
The Short Circuit

<http://www.avarc.av.org>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

January 2012

President's Corner

Larry Bianchi KG1B

And they're off and running ..

Yes .. it is the start of yet another new year! By now I presume that things have settled down recovering from the 'Holidays'. I hope that they were fun that you aren't too far in debt. And as we contemplate the beautiful clean year that lies ahead, I hope that nothing but the best befalls each and every one of us!

And within the club, we have a chance to look at things with a fresh set of eyes and makes decisions and suggestions to raise the level of our club. As your President, I will work hard to continue the direction that our predecessors have set in motion. I am honored to have Margie KG6TBR as our Ex Officio and to take advantage of her counsel.

There are events coming up within the first 6 months of the year. First of all .. there is Baker to Vegas (B2V). This is an annual event featuring a relay race of about 120+ miles from Baker to Las Vegas. This event will be on April 21st and 22nd. The race is setup in stages and we annually man the 15th stage. Communications is an extremely important function of the race and we have done an excellent job in our duties.

Also that same weekend is the Visalia DX Convention. If you are interested in expanding your ability in Dxing (Long Distance Hamming), then you might want to look into this event.

We also have participated in the MS

(Continued on page 3)

Meeting Notice

Thursday, January 26, is the next meeting of the AVARC at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Lancaster City Hall, 44933 N. Fern Ave. in Lancaster. Talk-in is available on the Hauser Repeater (146.73 MHz. PL 100) if you need directions.

This month's meeting will feature ARRL SW Division Vice Director **Marty Woll N6VI**, who will bring us up to date on the latest doings from ARRL. Marty is a frequent visitor to our club, and has attended our Field Day several times. He also spoke at several meetings of the Palmdale City Council regarding the antenna ordinance. Marty is a good friend of our club, and is a very interesting speaker, and his presentations are always enjoyable.

Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for a very interesting and informative meeting.



Marty Woll N6VI

From The Veep

Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC

Hi out there. I hope that you all had a happy and safe holiday season this year (OSHA and political correctness require the "safe" part). Before I get to the meat of this month's article, let me introduce myself. My name is Paul L'Heureux, closest English pronunciation would be "LaRue", and I was born in Southbridge, MA in 1948. Ended up in CA in 1964 and became a Novice in 1993. Became a General Class ham in '96 but never used my privileges till 2010 when I got on the HF band during Field Day at the GOTA station. I was hooked. At the beginning of 2011, I set up a little HF station in a corner of the garage and I now have 2 QSL cards. I'm on my way to DXCC! I realize that this is a pretty short bio but I want to get to the important stuff.

My main areas of concern this year are to publicize the club in the A.V. which will increase membership and secondly, I want to find us things to do to keep these new members and ourselves coming back. The great thing about amateur radio is the variety of things we can do. The bad thing about amateur radio is the variety of things we can do. Huh? Ham radio is mostly a solitary hobby, that is, Keith operates alone from his QTH, Dan operates alone from his QTH and so on. The variety in the way we each operate makes it difficult to meet the interests of everyone in the club. One advantage that we have is a decent sized membership base. If we decide to have a T-hunt, for example, and a dozen people show up, we would probably con-

(Continued on page 5)

From the Secretary's Desk



AVARC General Meeting December 15, 2011

**Opening: Margie Hoffman, President – KG6TBR 6:51pm
Flag Salute/Indroductions were held.

Note: At the last Board Meeting, it was approved by your Officers and Board Members that tonight's meeting will be strictly a Holiday Party. And so tonight, the Minutes from last General Meeting, Treasurer's report, Membership reports have all been waived until the January meeting in which Larry KG1B will take over as your new Club President. He will give a "State of the Club" address, which will include the information as updated at the next Board Meeting that will take place on Thursday, January 5, 2012.

Thanks to Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO for playing her Harp for us this evening.

Old Business: Margie's final address to the AVARC Club standing as their President for 2011:

"I have served as an Officer in this club for six years to date having begun for two years as your Secretary, two years as the Vice President and finally that last two years as your President of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club.

I have enjoyed every minute of it. It has been a great experience and opportunity for me to become involved as your leader and at the same time to get to know many of the hams that make up this commu-

nity of amateur radio enthusiasts. I would like to thank my Officers and Board members for working with me this year and to let them know that I think they have all done a tremendous job in leading this club."

Acknowledgement of past Officers and Board Members.

Larry Bianchi KG1B, Dan Sherwood WA6PZK, Dan Rowlan KG6PQA, Gary Mork WA6WFC, Gary Barr WA6TWT, Larry Mock KI6BKP, Jon Clark N6NQ, Keith Hoyt K6GXO.

Thanks also went to thank Adrienne Sherwood WA6YEO for Editing the Short Circuit, and Larry Smith WB6JIQ and Rene Venetz KJ6MOO for assisting in Net Control.

BREAK: A wonderful potluck dinner was enjoyed by all. Plenty of food, especially main dishes, to go around. Nobody left this meeting hungry.

Guest Entertainer this Evening: The Dazzling Magic & Entertainment of Brian Hoffman

This was a fantastic performance. Brian has performed magic since childhood, and has worked professionally on numerous occasions.

(Brian is also KI6LUE, and is Margie's son)

● Raffle Drawing: Numerous prizes were given out. Almost everyone walked away with something. The main prize, the 20-amp power supply was won by Larry

Mock, KI6BKP

● Meeting Adjourned: 8:50pm. Room cleanup followed.

Next General Meeting - January 26, 2012

Secretary's note: This will be my last submission as my term as Secretary. It has been a pleasure to have served the Club, and I wish the best to the incoming Board in 2012. 73, Dan WA6PZK

AVARC Board Meeting 5 January 2012

The AVARC board meeting was called to order by Margie (outgoing President) at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Margie Hoffman KG6TBR (Ex-Officio), Larry Bianchi KG1B (President), Paul L'Heureux KD6SMC (Vice-President), Lou Figueroa KA6VVD (Secretary), Larry Mock (Board Member), Gary Barr WA6TWT (Board Member/Membership), Gary Mork WA6WFC (Master-At-Arms), and Keith Hoyt K6GXO (Trustee), Larry Mock KI6BKP (Board Member), Dan Rowlan KG6PQA (Treasurer), Dan Sherwood W6DAS (Past Secretary).

1. A short ceremony was held in which Margie turned over the President's Gavel to the new 2012 AVARC President Larry. A welcome was given to the new officers of the club, Paul VP and Lou Secretary. Larry M, Gary M, Gary B, and Keith continue to serve the club in their respective positions.

(Continued on page 3)

President's Corner...

(Continued from page 1)

Walk which takes place in Lancaster. More details will become available as we draw closer to this event.

And then there is Field Day which will be the final weekend of June (23rd and 24th) at the Lancaster City Park. This will be a different year than what we have had in the past. I will elaborate on this at a later date. We are also looking for a Field Day Chairman, so if you would like to volunteer, you can email me (Strad3@Hotmail.com) or phone me (818 237-0706).

Please feel free to email or call me with any questions, concerns or suggestions whether they are about the club in general or with about Ham radio. If I can answer your concerns, I will. If I can't, I will find the answer and get back to you!

Again, I am excited about the new year that is upon us. I look forward to doing things with the club and having a lot of fun doing them. I think the most operative word in Ham Radio is 'FUN'. It indeed is a hobby and a lot has come and will continue to come as we invest the time and passion that is Ham Radio!

I think I have spent my 2 cents worth .. so I will see you on January 26th at the Lancaster EOC. Also remember that we also have a pre-meeting get together at El Toreo on the Southeast corner of 10th West and Ave L. Come and join us and ..

Happy Hamming!

73,
Gary KG1B

Secretary's Desk...

(Continued from page 2)

2. Treasurer's Report: Dan Rowlan reported that we presently have \$3171.05 in the bank.

3. Larry B., Paul, and Lou will meet to meet at U.S. Bank with Dan Rowlan to sign the new signature cards for the club checking account. The meeting is scheduled for Friday, 20 January 2012 at 1030.

4. Adrienne asked Margie to announce the deadline for articles submittal to the newsletter for this month is Monday, 16 January 2012. In the future all articles must be submitted the Sunday before the week before the General Business Meeting.

5. Field Day (FD): Margie read the by laws concerning the selection of a FD Chairman/person. The rules state the chairman/person is selected by the Club President and approved by the members of the board. The FD Chairman/person must present a plan to the board by March board meeting. The stipulate the plans must be submitted for approval three months prior to FD.

6. Membership: a) Gary B reported at present time we have 40 members that have not renewed their membership. He did receive 6 renewals. Gary presented the treasurer with \$308.00 in checks and \$140.00 in cash for the 2012 membership renewals. b) Gary reported the prices for the badges have dropped to \$4.00 each. He would like to make a change to the membership form that reads that the badges are \$4.00. Motion was made by Gary B and seconded

(Continued on page 4)

Swap Shop

HF RIG FOR SALE

Kenwood TS-940AT Transceiver, including built-in antenna tuner. Rig works perfectly, and has been very reliable. Asking \$650.00 or best offer. If interested, please contact Dan Sherwood, WA6PZK.

(661) 264-1863
wa6pzk@sbcglobal.net



RADIO FOR SALE

For Sale: Icom 275A 25W Base Station All-Mode Radio SSB-FM \$350.00

Ron Hammel K6WLC
661-810-3386



YOUR AD HERE

If you have something to sell, or are looking for something to buy, you can run your ad in the Short Circuit free of charge! Clean out your shack, and reach an audience of your fellow hams! Send your ad to the Short Circuit editor at wa6yeo@sbcglobal.net, or call Adrienne at 661-264-1863.



Secretary's Desk...



(Continued from page 3)

by Dan to make the changes to the form. A vote was made and agreed by all to have Gary B make the change.

7. President Larry thanked Dan Sherwood for all he and Adrienne have done for the club in the past years. He also thanked Margie for all of her hard work as past president and now his advisor as Ex-Officio. Keith and his wife Edmee were also thanked for gracefully sharing their house for our board meetings. Larry also thanked all members that have accepted board member positions and those that continue to serve the club as they can.

8. Around the Room:

a) Dan Sherwood announced that he will continue to serve the club and community by coordinating the VE testing (ARRL). He does require help and would appreciate members to become involved. As for HAM classes, Dan requires at the minimum of 10 students and a venue to hold that many students or more. Dan also reminded the board that we need to begin a push for station operators during FD. Quote: "Don't wait for the last minute."

b) Paul has some great ideas for the club to get more face time with the public. He would like to do some research in to the possibility of setting up a booth at the AV Fair and Poppy Festival. He would like to invite the various Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Boy Scout troops to observe and learn about HAM operations. Paul also

suggested the restart of T-Hunting events by our club. And don't forget the Bar-B-Q for our family events. Gary B discussed the idea of sending out an electronic copy of Newsletter to as many HAMS in the AV as possible. He would like to send him the names and call signs of any new hams in the area if you should know of any.

c) Keith reminded all that the club trailer is stationed at his house and is available at any time for club general use or emergency requirements. The trailer contains a step IR vertical antenna (per Dan R, we may want to mount permanently), a generator, RF filters and several other items to make it functional. Keith stated that he is not always available. Should the club need the trailer, especially in an emergency, having an alternate equipment custodian should be considered. A complete inventory of the equipment should be made and cataloged as a matter of record. The trailer should also be inspected and preventative maintenance performed. Larry B said that this will be an agenda item for next month's Board meeting.

d) Margie made a recommendation that a contract for checking out the trailer should be developed. The contract would make the user aware they are responsible for the trailer and any damages occurred during its use. Margie also reported that a club owned hand held radio and some other equipment are missing and need to be returned. Margie also recommended that we review the listing of sponsors on our website and remove those that no

longer apply. Margie also reminded the board that Dan R needs to look at all of the paperwork we have for our non-profit status; and to verify it with the information located on the State of California, Secretary of State for Domestic Non-Profit website. Dan also needs to check the club information on the ARRL site to verify officers, numbers, and current copy of our By-Laws are up to date. Note: We are a 501(C)3 non-profit organization.

e) Larry M announced that CERT on-line training is now available at AVCERT.org. The key members for the AV CERT now realize that HAM radio is an asset for emergency communication.

f) Dan R made a recommendation for the club to buy a projector to be used for our presenters. Margie was selected to conduct research as to types, cost, and durability and to submit her recommendations at the next board meeting. The projector that the club was using belongs to Dan S. Although Dan said we could use it, he would have to be present to set it up.

g) Gary B informed the board when making purchases at AMAZON.COM to please use the link from the TANA Foundation (found on every email sent out by Gary). The foundation receives a donation for purchases made via the TANA Foundation link.

Meeting Adjournment: Motion made by Dan R and seconded by Gary B. Meeting ended at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lou Figueroa KA6VVD
AVARC Secretary 2012

From the VEEP...



(Continued from page 1)

sider that a successful club outing. The same is true of a public service event such as the MS Walk-a-thon. A dozen people might fill the needs of the MS organizers. The challenge here is to find club activities that get us together as a club at times other than the monthly meeting so that our hamming 'needs' can be met and friendships formed and nurtured. I mean, what's the point of being in a club in the first place? Sure, we join to learn the nuts and bolts of this hobby that we have developed a passion for. But mainly, we belong to meet folks who share the same passion as us and speak the

same language.

I want your input. Ok, let's be honest, I need your input. Old (figuratively speaking) Extra Class, and new Technician Class hams, I need to know what you want from YOUR club. Give me your thoughts and ideas. Do you want the same type of program at the meetings or would you prefer something different? Do you want a monthly field trip? Got any ideas where we could go? The ARRL convention is in CA this year. Are you interested in going as a group? Would you be interested in a club picnic, with our families and not ham related since most don't speak

the language anyway, as a way of getting to know each other better? I have set up a new e-mail for myself for club related correspondence. It's my call sign; kd6smc@yahoo.com. You can also call me on my cell phone at 661 305-1838. Since I work nights and try to sleep days, you'll probably get my voice mail, but I will return your call. Till next month,

73's
Paul KD6SMC

2012 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention

in conjunction with

Yuma Hamfest & Arizona State Convention

Feb. 17 & 18, 2012

Yuma County Fairgrounds
 2520 East 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona

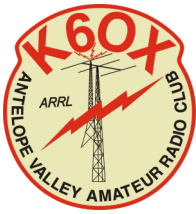
www.yumahamfest.org



Vendors & Exhibitors
 Consignment Sales
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 \$5.00 Admission

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 On-site RV Camping
 iPad 2 Admission Prize
 Emergency Preparedness

Full Seminar Schedule
 DXCC Card Checking
 Grand Prizes worth \$10K
 Free Parking
 Food Concession
 Antenna Clinic & T-Hunt



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2012 Officers



President	Larry Bianchi	KG1B	(818) 237-0706
Vice President	Paul L'Heureux	KD6SMC	267-1391
Secretary	Lou Figueroa	KA6VVD	(760) 373-8920
Treasurer	Dan Rowlan	KG6PQA	944-1123
Master-At-Arms	Gary Mork	WA6WFC	948-8317
Board Member	Gary Barr	WA6TWT	946-2717
Board Member	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
Trustee	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
Ex Officio	Margie Hoffman	KG6TBR	297-6567

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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