

# *The Victor Valley Amateur Radio Club Newsletter*

## **THE SPECTRUM**

October 2007

*Come one, Come ALL !!!*

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### **The VVARC Officers for 2007:**

President: Jerry Grunden, WR6X  
[barbrieg@juno.com](mailto:barbrieg@juno.com)

Vice-President: Randy Hatfield, G6RH  
[randy.lori@msn.com](mailto:randy.lori@msn.com)

Secretary: Lori Hatfield, KD7GNC  
[randy.lori@msn.com](mailto:randy.lori@msn.com)

Treasurer: Sandi DeWeert, KG6ZHX  
[sdeweert@verizon.net](mailto:sdeweert@verizon.net)

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### **October General Meeting: Tuesday, October 9**

**Program:** Show and Tell Presentation on T-Hunts. For all you new HAMs this should be interesting.

It should be a lot of fun, so be sure and join us!

Club meetings are held at the Mojave River Campus of the Lewis Center.

Membership drawing and door prizes. Everyone is welcome!!

Directions: From Apple Valley Road, turn west on Tuscola (toward the river). Take the very first right turn, which is Mana. The campus is located at the very end of Mana Rd. We meet in Building C.

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### **Sunday Night Net:**

Remember that every Sunday at 7PM the Club conducts a Net on the 146.940 repeater. Get the latest club announcements and reminders. Also, our Club needs volunteers to help run the Net. If you are interested, please contact us. In the event that the repeater is down, turn to 146.5350 simplex.

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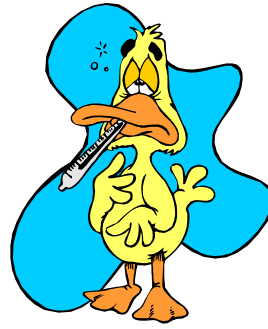
## Club Member News



### **Birthdays** **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL**

Jeffrey Fort	10/19
JoAnne Fort	10/29
Chris Holmgren	10/3
Donnette Kendall	10/9
Leslie Seiders	10/21
Gil St.Onge	10/9

If anyone is missed, let us know. Our records probably need to be updated.



### **Get Well**

Ron Covington is continuing with his recovery. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your wife.

Please let Sandi DeWeert, [sdeweert@verizon.net](mailto:sdeweert@verizon.net), know if you hear of any of our members that may be under the weather or just need a little lift from friends in

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## To our new members

**Welcome to our new member Dale Thompson and his family; wife, Kimberly, and children Ashlynn, Clayton, Lucas, and Nicole.**

Are you aware of the ARRL? QST magazine?

In order for our Club to be an affiliated organization, we need to maintain 51% membership to the ARRL. The ARRL pays our Club a commission for new and renewing memberships.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact your Board members.

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## ELMERS

An Elmer is kind of like a mentor for amateur radio operators. As new operators, we need the experience, knowledge, and guidance passed on to us by those that have been practicing for some time.

Thank you to those members that have stepped forward and volunteered to help members with questions. Feel free to contact anyone on our ELMER list when you have questions.

Name	Phone Number	City	Call Sign	Specialty
Bill Baumruck	(760) 947-2667	Hesperia	K6GZ	HF/VHF
Dave Deards	(760) 945-2777	Hesperia	KI6HVI	Home Brew
Jerry Grunden (Pres)	(760) 240-3646	Apple Valley	WR6X	HF
James Pike	(760) 242-4012	Apple Valley	KB6WHT	Antennas/HF

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### **2007 Membership Drawing:**

Be sure and attend the general meetings for your chance of winning the membership drawing. The October drawing is \$20.00.

We had no winner in September.

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### **Volunteers Needed:**

It's that time again! Board elections!

Nominations are going well. As of the writing of this newsletter, Jeff LaGrange has stepped up for President, Robert Barton for Vice President, and Larry Kendall for Treasurer. Jerry Grunden will be hold one position on the Board as past president, Steve Ostrander will remain on the Board and Dave Deards has volunteered also. We still have opening for Board members and secretary. Remember, the more people step up to help, the less work there is to be done.

Contact any of your current Board members if you have any questions.

If you have any ideas for programs, activities, club projects, etc. speak up. Pass your thoughts along to the Board members. WE are open to any suggestions.

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## **VE Testing in the Victor Valley**

The first Saturday of every odd-numbered month there is a GLAARG (Greater Los Angeles Amateur Radio Group) test session in Hesperia. Tests are held at the Fire Station at the corner of Olive and H. Registration starts at 8:30 AM. The cost is \$4.00. Walk-ins are welcome. Testing is available for all classes of license. All candidates must bring a picture ID, and if you are upgrading, you need the original and a copy of your amateur license and any CSCEs you hold. For more information, you can contact Jim MacRay, KW6V, at 244-1396. Directions to test site: From I-15 take Main Street, Hesperia exit. GO east on Main St. approx. 5 miles. Turn south on "H" to Olive.

Also, the Inland ARC tests on the 4th Thursday of each month, at 5 PM at 25541 Barton Rd, Loma Linda. Contact person is Sam Eller, AD6UE at (909) 796-2996. Location from going south on I-10: Exit Mountain View Ave, right on Barton, Left on Loma Linda Dr, Civic Center complex. Take driveway to your left immediately past the fire station.

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## **Web Site Update**

If you have any suggestions on what you would like to see, feel free to let Steve know, [steve.ostrander@dcma.mil](mailto:steve.ostrander@dcma.mil).

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## **From the ARRL:**

### **Address or phone number change???**

*"The FCC requires you to maintain a valid current mailing address in their database at all times. This is so that they can contact you by mail if needed. If you move or even change PO boxes, be sure to update your information using the FCC ULS online system. If you do not maintain a current address and mail to you is returned to the FCC as undeliverable, your license can be revoked and removed from the database."*

Don't forget if you need to renew your membership or join the ARRL, contact Sandi DeWeert ([sdeweert@verizon.net](mailto:sdeweert@verizon.net)) and pay your dues through the Club. VVARC receives a commission for each renewal or new joining fee.

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## **Ham Radio Operator Retention**

I've been reading about various hobbies (or organizations) and the clubs within them on the internet. Interestingly, most organizations that used to be very popular are fading away. I say fading because it's a slow process that is taking place.

Here are some examples of fading organizations: Boy Scouts of America, Elks, Kiwanis, Rock-Gem-Mineral clubs, VFW, American Legion, wood carving, sailing and

boating clubs, vintage car clubs, and so on. I'm sure you can think of some other organizations. There are many different causes for this slow fading. Sometimes its society's interests, electronic forms of entertainment, lack of money or time, or the aging population that is the cause. There are many things that work together to cause the fading away. Some organizations haven't modernized the way they do things.

Retention is a big problem in our hobby! We should all be thinking of ways to keep the interest up in new HAMs. I've noticed over my many years as a HAM radio instructor that the first 90-120 days is the make or break point for new HAMs.

Here's a list of things I think we should be doing as a "hobby" and club to keep new HAMs involved. It all has to do with FEEDING THE DREAM! Why did they get that Technician Class ticket?

1. Any growing HAM club should have a representative at every HAM class SESSION. They can assist in answering questions at the breaks.
2. Any growing HAM club should have a group of experienced HAMs inviting new students and young-in-the-hobby HAMs over to their house and let them touch and use (under supervision) your rigs. You know...3<sup>rd</sup> party traffic if need be.
3. Personally (in person) contact students, new HAMs and those just moving into the area to social events. Letters from organizations typically have a 3% response rate. When appropriate let them bring the kids to club meetings.
4. It's the golden rule thing that speaks big to the younger generations. They've seen enough flaky stuff at school, the media, internet, and friends.
5. Put club business last in a meeting. Some clubs members (especially the "upper-classmen") like to knit pick every item on the business agenda. Let the visitors have a good learning experience with quality presentations that last no more than ½ hour. That way they can leave at the break if needed.

My recent reading and experience tells me there are a lot of older folks who have enjoyed their hobby(s) or organization(s) for a good-long time. Many "volunteers" have worked their tails off trying to keep their particular "thing" alive. Others have "taken", with no thought of giving back. At the risk of being too blunt... It's time for the "upper-classmen" in many hobbies and organizations to push their chairs away from the trough or get up from the HDTV, or computer, and participate. Maybe, even put away the cold-one, put on some clean clothes, brush the teeth, and show someone your good looks. I know that there's someone out there in your hobby (or organization) that could use some help or another friend.

Think about this... How many people can you call in the middle of the night and ask for help? I'll bet you can count them on one hand or less.

*Keep on trying,  
Randy Hatfield AG6RH*

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## **Route 66 on the Air Report**

Thanks to the operators in our club who worked Route 66 last month. We had 5 club members participate. Since this event lasts 9 days, you can imagine that their efforts took some time. The club made over 700 contacts as W6D. James Pike, KB6WHT made well over 400 of them!! Also participating were Bill Baumruck, K6GZ, Rod Zeka, KR6Z; Virginia Hall, KD6YLT, and Joyce Pike, KB6BLD. We appreciate all of you.

The club is asked every year if we wish to participate in this annual event. It is always held in September, at the same time as all the Route 66 happenings in San Bernardino. The membership does vote before we respond to the sponsoring club, but we must be sure that we DO have enough operators to fulfill the obligation.

*Submitted by Virginia Hall*

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## **Calling All Listeners**

*“Will anyone hearing this broadcast please communicate with us, as we are anxious to know how far the broadcast is reaching and how it is being received.”*

With those words, in 1920, radio station KDKA became the first commercial radio station in the United States. Broadcasting from a small shack atop the building of its sponsor, *The Pittsburgh Post Newspaper*, the station encouraged listeners to write, also to the *Post*, and give their location, including the date and time.

In December of 1826, C.L. Brandon wrote in and received this Home Radio Club certificate the following month. His son later gave the certificate to me when he found I was a licensed radio amateur, or “HAM.”

*By Glenn G. Tucker, Lake Park, GA*

*Editor’s note: There is a small picture with this story showing the certificate “The Pittsburg Post Home Radio Club,” and you can see it at the next club meeting. By the way, it is interesting to note how often the radio stories that appear in this magazine do mention amateur radio.*

*From the regular “My Favorite Radio Memory” column  
In Reminisce EXTRA magazine, May 2007*

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## California QSO Party for 2007

This is a great contest to introduce HAMs with new HF privileges to the thrill of contesting.

Full details can be found at [www.cqp.org](http://www.cqp.org).

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## Radio Limericks

Route 66 is once again done.  
Club operators all had good fun.  
    Contacts galore,  
    "Thank you"s, and more.  
So, next year YOU could be one!!

It's "Two, Four, Six, Eight  
Who do we appreciate?"  
    Club Attendees!!  
    So, would you please  
Come to our meeting, early or late!!

Our continuing **Challenge: Try your hand** at making one up; it would be welcome. We did this activity a decade or so back, and did have a few participants; we'll have a new one each month. So, sharpen your wits and your pencils and write one. E-mail to Virginia at [kd6rdc@juno.com](mailto:kd6rdc@juno.com).

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## Calendar of Events

October 1 - Board Meeting: 6:30 p.m., 11125 Chipmunk Rd., Apple Valley, (760) 240-8718

October 6-7 – California QSO Party for 2007, <http://www.cqp.org/>

October 9 – General Meeting: 7:00 p.m.

November 5 - Board Meeting: 6:30 p.m., 11125 Chipmunk Rd., Apple Valley, (760) 240-8718

November 13 – General Meeting: 7:00 p.m.

December 3 - Board Meeting: 6:30 p.m., 11125 Chipmunk Rd., Apple Valley, (760) 240-8718

December 11 – Installation Dinner

# Victor Valley Amateur Radio Club

P. O. Box 869  
Victorville, CA. 92393

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## Membership Application

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check One: New Membership \_\_\_\_\_  
Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Since \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Receipt # \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, since (date) \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Type:

Individual (\$18.00) \_\_\_\_\_  
Family (\$23.00) \_\_\_\_\_  
Youth (\$10.00) \_\_\_\_\_  
New (\$10.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Packet Home BBS \_\_\_\_\_  
Repeaters Operated \_\_\_\_\_

### Family Membership:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_  
Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_  
Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_