



# VICTOR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## THE SPECTRUM

November 2007

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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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### November General Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 13

Time: 7 p.m.

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

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.

Program: Clint Bradford, K6LCS, will be presenting his "Working Amateur Satellites with your HT" talk at our club. If you come a little early, it looks like there's a workable pass that evening at 6:45 PM! If you want to work the AO-51 satellite, download Clint's 4-page tutorial and radio programming matrix before the meeting from the amateur pages <http://www.clintbradford.com>.

Clint has been a licensed amateur and GMRS Licensee KAF3359 since 1994 and has been involved in public service communication for most of that time. He's been giving this presentation for a couple years now, and is a liaison between NASA, amateur radio, and

local schools for scheduling school contacts with the International Space Station. Clint also owns an award-winning web site on the JFK assassination. Professionally, he was sales manager for ADI/ Premier/Pryme, worked for Motorola and for HRO.

Clint resides in Mira Loma with his wife Karen, her Icelandic horse Mjollnir, and Clint's donkey, Edaward R. Burro.

Here's Clint working AO-51 at the L.A. County Fair's AMATEUR RADIO EXPO this past September. Three Countries were successfully worked on this pass: Mexico, the U.S., and Canada!



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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. In the event that the repeater is down, turn to 146.5350 simplex.

Also, the Club needs volunteers to help run the Net. If you are interested, please contact any of the Board members.

## Club Member News

### **Birthdays**



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

Lori Hatfield	11/18
Nick Lamb	11/16
Scott Mayer	11/30
Dale Thompson	11/25
Mike Tyler	11/12
Denny Wells	11/11

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

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Please let Sandi DeWeert, 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 the Club.

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### **New Member**

Please join me in welcoming new HAM and new member to our Club, Gary Haldiman, KI6LZE, email [fedex8@dslextreme.com](mailto:fedex8@dslextreme.com).

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### **To our new members**

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. New operators need the experience, knowledge, and guidance passed

on to 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.

The list of ELMERs is located on our web site at [www.VictorValleyARC.com](http://www.VictorValleyARC.com).

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### **2007 Membership Drawing**

Be sure and attend the general meetings for your chance of winning the membership drawing. The November drawing is \$30.00.

We had no winner in October.

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### **Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers for next year's Board are going well. Members have stepped up to fill positions, but we are still looking for someone that could help us with the secretarial responsibilities. Please consider helping out.

The slate of officers for 2008 as of this newsletter is:

President = Jeff LaGrange  
Vice President = Robert Barton  
Secretary = Open  
Treasurer = Larry Kendall  
Past President = Jerry Grunden  
Board Members = Steve Ostrander  
Dale Thompson  
David Deards

Nominations are still open! Contact any of the current Board members if you have any questions.

Also, 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 *Reminder*

### **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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## **Fizzies**

I've talked about FIZZIES in almost every one of my HAM radio classes. It was a drink that had vitamin C and came in 6 different flavors. You just drop a tablet into a glass of water and watch it fizz... Like RF in too big a dose, FIZZIES used to have a problem with the sweetener. That's why they were taken off the market over 30 years ago. They now use Splenda or something like that. The FDA says FIZZIES are safe as small exposures of RF. Just kidding.

GOOD NEWS! FIZZIES are back and are being test marketed all over the Phoenix area. I just purchased mine today. You can purchase them online now from anywhere in the world. The Marines in Iraq should have them! (And, only the Marines!) They are better than ever! By golly, every HAM should have some in their emergency kit!

73,s

Randy Hatfield AG6RH

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## How Electricity really works

So simple! So obvious we could not see it! I have discovered how power circuits work. Smoke is the real thing that makes power circuits work because every time you let the smoke out of something electrical, it quits working. I have verified this with thorough testing.

Of course! Smoke makes all things that are electrical work. Remember the last time smoke escaped from a transformer? Didn't it quit working? I sat and smiled like an idiot as more of the truth dawned. I remembered when I had witnessed the awful destruction of four kilo-volt breaker and bus at Sunnyvale. The breaker had leaked out so much smoke that they

actually melted and quit working. See, it's the conductor that carries the smoke from one device to another. It starts at a power plant where stuff is burned to produce smoke. The smoke we see coming from the stacks is excess that the system doesn't need. The smoke is then sent down the conductors to transformers. Transformers are big and require lots of smoke to work properly. That is why the conductors are so big. If these conductors spring a leak it lets the smoke out of everything, and then nothing works. Forget about electron theory. I have a few more theories that I am working on. I may need some help with them.

*Submitted by  
Jerry Grunden, WR6X*

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## **A Special Thank You**

Dear Virginia,

I want to thank you for the welcome you gave my wife and myself just about 2 years ago. I found you're greeting reassuring that I was at the right place, the Victor Valley Amateur Radio Club.

You see, I have visited two HAM radio clubs in the state where I now live. The HAMs here don't seem to be interested in growth of their clubs. There is no greeter or committee to welcome new potential members. The club leaders don't even respond to e-mails when you offer to help. However, this month they had a tough time coming up with people to fill next year's leadership positions. Interestingly, the comments from the old timers were, why me?

I hope all the VVARC members take on the same attitude Virginia has when it comes to welcoming newcomers. When Virginia spoke with my wife it broke the ice and I was able to better serve in the HAM radio community while living in Victorville. Thanks, Virginia.

73,  
Randy

## **Annual Christmas Party**

Mark your calendar! Tuesday, **Dec. 11**, 6 PM.

The annual Club Christmas party will once again be held at John's Incredible Pizza on Bear Valley Road. This is a family event. Note that the date is still the usual second Tuesday in December. The prices will be the same as last year, but do **NOT** pay at the door. We have a party room reserved, and the money is collected back there. More details, including a price list, will be in our December newsletter.

Of course, there will be many door prizes, some pretty nice! Every family will get something. Also remember that for this month, we continue the membership drawing until there is a winner present.

There is also a gift exchange for those interested. Bring a gift, get a gift. We ask that you try to limit the cost to \$5.00 or so. Start hunting for that bargain.

The more, the merrier. We hope to see YOU there.

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## **Flag Pole Buddy**

At a recent RV show, there was a vendor selling pole holders and poles. Poles come in 2 diameters (1.5" and 2.0") and 3 lengths (12', 16', 22'). They have interesting mounting hardware; once mounted, their holders make it very easy to put up and take down the pole. The company representative at the show said that HAMs have been a good part of their customer base. You can get more information at [www.flagpolebuddy.com](http://www.flagpolebuddy.com).

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## **Long-Distance News**

As appeared in "On the Home Front," Reminisce Extra, Sept 07 issue

"American prisoners of war in Germany were periodically allowed to talk on a radio

broadcast in the hope that a GI's family back in the States might hear them. My father had a Zenith shortwave radio during World War II. One time, while listening to the shortwave, my mother heard the name and home address of a prisoner and wrote a letter to his family. The boy's mother sent a return letter, thanking my mother for letting them know her son was alive, as they hadn't known up until then.

Dolores Young, Oneida, NY."

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### **A Great Idea for the Holidays**

When you are making out your Christmas card list this year, please include a card to the following:

A Recovering American Soldier  
c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center  
6900 Georgia Ave NW  
Washington DC 20307-5001

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### **Radio Limericks**

December's the time for the annual party.  
Come over to join us, and eat quite hearty.  
    Pizza and more,  
    Plus prizes galore  
Everyone's welcome, early or tardy.

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**

- 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; 6 p.m.
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# 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 \_\_\_\_\_