



# VICTOR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## THE SPECTRUM

April 2009

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### 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

[RadioGramp@me.com](mailto:RadioGramp@me.com)

Secretary: Jonathan McDonald

[KG6tqr@yahoo.com](mailto:KG6tqr@yahoo.com)

Treasurer: Larry Kendall, KD7ZDG

[larrykendall@charter.net](mailto:larrykendall@charter.net)

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### April General Meeting

Date: April 14, 2009

Time: 7 p.m.

Program:

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.

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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.

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### Club Member News



### **Birthdays**

April Barton	4/23
Gary Haldiman	4/15

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**

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## **Congratulations!!!**

### License Upgrades

David Deards – Extra  
Larry Kendall – General  
Chrisie and Bruce Hunter - General

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## **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.

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## **REPORT ON THE MARCH MEETING**

The program last month was a very informative look at CHP communications centers. Our speaker was Mr. Russell Kingston who is a Public Safety Dispatch Supervisor working in San Bernardino at the one of the twenty-five CHP communication centers in CA. That center has about 60 dispatchers; by comparison, the communications center in Barstow has around 14. Covered in the presentation was information on training for dispatchers, the routing of calls, and some of the equipment used. Being able to ask questions certainly helped us learn more. If

you missed this meeting, you missed a good program!

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## **March Prize Winners**

Door Prize Winners:

Half Pot Winner:

Membership Drawing:

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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.

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

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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**

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).

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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 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.

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## **BAKER TO VEGAS**

This year's Baker to Vegas race in March was the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Challenge Cup Relay. As you know, many Hams participate to help with communications, both for individual teams and for the organization itself. Some members of our club worked at Stage 14 with Jeff LaGrange, KD6JUC, who served as the Ham in charge of that stage.

There were over 240 teams participating this year, including several from Canada and from Germany. If you have never worked this event, let me tell you that it is amazing. As the teams came through our stage, there was a real crowd in addition to the workers who kept things going smoothly--runners waiting to take the baton plus drivers and supporters waiting to "catch" their incoming runner.

While we volunteer our time to help, we do get "presents" for our efforts; this year's "goodies" were a T-shirt, a denim long sleeve shirt, and a neat hat, all with nice logos from the race.

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## **SHIPBOARD RADIO RECEIVERS** **"TATTLED" TO ENEMY SUBS**

From the January 1943 issue of National Geographic, an advertisement by Scott for a "Marine Model Low-radiation Receiver" (with a footnote that the Scott Marine Model is for maritime use exclusively and is available for shipboard installations under priority ratings)

The ad continued... Do you know why the Federal Communications Commission banned all shipboard entertainment radios? Because the instant they were turned on for listening, they divulged the ship's position, much farther than the 10 or 15 miles most officers and men

believed possible. Actually a receiving set rebroadcasts a signal *detectable as much as 100 miles away* by sensitive enemy direction-finders. To eliminate this hazard, the FCC urged radio manufacturers to develop a *safe* radio for use at sea. In less than a month Scott engineers invented a special Marine Model that can't be detected 25 feet away—fully approved by the FCC.

The Scott Low-radiation Receiver is the *first* radio that can be operated with complete safety on *both* the broadcast and shortwave bands essential to good reception far from land under difficult shipboard conditions. The SCOTT has become the toast of seamen and sailors wherever ships now sail. You'll soon find SCOTTS on tankers, on merchantmen, on American ships of every kind as fast as we can get them there...giving our men at sea the programs, the news from home, the relaxation they need and deserve, *in safety*.

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### **My Favorite Radio Memory: Teenage Neutrality**

From the magazine *Reminisce Extra*,  
November 2008

In early 1951, I inherited a 1935 floor-model radio with AM and shortwave receiving capabilities, a beautiful cabinet and a great speaker. I was fascinated with shortwave, which offered me radio from all over the world. From our Shorewood, WI home, I listened to Radio Moscow, amazed at how I could get a station from that far away and from a country that was a Cold War "enemy." The station offered to send a list of its weekly programs, so I sent for one and used it to hear various programs, including some from other countries.

About 2 months later, my mother answered the front doorbell to find two FBI agents, who wanted to know who had sent for the Radio Moscow broadcast listing and why. Of course, this was during the beginning of the Sen. Joseph McCarthy era in the United States. My mother explained that I was only 15 years old

and was simply interested in the offerings of shortwave radio. When I came home, I was amazed to hear about my mother's afternoon visitors, who apparently were satisfied with her explanations. Buzz, Althoen, Glendale, WI

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

Runners arriving out of the dark,  
Drivers are looking for places to park  
There gathers a crowd,  
With cheering out loud,  
Baker to Vegas is always a lark!

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).