
The Short Circuit

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

The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

July 2011

President's Corner

Margie Hoffman KG6TBR

Six months have passed in the year 2011 and we survived another Field Day. I hope you all had a chance to come out to the park and participate in this year's occasion. One little fellow, who could not wait to get to the GOTA station was my 5½ year old grandson, Zachary. He has been coming to each Field Day since he was born. Last year made such an impact on him that he has been asking me for months ahead to tell him when he could come and talk on the radio. He showed up at the park on Saturday afternoon with his family, and with a great big smile on his face and tons of enthusiasm! He couldn't wait to make a contact and with the help of the GOTA Captain, Dan Rowlan KG6PQA, and Gramma Margie (that's me), his Great Aunt Addie WA6YEO, Great Uncle Danny WA6PZK and his father, Brian KI6LUE, he recited over and over "CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, this is K6OX, Field Day". He was beginning to get disappointed as there really was not a lot of traffic. Finally, his father Brian got an idea, ran over to Uncle Dan's station and asked if he could hear Zach and make a contact with him. Of course, we knew that it wouldn't be a real contact that we could count as the GOTA station. You can't count another station at the same Field Day site, but we thought that Zach wouldn't notice and would be thrilled to make a QSO. Just as they finished the contact, Dan said, "Well, good talking to you Zach, 73", Zach said "73" and turned around to his father and said sternly "That was Uncle Danny!" He was too smart for us, because it took him only seconds to realize that a contact wouldn't know his name just like that. After a few more minutes, he said "Well, I'm not getting any responses, so I'm done here." We all chuckled with that 25¢ comment coming from a 5 year old future ham. We explained to him that talking on DX requires much patience, to which he replied: "I sure had fun and I can't wait to

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Meeting Notice

Thursday, July 28, 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. The eyeball QSO starts at 7:00 pm, and the meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

This month's meeting will feature our own **Margie Hoffman KG6TBR**, who will bring us a very entertaining presentation about her recent DXpedition to Curaçao. You won't want to miss this one, so mark your calendars and join us!



Margie Hoffman KG6TBR

From The Veep

Larry Bianchi KG1B

Like sand through the hourglass .. so are the QSO's of our lives!

Once again we come to the end of another Field Day! It never ceases to amaze me how fast time goes! Seems like only yesterday we were sitting around with all of this time on our hands planning for Field Day .. and then .. whoosh .. it is over!

There were a lot of very good things about Field Day this year. We had the new club from Acton/Aqua Dulce (AADARC) join us. We had more than ample power. A lot of hams volunteered to help with generators. And .. the temperature wasn't overbearing. We also had some very good help setting up and tearing down. I believe that we were completely done and out of there by 2pm! Not bad! So to all that helped .. a very big THANK YOU!

To quickly summarize our FD Points:

Total QSO's:	950
Total QSO Points:	2504
Total Bonus Points:	1330
Total FD Points:	3834

Not too bad! If anyone would like a finer breakdown, please contact me at 818 237-0706 or email me at KG1B@ARRL.net and I will be very happy to send you the breakdown!

Good .. now we can put FD to rest .. at least for another year or so! There are plans in the works for doing a couple of things differently next year .. but ENOUGH ALREADY!

So .. now what shall we talk about? Ah yes! This month, our speaker will be none other than our president Margie Hoffman KG6TBR. She will be speaking on her DXpedition to Qurosell, Kurocel .. oh heck how do you spell it? Ah yes Curaçao! It will prove to be a very entertaining evening. And we should be having some guests join to see our club and hear Margie's presentation!

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From the Secretary's Desk



AVARC General Meeting 6/23/2011

Meeting called to order at 07:31 by Margie, KG6TBR
 Flag salute and member introductions.
 Members and guests present: 24
 Treasurer's report – balance is \$3349.06
 Minutes in short circuit: Corrections made. Moved, WA6TWT, Seconded by Larry, KG1B. Approved by majority.
 Announcements: Ralph, AB6WZ announced post office 20th West has IRC's. Keith Hoyt elaborated on the use of IRC in DX QSLing.
 Next VE Session – Sat. July 9, 2011. GLAARG 9:00 AM.
 August Test Session - August 8 instead of Aug. 1.
 New Business: FIELD DAY
 Setup 6/24 12:00 PM. Lancaster City Park.
 Margie talked about the video by Time Warner about Field Day, made by Larry and Margie.
 Margie went over various ways of earning points for bonus activities at Field Day. Eugene and Carol Humpherys will teach a J-pole class. This is worth 100 points as FD activity.
 FD will end when the park is cleaned up and all gear off the park. Help needed in setup and teardown. Station captains to direct operation, will need help. Members to share station operation.
 Participants need to provide for themselves – food, water, chairs, etc.
 No common BBQ at the event. Bring own food.
 Dan Rowlan – Ready to go with GOTA Station. Callsign K6A.
 Larry Bianchi – We will run 4A. Band activity needs to be coordinated.
 Sheri Marquez – Lancaster City Council member will be there.
 Club trailer not into park until 6:00 PM.
 Kudos to Paul in distributing publicity. WA6PZK to pick up club trailer.
 Other Business: Margie – HAMCON pre-registration extended to the end of June.
 50/50 - \$15.00 Gerry Anderson, W6GWA
 Adjourned at 8:33 PM

AVARC Board Meeting 7/7/2011

Meeting called to order at 19:12 by Margie, KG6TBR
 Members and Guests Present: KG6TBR, WA6YEO, WA6TWT, KG6PQA, KG1B, WA6WFC, WA6PZK, K6GXO
 Treasurer's Report: \$3133.49 in bank.
 Membership: 114 members. Two new members noted. One new member's information corrected in the database.
 Old Business: Margie – Field day followup. Logs need to go to Larry. Missing log from the CW station. Dan Rowlan used the rebuilt old generator trailer into a tower trailer. Need to use the bandpass filters next time, they were inadvertently forgotten. The never got distributed. We were joined by the Acton / Agua Dulce Radio Club for the first time this year. The membership of the Acton club were very helpful in setup and tear down. Margie suggested better integration of both groups during the course of the event in the future, rather than operating separately.
 Margie and Larry appeared on the Channel 3 Time Warner on June 16.
 Palmcaster Equipment now charges \$73.80 for the rental of the tables. United site services charged us \$163 for the rental of the porta potty. The unit worked poorly as the flush mechanism plugged up the drain immediately. Margie recommends the use of a plain one-holer chemical toilet. Keith had an issue with the bill for the toilet. He feels we were over charged on some of the fees involved with the toilet's rental. Keith suggests to Larry to follow up on explaining some of the charges on United Site Services invoice. No official BBQ this year. The large get-together was missed this year.
 New Business:
 Margie – Published net schedule for Newline and net control. Need more Newline operators, and net controllers. Too many people doing multiple jobs. Ways to streamline and improve operations were discussed. Margie suggested to Larry possibly getting the LDS

Storehouse net to move to a slightly early time to allow timely start of AVARC net.
 WA6PZK – Mentioned Palmdale City Council meeting Aug. 3. Richard Kite of Palmdale Planning has presented no revisions of the ordinance.
 K6GXO – Question to Larry about future meetings. August will be KG6TBR on her DXpedition. No speakers firmed up after that. Keith suggested contacting LAACARC for finding speakers. Margie suggested Larry contact Skip Bolnick about speaking on antennas.
 Margie – reminded us that nominations come up in September and October.
 Keith – How do we align ourselves with ARES?
 Margie – Next LAACARC meeting, July 12 at Lulu's in Van Nuys, 7:00 – 9:00 PM.
 Adrienne – Next test session Saturday 7/9 at 0900 with GLAARG. First Christian Church in Lancaster.
 Margie – Next Board meeting Aug. 4. Gary Mork moved to cancel the meeting due to lack of people being there. Dan Rowlan seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
 For August, we will meet before the General Meeting on Aug. 25, (Combined August and September Board Meeting).
 Adrienne – Short Circuit Deadline, Sunday July 17.
 Motion to adjourn - Keith, Second Gary Mork. Carried.
 Meeting closed at 20:34.

Respectfully submitted,
 Dan Sherwood WA6PZK
 AVARC Secretary 2011



President's Corner...

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come back next year!" We can't wait until next year either, Zach!

I attended the LAACARC meeting last week and according to the other clubs' feedback from their Field Day activities, we actually had quite a lot more QSO's than a lot of others. Whether or not we scored high or low on the list really doesn't matter in the long run. What was important was that this year, we had a lot more participation with the help of newer members and of course the Acton Club members joining us this year. They were a great asset helping set up the equipment and tearing down, which is always a huge job. On Sunday, we were actually leaving the park by 1:30 pm, several hours earlier than in past years. The weather also was good to us with the temperatures down about 20 degrees.

Just a heads up, we are skipping the board meeting on August 4 due to a lot of us will be out of town. The meeting will be held just prior to the general meeting on August 25, and as always, the meetings are open to any members or guests who would like to attend and see what goes on when the officers and board members get together to discuss the status of our club.

One thing to remember is that in September, we will be taking

nominations for officers and board members for 2012. The elections are held in the month of October, so please search yourself and see what or how you can contribute and be involved in the AVARC for 2012.

Once again, don't forget, the ARRL Southwest Division Hamcon 2011 will be held at the Torrance Marriott South Bay Hotel. The registration is still open for you to get a discount on your entry fees if you register on line for a chance to get into the hourly drawings. The convention runs from Friday, September 9 to Sunday the 11th. Be sure to go to the web page at www.hamconinc.org to register and get all the information.

73,
Margie KG6TBR



From the VEEP...

(Continued from page 1)

As our year winds down, we will be electing new officers and board members. Nominations will be during our September and October meetings, with the elections during our October meeting.

I personally would like to thank Margie KG6TBR for the excellent way she has lead our club. She is always looking to improve our club and provide us as members, things that would help us enjoy our hobby more than we are already!

So .. thank you Margie, you have been a joy to work for and the club is better now than when you became president 2 years ago.

Well .. that about wraps it up for now! Hope your summer is enjoyable and fun! Let's not forget HAMCON coming up in September!

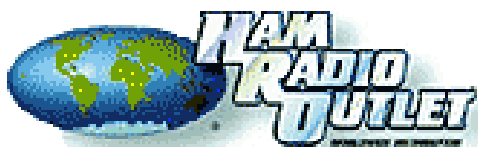
Happy Hamming!

73,
Jay KG1B

HAMS STILL NEEDED FOR GORMAN RALLY

Gorman still needs a few more hams and traditionally we have had a good group of AVARC folks work it (and already do, actually, for this year).

It's Saturday, August 27 out of Frazier Park, as usual. Mid-rally BBQ free for workers! Cooler weather at 4,000 feet! Folks need to sign up at <http://www.rallydata.com> with their password (or sign up if they're new) and specify whether they can work day, evening, or both.



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GREAT SPEAKERS

Luncheon Rod Stafford, W6ROD, IARU Secretary - “What’s new at the IARU”

Banquet Dr. Jay Jones, WB9FPM - “Amateur Radio, Past, Present & Future?”

Breakfast YLDXC “Team Curacao” - Share their story of an all YL DXpedition.

AND MORE WITH TOPICS TO INTEREST ALL LEVELS OF COMMUNICATIONS ENTHUSIASTS.

MEET & GREET

Join us Friday night for a HAM Social to catch up with all your friends, then plan on stopping by the hall tables to learn more about area clubs & special radio operators that support & sponsor ham radio activities, community service & disaster preparedness.

VENDOR HALL

61 booths full of vendors showcasing the latest radios, accessories, gadgets for all your communications & amateur radio needs.

FOR INFORMATION UPDATES & THE LATEST NEWS

VISIT : HAMCONINC.ORG

Antelope Valley Volunteer Examiner Team 2011 Amateur Radio Exam Schedule

Session	Date	Day	Time
GLAARG	1/8/2011	Saturday	9 A.M.
GLAARG	2/7/2011	Monday	7 P.M.
ARRL	3/5/2011	Saturday	9 A.M.
GLAARG	4/4/2011	Monday	7 P.M.
GLAARG	5/7/2011	Saturday	9 A.M.
ARRL	6/6/2011	Monday	7 P.M.
GLAARG	7/9/2011	Saturday	9 A.M.
GLAARG	8/8/2011	Monday	7 P.M.
ARRL	9/3/2011	Saturday	9 A.M.
GLAARG	10/3/2011	Monday	7 P.M.
GLAARG	11/5/2011	Saturday	9 A.M.
ARRL	12/5/2011	Monday	7 P.M.

Exam location:

Antelope Valley First Christian Church
1702 East Ave. J, Lancaster, CA (Across the street from
the Eastside Wall Mart).

Please enter parking lot off the end of the cul-de-sac
17th Street East, enter the classroom annex, and look for
the "FCC Exams" sign outside the correct classroom.

Monday Nights: Please do not disturb the A.A. group or
other groups that may be using the facilities.

Dates/times may be subject to change.

GLAARG testing fee is \$4.00.

ARRL testing fee is \$15.00

Swap Shop

TUNER FOR SALE

MFJ-993B automatic antenna tuner in like-new condition, complete with instruction manual and 12-VDC adaptor. I paid \$289.90 and am selling it at \$100. It let me use my 4-band Windom successfully on 8 bands. I just installed an 8-band antenna, so tuner is not needed here.

Bill Welsh W6DBB
948-8493

RADIO FOR SALE

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

Ron Hammel K6WLC
661-810-3386

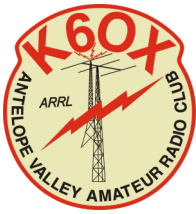
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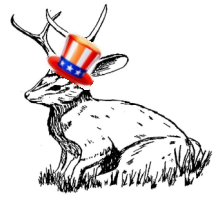
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Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2011 Officers

President	Margie Hoffman	KG6TBR	297-6567
Vice President	Larry Bianchi	KG1B	538-9142
Secretary	Dan Sherwood	WA6PZK	264-1863
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	Jon Clark	N6NQ	305-6969



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