

The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

August 2021

President's Corner

George Becker KC6UVM

August has been known as the "Dog Days" of summer. Plagiarizing Farmer's Almanac: "The phrase is a reference to the fact that, during this time, the Sun occupies the same region of the sky as Sirius, the brightest star visible from any part of Earth and part of the constellation Canis Major, the Greater Dog. Therefore, Sirius is sometimes called the Dog Star." You all don't need me to tell you that it has been just too awful hot to get out during the daylight. The temperature in the back yard has been over 110 degrees. Remind me later, that I'll have to move the remote sensor out of the morning sun light into a shadier spot.

Before COVID (or BC), ham radio conventions were in person with vendors/swap meets, clinics and presentations. Then there were the Test Sessions and the comradery of meeting fellow Hams face to face. As I write my column and try to get over the question of writer's block before the rapidly approaching deadline of getting my creative writing to our Short Circuit Editor (Hi, Hi), the "New Normal" seems to be a virtual convention with online clinics and vendors. Most of the chat rooms were empty. In between errands in a very toasty car (thankfully the air conditioner works) and a Zoom meeting Saturday morning, I did somehow manage to get in a few sessions in the QSO Today Ham Radio Expo. It's just doesn't seem like the same BC.

The other thing found outside the convention would be the EM COMM groups. ARES, RACES/DCS and others set up with demonstrations of their comm trucks and trailers outside in the parking lot. With tall mobile towers and antennas. It's sad to think that the conventions might not be coming back anytime soon. The biggest issue is the cost of renting a convention

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Meeting Notice

This month's meeting will be held on **Thursday, August 26, 2021 at 7:30 PM**, via the Zoom online video app. Current members should have received the meeting invitation link via the email announcement of the December 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 plugins 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.

You won't want to miss the upcoming August 26th program. Our guest speaker will be **Bob Brammer KK6MSC**, a representative of the Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service or "DCS". Over 200 members of DCS serve Los Angeles County with back-up emergency communications from 26 radio rooms located throughout the County and in the field at special events and emergencies such as fires, mudslides or search & rescue.



Bob Brammer KK6MSC

From The Veep

Andy Gippetti W2AJG

Meet the Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service!

About our speaker;

KK6MSC Bob Brammer began volunteering with the Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service in 2014. He works out of the Lakewood Sheriff's Station serving the Lakewood/Long Beach area, including Catalina. Priorities for the station include weekly DCS drills, quarterly training programs and the use of digital modes like Winlink and NBEMS. DCS members in the Lakewood-Avalon region regularly interoperate with other DCS districts and active em-comm groups in the region.



From the Secretary's Desk



AVARC General Meeting July 24, 2022 via Zoom

President George Becker KC6UVM called meeting to order at 19:30 hrs.

Officers present;

President George Becker KC6UVM Vice President Andy Gippetti W2AJG Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO Trustee Keith Hoyt K6GXO Treasurer Matt Stewart K6MES Board Member Dan Sherwood W6DAS and Short Circuit Editor Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO and Minnie Ex Officio Mike Beckers K6YQO and Dianna K6DER and Presenter Dennis Kidder W6DQ

Others present;

Rodney KK6GOS Mark KJ6WML Steve KM6YOJ Craig KI6WYI Jed N6JED Brian N6CVO Lisa KF6QNG Ron NY2B and Becky N2JMT Gabriel KN6LRM Yoshio KE6ACH

Please folks, during any presentation, please be courteous and mute yourselves so that the speaker is not being distracted or interrupted. This makes for a pleasant presentation and all are able to hear and enjoy the information being disbursed.

The Presentation:

Dennis Kidder W6DQ gave an awesome presentation on the San Bernadino Microwave Society of which he is a member of as well as former President. The SBMS is one of the oldest Microwave groups in the country. There is so much information on this, and I encourage all of you to explore this very intriguing field of amateur radio. It opens up a whole new realm of radio signals, spectrums, and really neat microwave contests. Dennis shared the spectrum chart which was hard to see in the presentation for most of us old folks but that information is accessible.

Here are some links to the band spectrum;

<https://transition.fcc.gov/oet/spectrum/table/fcctable.pdf>

https://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/january_2016_spectrum_wall_chart.pdf

This is an area of amateur radio most of us are not familiar with, but as we learn more, we would love to hold an in person workshop to get more folks acquainted with this fascinating spectrum. So stay tuned (pun intended hi hi) as our AVARC expands our knowledge base, with the help of elmers like Dennis W6DQ and others as well. As microwaves become better known, and more utilized, it will open up an expanding market for easier, commercial made transceivers, transverters, and other equipment for those of us who are not engineers or scientists.

Here are a couple of links to AREDN and BBHN; <https://www.arednmesh.org/> or <http://www.broadband-hamnet.org/>. This is mostly about mesh networking which is a little bit different in that often all you need is a laptop, download some software, and a router but nonetheless still microwave bands.

AVARC Business:

The minutes of the June 2021 minutes as taken by Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO motion to approve made by Mike Beckers K6YQO and seconded by Vice President Any Gippetti W2AJG. Motion was approved by all present.

Treasurer's Report by Matt Stewart K6MES:

Checking: <as stated>
Cash on hand: <as stated>
Total: <as stated>
Club members: 49
ARRL percentage: 79.6%

Old Business:

We are still looking for a venue to have in person meetings, and live demos. Nothing beats seeing demos in person. Zoom is great but there are so many of us that really benefit from live presentations.

We could use more folks to take on the

Wednesday night net. If anyone would like to know more about how Newsline report is done, there are different methods and I would be happy to share mine. I downloaded a program called 'Audacity', and along with the signalink I use Audacity to play Newsline Report. It took me a few tries, a few mishaps, but I got it figured out. There are other ways though but that is the method that worked best for me.

New Business:

National Night Out in Palmdale is July 27 starting at 18:00 hrs. I will be bringing the two easy ups, two tables, and an HT. Dan W6DAS and Jed N6JED will be bringing their go kits. Hope to see all of you there at the Domenic Massari Park.

Some of us are going to the Owens Valley Radio Observatory on Saturday July 31, a step toward more club activities that we are trying to plan. Presentations such as this one tonight we hope will inspire more members to explore the many different aspects of amateur radio, including microwaves, and we will strive to have more in person events to help facilitate continued exploration.

Announcements:

Short Circuit articles are due by Aug. 15.

Next club meeting is Aug. 23 and our speaker (there will be two) Dennis Swink KI6NQG and Bob Brammer KK6MSC They are with DCS. Via Zoom eyeball QSOs 1900 hrs and the meeting itself is 1930.

Next board meeting is Aug. 2 via Zoom at 1900 hrs and all are welcome.

Ham testing via GLAARG on line but we are looking for a venue for our in person testing and meetings.

Future Presentations:

This month, August 26 we have Dennis Swink KI6NQG and Bob Bremmer KK6MSC presenting for DCS Disaster Communications.

September 23 will be DX Engineering presentation by Tim Duffy about grounding and

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President...

(Continued from page 1)

hall, the banquets and followed by an available location.

The good news is that our test sessions are coming back. The first test date will be on Saturday morning, about 9:00 AM on 9/11/2021 at the AV First Christian Church. We will be following the COVID-19 guidelines during the test session. And, since most of the board members and officers are VEs (and will probably be at the test session), this may be the first opportunity to have a face-to-face board meeting with most if not all in attendance. This subject of a board meeting after the test session will be brought up as a part of the agenda during the upcoming AVARC club Zoom meeting after the presentation.

Which now leads up to the subject of this month's club presentation: Our guest speakers will be Bob Brammer KK6MSC and Dennis Swink KI6NQG from Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service or what is known as "DCS." DCS volunteers serve Los Angeles County with back-up radio communications. The Zoom meeting will be August 26th, 2021, with a virtual eyeball QSO beginning about 1900 and the meeting starting at 1930. If you don't have the link to the Zoom meeting, please forward your request to officers@k6ox.club. See you then.

73,

George KC6UVM



Secretary's Desk...

(Continued from page 2)

bonding, and also first round of new elections.

October 28 we welcome back Dennis Kidder W6DQ who generously agreed to do a presentation on Radio Astronomy. This will also be the final second round of our AVARC officer and board member elections.

November 18 (one week before Thanksgiving) Steve Molo KI4KWR from Gigaparts will be discussing antenna analyzers.

December 16 (one week before Christmas) no speaker as of yet, but perhaps we can get Dianne Feinberg ARRL SW Division District Manager.

Other items:

Members checking in tonight 22
no 50/50 drawing
Meeting adjourned at 2125 hrs.

AVARC Board Meeting August 2, 2024 Via Zoom 19:00 hrs

Meeting called to order at 1901 by President George Becker KC6UVM

Those present: President George Becker KC6UVM Treasurer Matt Stewart K6MES Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO Board Member David Haberman AK6DH Ex Officio Mike Beckers K6YQO

Minutes from last month's board meeting motion to approve made by: Secretary Loretta A Smalls and seconded by

Motion approved by all present.

Treasurer's report by Matt Stewart K6MES:

Checking:	<as stated>
Cash on hand:	<as stated>
Total:	<as stated>
Total members:	49
ARRL percentage:	79.6%

Old Business:

No library yet, the church is still in serious doubt so we are on the hunt for a venue for our in person meetings. Suggestions are welcome. We will be call-

ing around at some of the American Legions, Elks Lodge, and VFAs. Lets hope for the best here, we all miss the in person camaraderie.

New Business:

National Night Out in Palmdale was successful for our tables. We had a lot of folks come over and talk to us about what we do and they even got to listen to Dan W6DAS conduct the ARES net including and NBEMS exercise. Thank you Dan and thank you Jed N6JED for bringing your go kits. Thank you all who helped set up and tear down, it was a lot of work.

The trip to the Owens Valley Radio Observatory was totally AWESOME. We started out with a presentation on radio astronomy, then a 'Walk Among the Stars' which was a small hike following the plaques with the planets and their moons. This was on the way to the 40 meter dish that we got to climb up to, look at all the cables and pulleys that operate this massive radio antenna, and get a wonderful view of the whole observatory. So awesome.

Announcements:

Our next general meeting is this coming August 26 with DCS speakers Dennis Swink KI6NQG and Bob Bremmer KK6MSC presenting for DCS Disaster Communications.

Our next board meeting is September 13, a bit later than normal but we deduced most folks might still be on Labor Day Vacations.

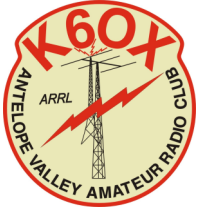
The September general meeting will be September 23 our first round of elections for officers and board members.

For the link to the zoom meetings send email request to officers@k6ox.club.

Future Presentations are the same as our club minutes. (See above)

The motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO and seconded by Treasurer Matt Stewart K6MES and approved by all present. Meeting was adjourned at 19:28 hours.

73 all,
AJ6HO AVARC Secretary
Loretta A Smalls



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2021 Officers

President	George Becker	KC6UVM	488-6894
Vice President	Andy Gippetti	W2AJG	433-2106
Secretary	Loretta Smalls	AJ6HO	350-7039
Treasurer	Matt Stewart	K6MES	406-5516
Master-At-Arms	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
Board Member	David Haberman	AK6DH	917-4594
Board Member	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS	264-1863
Trustee	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
Ex Officio	Michael Beckers	K6YQO	805-906-9555



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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To ARS:



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