

# The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

October 2020

## President's Corner

Mike Beckers K6YQO

You're logged in, the Zoom meeting is underway, and suddenly faces freeze. The best you can do is reboot the router and cross your fingers.

You're on the phone with a friend, deep in conversation, and the audio gets garbled as the bars on your phone drop from one to none.

Technology can fail us at inconvenient times. But imagine a communications technology that could hold up even in the most rugged and remote situations. It exists, and it's much older than the smartphone. Amateur radio, or ham radio, has been around for more than a century, functioning as both workhorse and recreational hobby.

After the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013, amateur operators coordinated communications as cellphone systems became overloaded. They played a key role in Puerto Rico in 2017 after Hurricane Maria took down much of the communications infrastructure. Though there hasn't been as much of a need during the pandemic – with traditional systems up and running – amateur radio is keeping its own user communities in touch, informed, and emotionally grounded.

As a pandemic hobby, it's perfect. Socially distanced, it hails human connection with the push of a button. If the going gets tough, you can always heave a lifeline across the airwaves, whether it's across the

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## Meeting Notice

This month's meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 22, 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](mailto: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 program will feature **Mark Hagan**, who is the AV CERT Area Commander and Program Manager. Many of our members are involved in CERT, so this meeting will be of great interest to us.

We will also be electing club officers for 2021, so be sure to mark your calendars and join us!



**Mark Hagan**

## From The Veep

George Becker KC6UVM

As I sit here pondering what to write, It occurred to me how this year as unraveled. Or... the changes.

The question to ponder: What's next?

All that can be spoken of here, is what's on the agenda for the October 2020 AVARC (Zoom) meeting.

Ham radio brings out a form of volunteerism in some or most of us who have become licensed. Whether you have found a way of using your communication skills gained from ham radio either professionally or as a unpaid volunteer in the service of helping others, you find your self taking on other work you never expected to participate in....

This Thursday October 22nd, 2020, our presenter shall be Mark Hagan from CERT. CERT is a volunteer organization that prepares anyone interested in how to prepare for disasters. CERT volunteers have found themselves called out to assist in helping others affected by local disasters.

The local CERT web site can be found at <https://www.antelopevalleycert.org/>

The meeting will start with a "Virtual" eyeball QSO at about 7:00 PM with the meeting beginning about 7:30 PM.

By the way, it's election night. We will vote and confirm our next slate of officers for 2021.

See you at the meeting (virtually).

Stay safe and well,

73,

George KC6UVM



## From the Secretary's Desk



### AVARC/K6OX General Meeting September 24, 2020 1930 hrs Via Zoom

Board members present;

President Mike Beckers K6YQO Vice  
President George Becker KC6UVM

Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO  
Treasurer Matt Stewart K6MES Trustee  
Keith Hoyt K6GXO

Board Member Dan Sherwood W6DAS  
Short Circuit Editor Adrienne Sherwood  
WA6YEO with club mascot Minnie  
K9DOG.

Members present;

Margie KG6TBR David KN6FPS Ron  
NY2B Trisha KJ6ZYR Betsy AJ6AF

Andres KN6KXP Jed N6JED Steve  
KM6YOJ

Tonight's Presenter is Oliver Dully  
K6OLI ARES LAX District Emergency  
Coordinator to discuss Mesh Networking.

Meeting called to order by President  
Mike Beckers K6YQO at 19:36 hrs fol-  
lowed by motion to approve previous  
General Meeting minutes as printed in the  
Short Circuit made by Treasurer Matt  
Stewart K6MES and seconded by David  
Haberman KN6FPS approved by all  
members present.

Treasurer's Report by Matt Stewart  
K6MES;

Checking <as stated>

Cash on Hand <as stated>

Total <as stated>

Total Membership 68 (possible new  
members need to send in applications)

%ARRL Membership 72.06%

Old Business;

We will continue our Zoom meetings  
until further notice during this COVID 19  
outbreak. We appreciate everyone's pa-  
tience as we all learn how to work this  
digital media

We have begun our new net schedule  
volunteer control operators and so far so  
good. Thank you all for jumping in there  
as net control. The list is as follows;

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday - Betsy AJ6AF

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday - Jon N6NQ  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – Loretta AJ6HO  
4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – George KC6UVM  
5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Up for grabs.

We will include a 5 min. pre net announce-  
ment. Also much appreciation to Dan  
W6DAS who usually does the Newline  
Report for us at the end of the net.

New Business;

New net on Thursday evenings, except for  
the Thursday of our club meetings, for  
those learning CW. It is on 3.530.000 at  
1900 hrs. All are welcome even if you are  
not yet set up for keying it is okay to listen  
and learn the code characters. Don't be  
afraid to jump in once you have everything  
set up.

Anchors away will not be happening this  
year and it is not likely that the annual  
Christmas party will either.

Nominations for new officers and board  
members are as follows; (\* indicates a  
change)

\*George Becker KC6UVM was nominated  
to replace Mike Beckers (no relation)  
K6YQO as club President.

\*Ron Seixas NY2B was nominated to re-  
place KC6UVM as Vice President.

Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO will remain as  
club Secretary.

Matt Stewart K6MES will remain our club  
Treasurer.

Gary Mork WA6WFC will remain Master  
at Arms.

Keith Hoyt K6GXO will remain our Trus-  
tee. (Appointed position)

\*David Haberman KN6FPS to replace  
Larry Mock KI6BKP as Board Member.

Dan Sherwood W6DAS to remain Board  
Member.

Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO will remain  
our Short Circuit Editor.

Bob Holland KG6GHQ will remain our  
club Historian. (Appointed position)

Minnie K9DOG will remain our beloved  
mascot.

Nominations will continue until the next  
club meeting on October 22 via Zoom at  
1930 hrs. Send your nominations to; treas-  
urer@K6OX.club for nominations and for  
memberships.

Presentation:

Oliver Dully K6OLI ARES LAX District  
Emergency Coordinator presented us with  
some excellent information about mesh  
networking. <edited>

Announcements;

Short Circuit articles are needed by October  
11, (Sunday).

Next exam is via ZOOM go to [https://  
glaarg.org/](https://glaarg.org/) for information on remote test-  
ing.

Next Board meeting is October 5 (Monday)  
1900 hrs via zoom. Go to offi-  
cers@k6ox.club for an invite. It will be the  
same link for the Thursday evening club  
meeting.

The next club meeting via ZOOM is Octo-  
ber 22, Thursday 1930, eyeball QSOs at  
1900. Our presenter will be Mark Hagan  
KM6IX Edwards A.F.B Environmental  
Management.

So far Baker to Vegas is set for March 27 &  
28 2021, we shall keep our fingers crossed  
for a green light.

Future presentations;

Our presenter for November 19 is Clint  
Bradford K6LCS with AMSAT.

Dianne Feinberg AI6DF a possible pre-  
senter for our December meeting.

Dennis Kidder W6DQ who co-authored  
'Arduino Projects for Amateur Radio' was  
recommended by a member to be a speaker.

Members checked in tonight; 15

no 50/50 drawing

Meeting adjourned at 21:33

### AVARC Board Meeting Via Zoom

October 5, 2020 1900hrs

Those present;

President Mike Beckers K6YQO Vice  
President George Becker KC6UVM

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## President...

valley, across the country, or overseas. Amateur ham radio operators are able to communicate and send messages on very limited power or even battery power with people around the world.

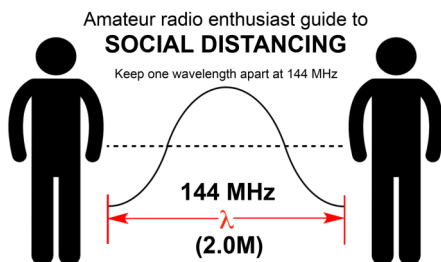
We amateurs are an important lifeline in the case of disasters. "When all else fails", there's amateur radio to get the messages through.

Meanwhile, as the COVID situation continues into October, we still need to adapt to this "new" way of life. October is normally the month where the club hosts "Anchors Away" night. This year, however, since we still don't have usage of the library for our meetings, there will be no "Anchors Away" program, and our meeting this month will be via Zoom.

There will also be no holiday party in December, and the meeting will most likely be held via Zoom, but stay tuned to keep up to date on the latest situation with when and how the meetings will be held.

Stay safe!

73,  
Mike K6YQO



## Secretary's Desk...

*(Continued from page 2)*

Treasurer Matt Stewart K6MES Board Member Dan Sherwood W6DAS

Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO Ron Seixas NY2B

Meeting called to order by President Mike Beckers K6YQO at 19:13 hrs.

Motion to approve minutes from previous board meeting as taken by Secretary AJ6HO Loretta A Smalls made by Dan Sherwood W6DAS and seconded by Vice President KC6UVM and majority vote.

Old Business:

Net schedule script will now include a 5 min. pre net announcement. We now have a schedule of net control which includes the following;

First Wednesday AJ6AF Betsy

Second Wednesday N6NQ Jon

Third Wednesday AJ6HO Loretta

Fourth Wednesday KC6UVM George

Fifth Wednesday if there is one is up for grabs.

Nominations for new officers and board members began last month. So far we have the following nominations;

KC6UVM George Becker will replace Mike Beckers K6YQO as President.

NY2B Ron Seixas is nominated at Vice President to fill KC6UVM's spot.

K6MES Matt Stewart will remain the club Treasurer.

AJ6HO Loretta A Smalls will remain the club Secretary.

WA6WFC Gary Mork will remain Master At Arms.

K6GXO Keith Hoyt will remain the Trustee.

W6DAS Dan Sherwood will remain Board Member.

KN6FPS David Haberman was nominated as Board Member

KG6GHQ Bob Holland will remain club Historian.

WA6YEO Adrienne Sherwood will remain the Short Circuit Editor.

K9DOG Minnie will remain our beloved club mascot.



To nominate anyone for a position as officer or board member send email to [treasurer@k6ox.club](mailto:treasurer@k6ox.club).

Voting will be finalized at the next club meeting which is October 22, 2020 via ZOOM at 1900 hrs.

New Business;

The Great Shake Out will take place this October 15, 2020 at 10:15 hrs and again on October 17, 2020 at 0930 hrs. Brian Basura N6CVO has emailed the Incident Action Plans to ARES members but there will be printouts available at the Fairgrounds this coming Saturday October 10.

New CW roundtable net on Thursdays except for the fourth Thursday which is our club meeting. It is at 1900 hrs on 3.530.000 and is well withing the band plan for all levels. If you are just learning CW, still a slow code, this net is for us.

Presentations;

This coming club meeting we have two possibilities. Mark Hagan KM6IX with Edwards A.F.B Environmental Management, Or a presentation by Mike Becker KCYQO who was asked to give a presentation of his wedding which was pretty fabulous sources say.

November 19 our presenter is Clint Bradford K6LCS who is with AMSAT about Satellite communications

Announcements;

Short Circuit articles are due by October 11.

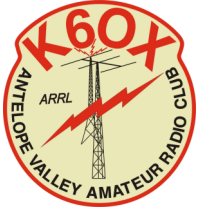
Next exam is via ZOOM by <https://glaarg.org/>

Next Board meeting is November 2 2020 1900 hrs. Email [officers@k6ox.club](mailto:officers@k6ox.club) or an invitation. The link is the same as for the Club meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 21.31

Respectfully submitted,  
Loretta A. Smalls AJ6HO  
AVARC Secretary





**Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2020 Officers**

<b>President</b>	Michael Beckers	K6YQO	805-906-9555
<b>Vice President</b>	George Becker	KC6UVM	488-6894
<b>Secretary</b>	Loretta Smalls	AJ6HO	350-7039
<b>Treasurer</b>	Matt Stewart	K6MES	264-4629
<b>Master-At-Arms</b>	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
<b>Board Member</b>	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
<b>Board Member</b>	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS	264-1863
<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  
 Post Office Box 1011  
 Lancaster, CA 93584-1011

Place  
 Postage  
 Here

**To ARS:**

