

The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

February 2022

President's Corner

George Becker KC6UVM

Another month has come and gone. It's unseasonably warm outside for February as this column was written. Due to the COVID pandemic situation, the club has reverted to doing our meetings on Zoom

For those that missed last month's meeting, I will recap what was spoken during the President's presentation. We gave thanks to those who help out: Producing the Short Circuit, maintaining the club's web site and those that every Wednesday, run the Club net and transmit Newline Report. Previously, it was stated that our only income comes from the dues the members contribute to AVARC. Our operating budget has annual costs including paying for a postal mailbox, insurance and hosting a web site. AVARC is a nonprofit educational organization under IRS Part 501(c)(3). What contributions donated to this club may be tax deductible.

This club also participated in a ARRL convention every four years where we got most of our income. It does not look like there is going to be a local ham radio convention any time soon. In summary, your dues are due if you have not paid your membership. Although AVARC is not involved, there is an online convention with QSO Today Ham Expo March 12th and 13th 2022.

Amateur radio is all about self learning and experimentation in radio, electrical and electronics plus our hobby has branched out into other disciplines. How many hams out there have started learning about "additive manufacturing" or what is known as 3D printing. Volume 5, Chapter 23.9 of the 2022 ARRL Handbook has an introduction to 3D printing and CAD/CAM software. The basics of electrical and electronics for ham radio will be found in Volume 1. Subjects include basic electrical components and how to read schematics.

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Meeting Notice

This month's meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 7:30PM**, 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 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 feature our own **Margie Hoffman KG6TBR**, who will bring us the latest on the Baker 2 Vegas race. Our club has provided ham radio communications support to this event for many years, so this program will be of interest to everyone. See you there!



**Margie Hoffman KG6TBR
with Minnie Sherwood**

From the VEEP

Andy Gippetti W2AJG

Welcome to 2022

Here we are in February already and HAM radio events are going strong.

Several AVARC members have just completed the trek to Quartzsite, AZ for the annual QuartzFest HAM radio expo. The event was a fun time for all with great weather, mostly in the 70's. Many of us put up home brew antennas & tried our hand in the DX competitions. Our members of the GLAARG group provided HAM radio exams which was free for Vets, First Responders & minors. One of the highlights of the event this year was Brian (N6CVO) and Jed (N6JED) launching Pico balloons (5) during the event. Two of which are still afloat and one is on its second circle navigation of the earth.

Next week I head out to Yuma, AZ to attend the next HAM radio event. The Yuma HamFest is held February 18th and 19th but many of us head out there several days early to get a good camping spot for our RVs at the Yuma County Fairgrounds. The event is full of educational presentations and many high-end radio prizes are given out. I will have a full report next month.

Also, as a reminder to everyone, as of February 7th only 35 (non-life) members have paid their dues for 2022. If you have not paid your dues yet for this year, please do so ASAP. The renewal application form is on our web site.



From the Secretary's Desk



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club General Meeting

January 27, 2022 via Zoom 1900 hrs

Meeting called to order by President George Becker KC6UVM at 1930 hrs ringing in his second term as our Club President.

Those present; President George Becker KC6UVM Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO

New Treasurer David Haberman AK6DH who is taking over for Matt Stewart K6MES.

Trustee Keith Hoyt K6GXO Ex Officio Mike Beckers K6YQO

Others Present; Betsy AJ6AF Mark WW6ML Chuck W2QLH Christine KE0TIH Bud N1ROE With a special shout out and heartfelt thank you to Matt K6MES for being our Treasurer for so many years. Matt we hope you recover very soon, and wish you and Gloria KE6TZB (the zipper broke) all the best.

Many of our members are at Quartzite, AZ for Quartzfest and we expect a full report on the next club meeting HI HI.

Minutes from previous general meeting as printed in the Short Circuit; Motion to approve was made by Mike Beckers K6YQO and seconded by David Haberman AK6DH. All approved motion carries.

Treasurer's Report;

David Haberman AK6DH

Checking account: <As stated>
Cash on hand: <As stated>
Total: <As stated>

Membership Report: 56
ARRL members: 50 are ARRL members so we are at 89%

Expenditures The check to the church for our Christmas Party and the P.O. Box fee is paid up. Our expenditures for 2021

totalled \$918.00. We brought in \$451.57. We expect our expenditures for 2022 to be about the same but we are hoping to do better as far as income. We certainly did better in 2020.

Old Business:

January, February, and March will all be via Zoom. We will re-evaluate in March about use of the Quartz Hill Library, but to be honest as long as we will be needing reliable internet for some of our long distance presenters we may have to continue Zoom for now.

Now that the Short Circuit is out we need to make arrangements to go to the bank for signatures.

New Business:

We need an update on Gary Mork how he is doing and the status on mailing the P.O. Box key to David.

The Presentation:

Our President George Becker KC6UVM gave our State Of The Club Address tonight, and he did an excellent job of catching us up on our current status. He started us off on our own silent keys;

Dianne Beckers K6DER - Her memorial service is Saturday at the Halley Olsen Murphy Memorial on Cedar Ave. at 14:00 hrs.

John Isles K6RJC services will be on Feb. 12 11:00 hrs at the Faith Community Church 39100 10th St. West in Palmdale.

All of us give our condolences to those who are suffering those losses which are indeed insurmountable.

George also gave a shout out to our Net Control operators for our Wednesday evening net on 146.730 minus offset and PL of

100.00. We could still use someone to be NCS on the 4th Wednesday of the month, but so far our main NCSs are Betsy AJ6AF, Jon N6NQ, and Loretta AJ6HO. A very special shout out to Dan and Adrienne Sherwood who do a lot for us in maintaining the website, the mailing list, and our Short Circuit Newsletter. Thank you everyone for all you do.

Our expenses: Our webhosting expenses, our insurance which we need to maintain for our club activities, the Post Office Box along with other expenses which include the Christmas Party are recurring expenses. These expenses do not include unexpected expenses such as the repeater that we share ownership of with the Acton Agua Dulce Amateur Radio Club. Our projected expenses should be pretty similar if everything remains the same. Our income last year was significantly less than 2020. Hopefully 2022 will be a little bit better.

George also did an excellent job detailing where AVARC has been throughout our history as well as where we are going in the future. We generally resemble most other radio clubs in the way that we are an educational and general interest entity. Our main goal is to get others interested in amateur radio, especially our youth. Why? Because not only is it an excellent and very useful hobby, it is also an excellent way to encourage STEM activities. The most notable being the use for amateur radio in emergency communications. This is evident in how most of our members are also members of CERT, ARES, Skywarn, DCS, and other EMCOMM groups. We as a club definitely need to encourage more youth involvement, and it is our resolution to do just that.

There are many hams who in the past were CBers that moved up to amateur radio. They became DXers, contesters, and many stayed with CW skills, no doubt skills

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Secretary's Desk...

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learned during their years in the military. Nowadays however, many have moved on to mostly digital modes such as FT8, VARA, NBEMS, and more on the way. Morse code skills have taken a back seat but there are still many who are working to revive this still very relevant and historical mode of communications.

We also addressed the diversity, or lack thereof, in the hobby of amateur radio. Hams are mostly older white gentlemen, who are part of the 'Baby Boomer' generation now retired and have the time to devote to the hobby. I have noticed also that many of them have some type of technical background such as electrician, communications, or engineering. They bring valuable knowledge and skill to those of us who are still learning and easily get overwhelmed with some of the tech stuff. I can personally say I wish I had paid more attention in math and science growing up. This is all the more reason to try to attract more young people into the hobby, and get them involved in all the STEM courses that can help them excel not just in ham radio but in other technology careers not the least of which is learning how to read schematics.

That reminds me, George also mentioned that kit building is making a come back. The club could get more involved in group building. I checked the Radio Jove website that actually has a kit especially for youth to construct a radio astronomy kit but as of this writing they were still out. It does give us a good idea of other group builds perhaps even the club 10GHz equipment. *wink wink*. How about an antenna building event, or some other interests.

Which brings us to our Field Day

event coming up in June 24, 25 and 26 of this year. In the past Field Day was a big deal and members brought tents, campers, generators, and other camping equipment. They stayed up late, sometimes all night to make as many QSOs as possible. Last year we stayed only the one day. The heat overwhelmed many of us and our equipment and we shut down well before 17:00 hrs. Again this could be attributed to the age of many of us who are much more susceptible to adverse wx conditions. Sincerest thanks to our President George Becker KC6UVM for his very well done presentation.

Future Presentations;

February 24, 2022 will be Margie Hoffman KG6TBR to discuss Baker To Vegas which will be April 9 and 10.

March 24, 2022 our speaker will be Steve Molo KI4KWR from Gigaparts about antenna analyzers. We lost him last time on a zoom call, we still don't know what happened. We are going to give it another go, hopefully this time it all works out.

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles are needed by February 13 2022.

Next Club meeting is February 24, 2022 via Zoom.

Next exam is via zoom via GLAARG on line <https://glaarg.org/>.

Next Board Meeting is February 7, 2022 via zoom.

Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

February 7, 2022 Board Meeting via Zoom 19:00 hrs.

Board members present;

President George Becker; Vice President

Andrew Gippetti W2AJG; Treasurer David Haberman AK6DH; Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO; Master At Arms (not filled); Short Circuit Editor Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO; Board Member Dan Sherwood W6DAS; Board Member Larry Mock KI6BKP; Trustee (appointed) Keith Hoyt K6GXO; Ex Officio Mike Beckers K6YQO; Historian (appointed) Bob Holland KG6DHQ; Margie Hoffman KG6TBR; Mark W6WML

Meeting called to order at: 19:00 hrs

Motion to approve board meeting minutes from January made by Mike K6YQO and seconded by Larry KI6BKP. Motion was approved by all present and the motion carries.

Treasurer's Report;

David Haberman AK6DH

Checking account:	<As stated>
Cash on hand:	<As stated>
Total:	<As stated>
Membership Report:	
48 paid members including life members	
ARRL %	98%

Old Business:

We will conduct our Zoom meetings at least until after our March club meeting. We need reliable internet for our speaker who is going to be Steve Molo from Gigaparts. Secretary Loretta A Smalls will submit the request for the meeting room at the Quartz Hill Library for April and May.

Baker 2 Vegas is still a go and many of us are already signed up. If you are interested in joining the Baker 2 Vegas go to <https://www.radiobaker2vegas.org/volunteer-opportunities>.

New Business:

We need George, Andy, David, and Loretta

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Secretary's Desk...

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to go to the U.S Bank for the signatures. We need to choose a date that works with everyone and get this taken care of.

We will also be addressing how we accept dues and donations by perhaps using Zelle. The folks at the bank will be more than happy to help us with setting up this process. The best and easiest way to renew or sign up is always at our annual Christmas party.

A motion was made to enable folks to use Zelle for future financial transactions by Mike K6YQO and seconded by Dan W6DAS. Motion was approved by all and motion carries.

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR reminded us of our membership with the Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs. The motion was made to renew our membership in LAACARC <https://laacarc.org/>. The motion was made by Larry KI6BKP and seconded by Loretta AJ6HO. This was approved by all present and the motion carries.

Our Treasurer David Haberman recommended that we use Adobe for our on line fillable membership application that can be directly emailed or scanned then emailed. Most of us are familiar with this application as we have no doubt used it for taxes and other stuff like that. This will add just another option for current and new members to be able to choose what works best for them. Those that want to use the email option can just send the application to treasurer@k6ox.club. To use the snail mail option the address is on the above letterhead.

Announcements:

Short Circuit articles are needed by February 13.

Next Club meeting is February 24 eyeball QSOs 19:00 meeting at 19:30 via zoom.

Next exam is on line at <https://glaarg.org/>

Next AVARC board meeting is March 7 19:00 hrs via zoom.

The March club meeting is March 24 via zoom.

Future Presentations For 2022:

February 24 Margie Hoffman KG6TBR on Radio Baker2Vegas.

March 24 Steve Molo KI4KWR from Gigaparts on antenna analyzers. If for some reason this does not work out again, Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO will share the progress of the 10 GHz rig still in the making.

April 28 We will no doubt go over the Baker2Vegas event (depending of if it happens) photos would be great and perhaps, we can also get someone on board to do a presentation about reading schematics pertaining to ham radio equipment.

May 26 Open for suggestions, but we will no doubt go into great detail about Field Day which will be June 24, 25, 26. If all goes well we hope to get a speaker from the 'Youth On The Air' organizers to do a presentation. This may prove difficult with the time difference for some folks, especially any participating youth. We will keep you posted on this but hopefully we can do this before Field Day and invite more young folks to come to Rawley Duntley Park to observe our activities there.

June 23 Final preparations for Field Day 2022.

July 28 TBD but we may try to entice Brian N6CVO and Jed N6JED to do a presentation on their launch of PICO balloons from Quartzfest. That would be awesome.

Aug 25 TBD

Sept 22 TBD

Oct 27 TBD

Nov 17 Thanksgiving holiday early meeting schedule speaker TBD

Dec 16 Annual Christmas party early meeting schedule speaker TBD

We welcome any suggestions or tips for great presentations and club activities. We strive to keep interest in this hobby going and also interest in joining and staying with your local Amateur Radio Club.

Other Announcements:

Our club is set for Rawley Duntley Park for Field Day. We can start setting up Fri and overnight Friday and Saturday.

If you have not yet renewed you club dues please do so as soon as you can.

I just relocated my ham shack to a more permanent spot in the back yard and sometime later this year I would LOVE to invite members over to not only visit the small little shack but to also get on the radio. More details to come but I am so happy with my ham shack and want to share it with our club members. Keep in mind I do live in Lake Los Angeles.

Adrienne, our Short Circuit Editor is looking for interesting articles to post on our newsletter. If you have an item to share send it to shortcircuit@k6ox.club. Other contact info can be found at

<http://k6ox.club/contact.html>.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by George KC6UVM and seconded by Dan W6DAS and approved by all. Motion carries and **meeting was adjourned at 20:35 hrs.**

73 all

Your Secretary Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO

President...

Pictures from Quartzfest 2022

by Andy Gippetti W2AJG

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While reviewing a 1989 ARRL Handbook, the subject matter was similar but different. The theory was the same and the technology was older and electrical components were bigger in size. Chapter 32 had project information on a 10 GHz Gunnplexer.

For example, back in 1989, I owned a cell phone that was the size of two red bricks, had a BNC antenna connector and a full-size handset. Fast forward to 2022, my cell phone has more computer power than a Lunar Module that went to the moon and fits nicely in my shirt pocket like my old vinyl pocket protector. Hi, hi.

Looking back over the last 30 to 40 years brings up the topic of my request from the club members. The K6OX.CLUB web site only has Short Circuits archived back to about 2004. During the last board meeting, the subject of recovering and imaging the older short circuits was a topic of discussion. The board would like to request from the members to borrow your older Short Circuits, image them back onto the computer and post on the club's web site for everyone to read and enjoy.

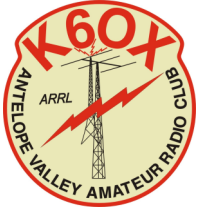
BTW, if someone needs to reach me, my cell phone number has changed. The new cell phone number can be found in the officers and board members contact list.

This month's club meeting will be on Zoom and will feature our own club member Margie Hoffman KG6TBR speaking about the Baker to Vegas marathon. Due to the COVID pandemic, the last couple of races were canceled. I hope to see everyone there on the Zoom meeting. Stay well.

73,

George KC6UVM





Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2022 Officers

President	George Becker	KC6UVM	478-0818
Vice President	Andy Gippetti	W2AJG	433-2106
Secretary	Loretta Smalls	AJ6HO	350-7039
Treasurer	David Haberman	AK6DH	917-4594
Master-At-Arms			
Board Member	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
Board Member	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS	480-5227
Board Member	Margie Hoffman	KG6TBR	297-6567
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
 Post Office Box 1011
 Lancaster, CA 93584-1011

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