Master At Arms Gary Mork WA6WFC Board Member Dan Sherwood W6DAS

Board Member Larry Mock KI6BKP AVARC Editor Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO and Minnie.

Also present:

Frank N6FOD Len WB6FWF Betsy AJ6AF Andy W2AJG Ron NY2B David KN6FPS Becky N2JMT Bob KD6HHA Merle W6MJB Gloria KE6TZB Raymond KN6DPI Chuck W2QLH

Meeting called to order by President Mike Beckers K6YQO at 20:12 hrs on 146.730 MHz pl -100.

Minutes of the May 27, 2020 club meeting were taken by Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO. Motion to approve the minutes as printed in the June Short Circuit Newsletter was made by AJ6HO and seconded by David KN6FPS. Motion was then approved by all members present.

Treasurer's Report by Matt Stewart K6MES

Checking:
Cash on hand:
Total:
Membership report:
Club members: 67

The Club historian Bob Holland KG6GHQ will be returning to the club.

Old Business:

ARRL % 72.73

Future club meetings will continue to be on Hauser until further notice.

VE testing is suspended until further notice but you can still get you ticket via on line testing.

Field day has been revised to accommodate the COVID-19 restrictions. All operators may participate in field day from their home QTH using either commercial power or emergency power. You may use your own call sign and give club credits during OSO and point submissions to ARRL. The club name for us is the Antelope Valley ARC. Good luck to all.

It was very nice to hear Adrienne's WA6YEO voice on the net tonight. We miss you Adrienne.

New Business:

The Church and the Library continue to be unavailable until further notice.

Betsy AJ6AF wants to tour different Members Present: locations to see how folks have their operations set up for field day. Loretta AJ6HO has already invited her to her location but others are welcome to share their knowledge.

Announcements:

Short Circuit articles needed by July 10th.

No exams until further notice, however on line testing is available. Please feel free to check ARRL or GLAARG for more information.

Next board meeting is July 6 Monday at 19:00hrs via Zoom.

Next club meeting is July 22 on Hauser at 20:00 hrs. The presenter may possibly be Dianne Feinberg AI6DF. If no presentations are available in July we can each briefly discuss our field day successes or lack of, and perhaps learn from them.

Other items:

No 50/50 drawing

We had 19 check ins tonight, thank you all.

Meeting adjourned at 20:46 hrs.

AVARC/K6OX

Board Meeting July 6, 2020 via Zoom 1900 hrs.

Hosted by Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO Secretary

Call to order by President Mike Beckers K6YQO at 1909

Treasurer's Report by Matt Stewart
checking account:
cash on hand:
total:

membership: 67 ARRL 72.06%

Dan Sherwood W6DAS Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO Larry Mock KI6BKP Mike Beckers K6YQO George Becker KC6UVM Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO. Other members: Andy Gippetti W2AJG

Minutes from last board meeting: Motion to approve made by Loretta AJ6HO Seconded by Dan W6DAS. Membership approval YES.

(Continued on page 3)

◆ The Short Circuit 3 ◆

President...

switching back and forth, and she would make a contact and I would make one. In the end, I made 23 phone contacts (with one duplicate contact that I'm not counting), and Diane made 15 phone contacts, and we had surprisingly good results with the antenna at such a low height. We made all except two of our contacts on the 40 meter band, and made contacts as far away as Illinois, Alberta and Hawaii!

Dan and Adrienne were working from their house and made 220 contacts on phone and CW on 80, 40 and 20 meters.

Andy made 38 phone contacts on 80, 40, 20 and 2 meters.

Loretta did well too. She made six contacts this year, which is more than she made last year. Five of the contacts were digital and one contact was using phone.

We were hearing a lot more class D and class E stations this year than in other years. Class D stations are operating from home on regular household power, and class E stations are stations that are operating from home on emergency power, such as batteries, solar power or generators. Normally, class D stations can't work other class D stations, but that rule was waived this year due to COVID-19.

I'd like to hear from others in the club as to how they did or what they did on Field Day. Hopefully we can all meet the park next year.

We still haven't put our antenna up permanently, and we are contacting the world on FT8 with that same antenna that's up five feet! One of our recent surprise FT8 contacts was to our club secretary, Loretta, AJ6HO, which is a whopping seven mile distance! That lightened our day!

That about does it for me this month. Stay healthy and stay safe!

73, Mike K64Q0

Secretary's Desk... ***********

(Continued from page 2)

Old Business:

The Quartz Hill Library is still not available. Daria will notify us when it will open up for us again.

Field Day credits are still being compiled. Entries are due no later than July 28 but many have already submitted their results. You can look for your call sign here: http://field-day.arrl.org/fdentriesrcvd.php. So far, the following have submitted their entries and can be seen on the ARRL field day website: WA6YEO W2AJG K6YQO K6DER AJ6HO.

We also want to welcome back Club Historian Bob Holland KG6DHQ

New Business:

Loretta AJ6HO secured a ZOOM account for one year so that there will be no time limit issues. A test session was conducted on Sunday July 12 at 1400 hrs. Wednesday will be our regular club net on Hauser at 2000hrs 146.730 pl(-)100.

Presentations:

Dianne Feinberg AI6DF may be on the ZOOM meeting as our presenter to discuss field day.

Other ideas for presentations are to get Brian Basura N6CVO to talk about PICO balloons and his next launch as well as his previous one that was last seen over Iran.

Oliver K6OLI is another possibility to discuss the new Winlink app that connects to the USGS and the DYFI (did you feel it)form. This gives the USGS important data on how far away an earthquake was felt or not felt, as well as reactions, observations of animals, damages inside or outside, etc...

Announcements:

Next exam is pending. Check ARRL or GLAARG for on line sessions which

are in full swing and our own Dan Sherwood W6DAS has been sitting in on these on line sessions. Thank you Dan.

The next club meeting will be on ZOOM July 23, at 1930hrs.

The next board meeting will be on ZOOM as well, on August 3, 1900hrs.

Other Items:

No other items or announcements at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 1949hrs.

Loretta A. Smalls AJ6HO AVARC/K6OX secretary



Veep...

(Continued from page 1)

Our speaker for the evening will be Diana Feinberg, AI6DF, ARRL LAX Southern California Section Manger. She will give us a presentation on the latest information on the ARRL. In previous presentations, Diana has given us excellent information and this time will be good as well.

In closing, stay safe and well.

73, George KC6UVM ◆ The Short Circuit 4 ◆



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2020 Officers

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President	Michael Beckers	K6YQO	805-906-9555	
Vice President	George Becker	KC6UVM	488-6894	
Secretary	Loretta Smalls	AJ6HO	350-7039	
Treasurer	Matt Stewart	K6MES	264-4629	
Master-At-Arms	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317	
Board Member	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736	
Board Member	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS	264-1863	
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 potluck 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 Newsline, 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



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