



VICTOR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

THE SPECTRUM

May 2008

The VVARC Officers for 2008

President: Jeff LaGrange, KD6JUC
W7OES

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Vice-President: Robert Barton,

Secretary:

Treasurer: Larry Kendall, KD7ZDG

larrykendall@charter.net

May General Meeting

Date: Tuesday, May 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: HF Demo / Field Day Prep

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.

In April we had 26 check-ins on the 6th, and 13th, 21 on the 20th, and 18 on the 27th.

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

Sandi DeWeert	16
Donn Pera	7
Virginia Hall	20
Joe Schow	22
George Ward	9

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



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 list of ELMERS is located on our web site at www.VictorValleyARC.com.

Club Auction

Thanks to James Pike, KB6WHT, for once again, entertaining us as our auctioneer. The annual auction is one of the fund raisers for the club and we appreciate all who participated. If you helped out by bringing items to sell or donate, thanks to you for making the auction possible. If you helped out by bidding, the club appreciates that support. If you missed the auction last month, just remember that next spring you, too, could bring things that you no longer need or use to sell and you might find some real bargains to look at.

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.

Membership Drawing

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 CSEs 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.

Keller Peak Repeater

On Tuesday nights we usually listen to the Search and Rescue net which starts at 8 PM and goes until no one has anything further to say.

This net offers an abundance of information on SAR, of course, but also on keeping up your emergency equipment, batteries, alternate power, GO bags, etc. While listening on Tuesday, October 23, 2007, the repeater was on emergency back up with batteries. The repeater had its emergency tone on and

broadcasted that it was on emergency power ever so often. We listened and found out that the repeater was on emergency power because the electric company turned off power due to prevention of snapping wires that could cause new fires. That was a big problem in 2003! I found out that a lot of HAMS who were on this night have important roles in our communities assisting firefighters, Sheriffs, Red Cross, and SATERN, and all were on standby or were active and taking a break before going back up the hills. Some lived in the mountains and were preparing themselves and families. Even Skywarn was available to give us a little information about what the wind was going to do over the next 24 hours and the humidity changes.

Go Bags

We got a lesson in what to put in your GO Bags for family besides some clothes, pictures, medicine, and insurance information on your home. Pictures of your home and contents and inventory of belongs should be done prior to any disaster, ready to go.

Flying Sparks

A gentleman called in from the Wrightwood area regarding how far sparks from a fire can travel. A response came back from a firefighter stating that sparks can fly from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ miles under normal conditions, but with winds the rules change and sparks could fly up to 5 miles and still cause a new hot spot

Humans in Smoky Areas

If you are not in the fire area, but experience smoke and ash, wet a bandana or a mask and wear this for comfort while outside. It is best to stay indoors or somewhere away from the poor air quality. If you are in the fire area—DO NOT wet the bandana or mask as this will cause it to

heat up and cause burns to your neck or forehead and the mask will send heat down your throat when you breathe.

Storage of Gasoline: This was brought up if you need gas in your car but the car is low on fuel and may not get you all the way out of an effected area. Use old gas in your storage for the vehicles and then purchase new gases. Suggestion was to use an additive (stabilizers) that extends the life and keeps it stable.

Did You Know?

Last summer, we learned something from one of the Final Jeopardy questions.

Which of the following painted a presidential portrait as well as being a famous inventor: Bell, Edison, or Morse?

The answer was: Morse!

A Little Humor

You Might be a HAM Operator if...

Forwarded our way by Jeff Richardson, from Bob Chamberlain, KE6KGO

- When a friend gets a ride from you and remarks that you have a lot of CBs in your vehicle, it turns into an hour long rant on how HAM radio is NOT CB.
- When someone asks for directions, you pause, wondering if long or short path would be best.
- Your cell phone ring tone is a Morse code message of some kind.
- You have accidentally said your Amateur Radio call sign at the end of a telephone conversation.
- Your favorite vacation spots are always on mountain tops.
- You notice more antennas than road signs while driving your car.
- You actually think that towers look nice.
- Your HF amplifier puts out more power than the local AM radio station.

More next month....

20 Ways to Maintain a Healthy Level of Insanity

- At lunch time, sit in your parked car with sunglasses on and point a hair dryer at passing cars. See if they slow down.
- Page yourself over the intercom. Don't disguise your voice.
- Every time someone asks you to do something, ask if they want fries with that.
- Put your garbage can on your desk and label it "In."
- Put decaf in the coffee maker for 3 weeks. Once everyone has gotten over their caffeine addictions, switch to Espresso.
- In the memo field of all your checks, write "For Smuggling Diamonds".
- Finish All Your sentences with "In Accordance With The Prophecy." Don't use any punctuation
- As often as possible, skip rather than walk.
- Order a diet water whenever you go out to eat with a serious face.
- Specify that your drive-through order is "To Go."
- Sing along at the opera
- Go to a poetry recital and ask why the poems don't rhyme
- Put mosquito netting around your work area and play tropical sounds all day.
- Five days in advance, tell your friends you can't attend their party because you're not in the mood.

- Have your co-workers address you by your wrestling name, Rock Bottom.
 - When the money comes out the ATM, scream "I Won! I Won!"
 - When leaving the Zoo, start running towards the parking lot, yelling "Run for your lives, they're loose!!"
 - Tell your children over dinner. "Due to the economy, we are going to have to let one of you go."
 - And the final way to keep a healthy level of insanity.....send this e-mail to someone to make them smile. It's called therapy.
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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.

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 Report

This year's race was held April 19. A number of club members were involved by working at Stage 14. (That stage used to be #15, but the position of the start line for the race was moved so every stage became one less).

Jeff LaGrange, KD6JUC, was in charge of the HAMS working. The club members that participated included Barbara LaGrange, Craig Ebright, Jerry Grunden, and Bob and Virginia Hall.

There were over 240 teams registered for the race, and of course, there were 20 manned stages. All of this involves a lot of radio operators helping out. It is quite an event and fun to watch. So, if you are looking for something to volunteer for, remember that Jeff will be looking for help next year!

For Sale

55' Rohn 25 Tower

5 full 10' sections and 1 half section. Some sections need repair and I will be glad to help with the repairs. This includes a work platform that hangs on the side of the tower so that your feet don't hurt and all the guy wires. \$50.00 minimum. I will deliver.

1 Hy-Gain TH6DXX tri-ban HF beam

Good condition. \$35.00 minimum.

Two pieces of 1/2" heliax (hard line) coaxial cable with "N" connectors. One piece is approximately 70 feet and other is approximately 80 feet.

If anyone is interested, please contact Jim Chandler, N5COT, at 247-6171.

Radio Limericks

14 was our gathering place
For the Baker-Vegas relay race.
In the spring of each year
We HAMS volunteer.
Next year add your happy face!

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

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

VICTOR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P. O. Box 869
Victorville, CA. 92393

Membership Application

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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 _____