



# VICTOR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## THE SPECTRUM

March 2009

---

---

### The VVARC Officers for 2009

**President: Robert Barton, W7OE**  
[rbarton@ci.victorville.ca.us](mailto:rbarton@ci.victorville.ca.us)

**Vice-President: David Deards, KI6HVI**  
[KI6HVI@arrl.net](mailto:KI6HVI@arrl.net)

**Secretary: Jonathan McDonald**  
[KG6tqr@yahoo.com](mailto:KG6tqr@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer: Larry Kendall, KD7ZDG**  
[larrykendall@charter.net](mailto:larrykendall@charter.net)

---

### March General Meeting

Date: March 10, 2009

Time: 7 p.m.

Program: CHP Dispatch Supervisor  
Russel Kingston

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.

---

### 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.

---

---

### Club Member News



#### **Birthdays**

David Deards	3/28
Craig Ebright	3/30
Wesley Jacoby	3/8

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

---



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 the Club.

---

## **New Members**

Have some new members this month. Lets all say hi and make them feel welcome!!!!

Christy Hunter	KB6LTY
Bruce Hunter	KI6RUW
Paul Decker	KI6IXJ

---

## **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.

---

## **February Prize Winners**

Door Prize Winners:

Marc Youston  
Donn Pera

Half Pot Winner:

Donn Pera \$10.00

Membership Drawing:

Jerry Grunden (Remember you need to be an active member and present at the meeting when your name is drawn.)

---

## **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.

(Due to web site difficulties, contact any of your board members for the ELMER list.)

---

## **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.

---

## **Web Site Update**

Our web site (vvarc.org) has been updated thanks to our treasurer, Larry Kendall.

Thanks Larry for going on beyond the call of duty.

If anyone has chances, comments, suggestions, etc., contact anyone on the Board or let me know at [sdeweert@verizon.net](mailto:sdeweert@verizon.net).

---

## **Reporting from Goldstone**

The February meeting was a presentation from Goldstone. It was a wonderful program, with amazing pictures and fascinating information for us to enjoy.

Goldstone is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary! I remember the launching of Voyager I and II during the 1977-1978 school years when I was teaching science, and then the "Jupiter Watch" coverage on KCET on TV from Feb 15 – March 7, 1979. This provided wonderful lessons for my classes. Now Goldstone is STILL receiving signals from Voyagers, which are over 31 years old. It takes over 30 hours for a radio signal to reach Voyager and a reply to return, traveling at the speed of light, with Voyager way out beyond the solar system. The data shows that Voyager is still under the sun's influence. The signal is a mere one billionth of one billionth of a watt. What a challenge to tease the data from the noise with that small a signal. How much the technology has had to advance to be able to do that.

The first antenna at Goldstone is considered a historic landmark, and there is a move to put it on display in Barstow. Coming events at Goldstone is a March launch of "Kepler" and April launches to do lunar reconnaissance. There will be more stories to enjoy coming from Goldstone.

---

## **Big Numbers: Millions and Billions:**

With all the large numbers coming from the financial news, here is food for thought.

Several sources have compared "million" to "billion" the following way:

A million seconds is less than 12 days. A billion seconds is almost 32 years!! What must a trillion be? Any takers on figuring that out?

Speaking of large numbers, here is a little political story: Congress, during the economic crises, let Bear Sterns go under, and then bailed out AIG. What does an insurance company have to do with the crisis? Well, among other things, AIG insures the pension trust of the US Congress. Hmm.

---

## **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](mailto:larrykendall@charter.net)) and pay your dues through the Club. VVARC receives a commission for each renewal or new joining fee.

---

## **Interested Web Site**

*Submitted by David Deards*

[www.solorcycle24.com](http://www.solorcycle24.com). Check it out.

---

## **Baker to Vegas Relay March 14 – 15, 2009**

It's not too late to join the groups working along Blue Diamond Highway, helping with communications at this big law enforcement relay race. A group from the Club helps by working at Stage 14, where the runners pass off their batons. Last minute problems can cause volunteers to drop out and we would hate to be too short handed. So, if you want to see what it is like, would like to help out, or just want information, contact Jeff LaGrange or Virginia Hall at 245-0123.

### **A radio story:**

**TO THE RESCUE** by Paul Fields, taken from Jan 2009 Military Officer magazine.

I received orders in the mid 1970s to the Marine barracks and ground defense force at the US Navel base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, as a Marine communications officer. Once a quarter, the naval base conducted a defense exercise to test the mettle of all the different military organizations within the restricted base. The scenario usually centered on the "bad guys" coming through the wire. Our infantry would deploy to our assigned areas, as would the tanks and artillery. The communications platoon then would move out with the barracks commander and his staff to command posts in underground bunkers.

To add a touch of realism to the exercise, one of the military organizations on the naval base was a company from the Naval Support Group, the "super snoopers" with high-speed technical communications equipment and trained intelligence personnel. Shortly after the exercises commenced, they would sporadically jam our radio frequencies, on both clear and secure networks. Our Marine communicators would change to prearranged frequencies, but it was just a matter of time before those frequencies were also jammed. The operations officer, a high excitable major, would be ballistic if he couldn't communicate with his operating forces in the field, and I was

the one he always ordered to, "Get communications back up!"

Usually after one of these defense exercises, the master gunnery sergeant and I would get together for a few cups of coffee and try to figure out how better to get communications across the bay. One time, his daughter, who was about 6 years old, came by with one of her friends, talking back and forth on Batman and Robin walkie-talkies. An idea popped into my head. But could it possible work? During the next defense exercise, the naval base was defended successfully, thanks to the master gunnery sergeant's daughter, a couple of fresh 9-volt batteries, and Batman and Robin.

### **This Looks Organized**

*Submitted by Jeff LaGrange*

Identify which radio responded to an emergency call, and then be able to transmit a confirmation response within two seconds!



### **Playing with Words:**

The Washington Post has published the winning submissions to its yearly contests in which readers are asked to supply alternate meanings for common words. Here are a few of the winners:

1. Coffee, n. The person upon whom one coughs.

2. Flabbergasted, adj. Appalled by discovering how much weight one has gained
  3. Abdicate, v. To give up all hope of even have a flat stomach.
  4. Negligent, adj. Absentmindedly answering the door when wearing only a nightgown.
  5. Lymph, V. To walk with a lisp
  6. Balderdash, n. A rapidly receding hairline
  7. Testicle, n. T humorous question on an exam.
  8. Pokemon, n. A Rastafarian proctologist
- 

### **Radio Limerick for the Month**

There once was a man named Sam.  
'Twas said he was quiet as a lamb.  
But now be aware,  
He's up on the air!  
Yes, he's happy to be a new ham.

We continue with this little part of our newsletter, striving to be clever. Again, you are invited to join in! We will give you credit—or you can be anonymous if you wish! Help wanted.

E-mail to Virginia at [kd6rdc@juno.com](mailto:kd6rdc@juno.com).

---

# 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 \_\_\_\_\_