



VICTOR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

THE SPECTRUM

April 2008

The VVARC Officers for 2008

President: Jeff LaGrange, KD6JUC
balag@sisp.net

Vice-President: Robert Barton, W7OES
rbarton@ci.victorville.ca.us

Secretary:

Treasurer: Larry Kendall, KD7ZDG
larrykendall@charter.net

April General Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 8

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: Annual Club Auction

Club Auction

Tuesday, April 8
Mark your calendar for this!

Yes, it is time for the annual club auction. James Pike, KD6WHT, will serve as auctioneer, and is sure to entertain us.

So... it is time for you to rummage around your shack, garage, closets, etc. to find that old gear or "stuff" that you have replaced or that you no longer need or use. Spring cleaning!! The

rules of the auction are the same. You can set a minimum price and you keep 90% of the proceeds from any item that you sell. The remaining 10% of all sales goes to the Club, as this is one of our fundraisers.

You can also help by spreading the word about this auction to other HAMS you know. Encourage them to attend this special event. Sellers and buyers do not have to be club members. The more we have to look over and bid on, the more the fun for everyone.

Finally, you should be sure to attend this month's meeting—the club auction is always a good time.

Antennas, a speaker, mike, radio...
Oh my, that old stuff has just got to go
Come to look, buy or sell
What you find, you can't tell
Spring's always the Club auction, you know!

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

April Barton	23
Robert Barton	10
Robert Caddell	22
Gary Haldiman	15
Jimmy James	6

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



It has been reported that Robert Hall has been under the weather but is doing better. Keep us updated Virginia.

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.

The Bank Job

We saw an old news clip on television recently, with Walter Cronkike, and he said "Amateur Radio...." That caught our ears. Seems the clip was related to the new movie that is currently playing, **The Bank Job**. The upshot of this is that it was an amateur radio operator in England, dialing around his radio, who overheard people plotting their upcoming big bank heist. He notified police. Of course, the police didn't know when or where, but at least they did know that a big robbery was being

planned. You never know what amateur radio might find out there.

New Members

To new HAMs

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.

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.

Membership DUES and DRAWINGS

Starting with the upcoming March meeting, the only chips in for the membership drawing will be those members who have paid their dues for 2008.

Dues for 2008

Dues for the Club are on an annual basis. We appreciate your continued support. The dues remain the same as last year, \$18 for individuals, \$23 for families, and \$10 for youths, and new members.

We are continuing to offer a free membership to new HAMs.

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.

Flashes of Brilliance

*by Lt Col Brian J. Quirt, USMC (ret)
Marine Corps Gazette, Aug 2006*

Then Sgt Ken "Mac" McCullough was the noncommissioned officer in charge of communications for LT. Col. Evens Carlson's 2d Raider Battalion raid on Makin Island, 17 to 18 August 1942. He sent the message from the 70 marooned Raiders who did not make it

back to the Nautilus and Argonaut on the first night of the raid. Radio contact was not an option as all radios were malfunctioning due to ocean water damage. Sgt McCullough's only means of communication that second night was a two-cell, government issued flashlight that he used to flash Morse code signals to the submarines.

Most accounts of the communication with the submarines seem to make it appear rather routine. It wasn't that way. Mac McCullough had to climb a coconut palm to gain the necessary height just to attempt to send the signals. Once the contact had been made it took some time and authenticating by Lt Col Carlson just to get the message out to rendezvous on the lagoon side of the island.

As Mac portrays, it was very tough making it back to the submarines that second night. But few people know that it was Mac McCullough's cool competence that saved the 70 Marine raiders who were left on the island that second day.

The following day the Japanese landed nearly 1,000 their Marines who surely would have captured or killed the virtually weaponless Raiders and that would have been a catastrophic loss for America and the Marines.

My hat goes off to Mac for his selfless service.

Silent Key: Robert Beasley, K6BJH Cartoonist

Years ago, I purchased a book: *the Best of Beasley* at a HAM Convention. Old time club members might recall that for years we used to put some of his cartoons in our newsletter. He granted permission for this use, as long as he was given credit, and it was fun to pick out a funny one or two for each issue. His passing was noted on with a nice story on page 2 of World Radio, April 2008. Quoting their closing: "Thanks, Bob, you made us laugh"

Virginia, your old editor

MISSION TO DOMINICA

My mission to Dominica was a study in contrasts and full of surprises. My trip briefing by David and Gaynell was *broad-brush* and for a reason. They wanted me to discover the wonders of Dominica for myself... and I did.

I was met at Melville Hall Airport by my host, Clement Pierre Louis and my adventure began. The two hour trip through the Dominican rain forest was full of surprises. Vehicles in Dominica are compacts and mostly pickup trucks. There is not quite room to pass on the narrow, winding highway, so one or both must use the shoulder. There are no seatbelts, no airbags, and no fear of what's around the corner or over the hill. The right-of-way is determined by which horn is sounded first. We exited the rain forest in Roseau, the capital; my destination, *Wotten Waven*, about five miles and 3000 feet up. Then, I was greeted by my hostess and wife of Clement, Hetty Pierre Louis; possibly the best cook in all of Dominica.

My days were filled with sightseeing, hamming, reading, and just hanging out. Clement did allow me to help him build a carport. It was kind of like Tom Sawyer and the whitewashed fence.

I made 263 friends while there. 258 were on twenty meters.

Web Site Update

If you have any suggestions on what you would like to see, feel free to let Steve know, steve.ostrand@dcma.mil.

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 Larry Kendall (larrykendall@charter.net) and pay your dues through the Club. VVARC receives a commission for each renewal or new joining fee.

Baker to Vegas Relay Race - April 19-20, 2008

This year's Baker to Vegas Relay Race will be held on April 19th and 20th. Our own Club members will be providing logistics and communication support. If anyone would like to help, contact Jeff LaGrange at balag@sisp.net

Radio Limericks

How often have you been the one to forget?

The club has its weekly Sunday night net.

With that radio to use,

You can keep up on the news

It's one of the club "perks" that you all get.

Note: Help wanted in creating a limerick; we are running out of ideas, so pass one along if you can.

E-mail to Virginia at kd6rdc@juno.com.

Calendar of Events

April

- 8 General Meeting, 7:00 pm
Program: Auction
Lewis Center Mohave River Campus
- 12 Member Breakfast, 8:00 am
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop
- 19-20 Baker to Vegas Relay Race
- 26-27 BSA Camporee
Lewis Center Mohave River Campus

May

- 6 Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop
- 10 T-Hunt
- 13 General Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Program: Jerry Grunden – Amateur
RV) ATV)
Lewis Center Mohave River Campus

June

- 3 Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop
- 10 General Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Program: HF Demo / Field Day Prep
Lewis Center Mohave River Campus
- 14 VVARC Picnic / BBQ
- 27-29 Field Day
San Bernardino County Fairgrounds
Victorville

July

- 1 Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop
- 8 General Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Program: Ice Cream Social
Lewis Center Mohave River Campus
- 12 Member Breakfast, 8:00 am
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop
Followed by Build-It Session

August

- 5 Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop

- 12 General Meeting, 7:00 pm
Program: TBD
Lewis Center Mohave River Campus
- 16 Potluck Dinner

September

- 2 Board Meeting, 6:30 am
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop
- 6-14 Route 66 On the Air
- 9 General Meeting, 7:00 pm
Program: TBD
Lewis Center Mohave River Campus
- 20 Camping Trip
Table Mountain

October

- 7 Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop
- 14 General Meeting, 7:00 pm
Program: Potluck Dinner
Lewis Center Mohave River Campus
- 18-19 Jamboree on the Air
(VVARC assistance requested)
- 25 Member Breakfast, 8:00 am
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop
Followed by tour of Goldstone Deep
Space Communications Complex

November

- 4 Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop
- 11 General Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Program: Military Radio, New Office
Nominations
Lewis Center Mohave River Campus

December

- 2 Board Meeting, 6:30 PM
Green Tree Inn Coffee Shop
- 9 VVARC Christmas Party & Election of
Officers
Time and location TBD

Victor Valley Amateur Radio Club

P. O. Box 869
Victorville, CA. 92393

Membership Application

.....
Date: _____

Check One: New Member New HAM: Renewal: Member Since _____

Check # _____ Cash Receipt # _____

ARRL Member No Yes If yes, since (date) _____

Membership Type:

Individual (\$18) Family (\$23) Youth (\$10) New (\$10)

Name _____

Birthday _____ Call Sign _____ Class _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Work Phone (____) _____

Fax (____) _____ E-Mail Address _____

Spouse Name _____

Family Membership:

Name _____ Birthday _____

Call Sign _____ Class _____ Email _____

Name _____ Birthday _____

Call Sign _____ Class _____ Email _____

Packet Home BBS _____

Repeaters Operated _____