

The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

April 2024

President's Corner

Andy Gippetti W2AJG



Hello everyone, at our last meeting Loretta Smalls, AJ6HO, gave a great demonstration on how Winlink communications works. We all learned a lot and hopefully sometime in the near future she could give us a second talk on some of the other features of Winlink.

Since my last attempt to do a POTA (Parks On The Air) activation was a complete failure, I was anxious to get out to another park and try again. So, a couple of weeks ago I traveled over to Saddleback Butte State Park to set up all my gear. The park was mostly empty and after I assembled my antenna a Park Ranger stopped by to see what I was doing. After a short explanation he left me alone and I unpacked all my radio gear on



one of the many covered picnic tables. After setting up everything and triple checking all my connections, I found that I had a good 1.4

SWR on 20 meters with my antenna setup. I then looked for a quiet, unused frequency on 20 meters and went to the POTA website to activate myself (www.parksontheair.com). The logging software I used was HAMRS on my iPad which worked exceptionally well allowing me to keep track of all the contacts I was making. After about an hour on the radio I had made 19 contacts, in 9 states and 3 park-to-park contacts. All in all, it was a much more successful day than my first attempt at POTA.

Our general meeting this month will take place on Thursday, April 25th and be held again at the VFW Hall in Quartz Hill. Todd Hall, from NOAA, will be returning to continue his presentation about everything weather & space. It is going to be a good one, see you all there.

Meeting Notice

Thursday April 25, is the next meeting of the AVARC at the VFW Hall in Quartz Hill, 4342 West Avenue L. 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 will be a hybrid meeting, both in person and on the Zoom online video app. Current members should have received the meeting invitation link via the email announcement of the previous month's 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 Todd Hall from NOAA, who will continue his presentation about weather, and how you can train to become a weather spotter. There is a great deal of interest in this program, and many of our members already participate, so you won't want to miss this meeting.



Todd Hall

From the VEEP

Loretta Smalls AJ6HO

My 24 GHz project

It is taking me a bit of time to accumulate all the components needed to assemble this 24 GHz system that will be added to the 10 GHz system on the IC-905. It is not the same as when I got my 10 GHz transverter from Downeast Microwave which was for the most part, already pre-assembled with everything in it. For the 24 GHz I have to assemble pretty much everything, including the Kuhne 24 GHz transverter, the LO, a relay that was made for me by Larry Johnston K6HLH and who also wired together the sequencer that I got a long time ago from Advanced Receiver Research.

The box I found to put all of this in is actually kind of small so I took a page out of the Downeast Microwave and put in some spacers on the sequencer and the relay to make it a double decker. Looks good doesn't it? I am sure proud of it. It is not elegant or anything but as long as it works I don't really care what it looks like. I have one shot at this to get it right so I am going to get a lot of help. If I

(Continued on page 3)

From the Secretary's Desk



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club General Meetings Agenda for March 28, 2024

**Quartz Hill VFW Post - 4342 W Ave. L
Quartz Hill 93536**

Meeting called to order at 7:36 PM
Pledge to the Flag.

Everyone please remember to sign roll
sheet.

Introduction of members present. 23
local, 5 Zoom

Introduction of everyone on Zoom

AVARC club business

Is there a motion to approve the minutes
as printed in the March 2024 Short Cir-
cuit?

Made by: Mike (Correction - Tonight's
presentation not listed)

Seconded by: Loretta

The motion was approved by the mem-
bers present. YES

Treasurer's Report - David Haberman AK6DH

Checking account: <on file>

Deposits: <on file>

Expenditures: <on file>

Cash on hand: <on file>

Total: <on file>

Life Members: 13

Total Paid Members: 35

Total Membership: 48

ARRL Membership: 90%

Does not include members renewing or
joining at the January or February meet-
ings. David not here.

Old Business

Continue discussion about this year's
Field Day - Rawley Duntley Park for
weekend.

We still need volunteers to step up & do
Net Control on Wednesday nights. Andy
recommends using a call sign "cheat
sheet". Copies available.

Dan Sherwood - Moving Club's Website
to new host. Not done yet.

New Business:

Possibly having another club to use our
Zoom Account (SRH RV Club)? Deferred
until September.

Future Presentations for General Meetings:

- Loretta Smalls AJ6HO

Thursday, April 25th - Todd Hall NOAA

Thursday, May 23rd - Field Day Discus-
sion (Field Day is June 22-23) / Bud NI-

ROE - JOTA

Thursday, June 27*h 2024 - Post Field Day
Discussions

SB Tuneup Party June 29 in Chino.

(SBMS)

Thursday, July 25th 2024 - Brian Basura -

Pico Balloons

August - POTA with Andy W2AJG

September - Nominations

November - Elections

Brian Basura did update on pico balloon
status from Quartzite. All three still up
having done six laps around the earth.

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles for April 2024 -

Needed by: 4/9

Next Board Meeting: Monday, April 8th

2024 7pm via ZOOM

Next Club Meeting: Thursday, April 25"

2024 Quartz Hill VFW Post

Briefing from LACARC to be done at

April meeting.

Any other discussion?

Margie - Used to do the net. Needs help
getting station ready.

David - Ham radio during eclipse. Test

propagation during eclipse transit.

Club Presentation

Loretta Smalls AJ6HO - Winlink Commu-
nication Demo

Larry gave pitch to support the VFW Na-
tional Home for Children. VFW very gen-
erous in hosting AVARC.

Motion to Adjourned by

Loretta / Seconded Mike

Meeting adjourned time: 8:52PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Sherwood W6DAS

Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Andy
Gipetti, President

Members present: Andy Gipetti W2AJG,
Brian Basura N6CVO, Loretta Smalls
AJ6HO, Dan Sherwood W6DAS.

Treasurers Report, (given by Andy)

Treasurer's Report - David Haberman

AK6DH

Checking account: <on file>

Deposits: <on file>

Expenditures: <on file>

Cash on hand: <on file>

Total: <on file>

Life Members: 13

Total Paid Members: 35

Total Membership: 48

ARRL Membership: 90%

Club Business:

Still need volunteers to step up and do Wed.
net control.

Microwave tune-up party June 29 given by
the San Bernardino Microwave Society at
Chino Hills Park, Chino. Time 8:30AM.
Cost \$10.

Loretta - Plans for a Radio Show & Tell
event scheduled for the month of Novem-
ber.

We have Rawley Duntley park for the entire
field day weekend.

Future AVARC Programs and other events:

Thursday, April 25th - Todd Hall NOAA

May 6 - AVARC Board Meeting via Zoom.

Thursday, May 23rd - AVARC Member-
ship meeting - Field Day Discussion (Field

Day is June 22-23) / Bud NIROE - JOTA

Thursday, June 27th 2024 - AVARC Post

Field Day Discussions and hot wash.

SB Tuneup Party June 29 in Chino. (SBMS)

Thursday, July 25th 2024 - Brian Basura -

Pico Balloons

August - Marcus KE6RHHV - Emergency

preparation and Artificial Intelligence.

September - Nominations of AVARC

officers.

November - Elections for AVARC officers.

December - AVARC Holiday Party.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Sherwood W6DAS

AVARC Secretary

From the VEEP ...*(Continued from page 1)*

break it I don't want to have to send it back to Germany for repairs.



Here in this photo, starting with inside the box is the Kuhne 24 GHz txvtr that is under

the sequencer. Next to that is the Kuhne Oscillator unit. In front of them in the blue is the relay module that Larry K6HLH made. There is one more thing that is going inside the box but is not here yet is the 10 MHz oscillo-quartz 8663 which will help the Kuhn LO remain stable and prevent drifting. At least that is my understanding of it as they attempted to explain it to me at the SBMS meeting. By the way, anyone interested in microwaving I encourage you to join this group, you will learn a lot. Okay, back on point, inside the box there is still some wiring to be done, and Larry K6HLH actually printed out a schematic for me to follow, and he made it very readable. Thank you Larry and thank you SBMS, I am confident I will have this ready by the tune up party in June.

Outside the box, in this photo are some very important pieces including the beautifully made, dual band feed horn chaparral style. There is the Ducommun tr relay that is going to be mounted outside the box connected to the Kuhne 24 GHz txvtr and to the feed horn, and the little tiny thing

We need you! Come be a weather spotter for the National Weather Service!
Brought to you by the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club
and the National Weather Service




NOAA NWS Skywarn Training



SKYWARN

Date: Thursday, April 25, 2024

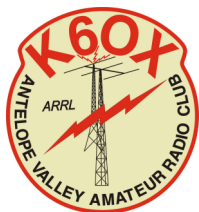
Time: 7:30 pm

Where: Quartz Hill VFW Post #3000
4342 W Ave. L

For more information, please contact the NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard at:
(805) 988-6610

is the WR-42 waveguide adapter for 24 GHz with SMA fe connection. So what I am waiting on now is the WR-42 waveguide, 90 degree male to male sma connectors, and the 10 MHz oscilloquartz. Then once I get all the components, there is the wiring and soldering to do, including PTT, 12v and ground, and of course the on/off toggles. So I have come a long way with this project but still have a bit to go before I am ready to test it out.

I have to admit that this project is quite a bit above my pay grade but not only am I using my brain to learn electronic stuff, I am also learning to think outside the box when it comes to putting this stuff together. I have learned to use tools, make better measurements, and come up with ideas on alternatives when something doesn't quite work out. I still need to improve soldering skills though. I will keep you guys posted on how this is going but so far, fingers crossed, so good.



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2024 Officers

President	Andy Gippetti	W2AJG	433-2106
Vice President	Loretta Smalls	AJ6HO	547-7571
Secretary	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS	480-5227
Treasurer	David Haberman	AK6DH	917-4594
Master-At-Arms	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
Board Member	Brian Basura	N6CVO	268-6061
Board Member	Mike Beckers	K6YQO	805-906-9555
Trustee	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
Ex Officio	George Becker	KC6UVM	478-0818



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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 Lancaster, CA 93584-1011

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