

# VICTOR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## THE SPECTRUM

May 2009 (Revised)

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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: May 12, 2009

Time: 7 p.m.

Program: **CLUB'S ANNUAL AUCTION**

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 B.

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### ANNUAL CLUB AUCTION

#### **Don't miss it**

Here is a chance to sell any of your own items that you no longer need or want. James Pike, KB6WHT, is again serving as auctioneer at the event. Don't miss the fun. Pass the word to

fellow Hams; you don't have to be a club member to participate. You can set a minimum price if you wish and you keep 90% of the proceeds (The club retains 10% as a fundraiser) It's fun to see what you want to bid on, too. See you there

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### Annual Club Picnic

#### **June 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

The Halls are again hosting the annual club picnic in their back yard. The back yard holds the group but bring your own chairs as they will run out!!

The club provides hotdogs and hamburgers with the fixing and baked beans, and the rest is potluck. More details in next month's newsletter. Mark your calendars and plan to come. Virginia and Bob say that they want a BIG crowd this year!! See you there.

## 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



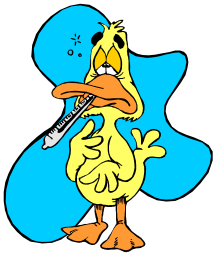
### **Birthdays**

Sandi De Weert	5/16
Dana Durkee	5/14
Virginia Hall	5/20
Donn Pera	5/7
Joseph Schow	5/22
George Ward	5/9

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!**

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](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.

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## New Members

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## Congratulations!!!

### License Upgrades

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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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## April Prize Winners

Door Prize Winners:

No Drawing

Half Pot Winner:

No Drawing

Membership Drawing:

No 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 – VVARC.ORG

If anyone has changes, comments, suggestions, etc., contact anyone on the Board or email [larrykendall@charter.net](mailto:larrykendall@charter.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.

## A Little Smile

*By David Deards*

Joe and Ed were Hams that talked every day on the radio. Ed passes away and Joe is left without his friend. A week later Joe is sitting on his front porch and Ed's angel appears and Jo asks, "Is there Ham radio in heaven?" Ed replies, "I have good news and bad news for you; the good news is there is radio and we talk all over the universe; the bad news is you are calling the net next Saturday."



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## The Power Makers: Steam, Electricity, and the Men Who Invented Modern America

*book by Maury Klein*

This story taken from a book review by Jill Lepore in the New Yorker, May 12, 2008

James Prescott Joule, whose finding led to the first law of thermodynamics, spent his honeymoon jury-rigging a thermometer to take a reading at the top and bottom of a waterfall.

Joseph Henry shredded his wife's silk petticoat to make insulation for the coil of wire he needed to wrap around an electromagnet.

Thomas Edison didn't wash, and was convinced that changing his clothes would alter his body's chemistry.

Nikola Tesla, who developed the first motor for alternating current had to do everything in multiples of threes: twenty-seven laps in the pool, twelve hundred electric lamps for the city of Strasbourg.

Edison called his first two children Dot and Dash, and treated them, on days that he noticed them at all, like pets.

To Klein, author of the Power Makers, the quirkiness of the men who invented modern American is a badge of their genius and the price of our prosperity. Klein excels at technical descriptions. In explaining a disadvantage of Edison's direct current—the greater the current, the bigger the wire needed to conduct it—he offers this nifty illustration “to light Fifth Avenue from 14<sup>th</sup> Ave to 59<sup>th</sup> St, the conductors would have to be as large as a man's leg”.

You can learn a lot about how the magnetic telegraph works, but not that Samuel F.B. Morse was a Northern apologist for slavery who ran for Congress in New York in 1854, on a platform which held that abolitionism was a foreign Catholic conspiracy aimed at destroying the United States and who, when the war came, regretted that Lincoln had the advantage of the telegraph against the less well-wired Southern. (Nine days after the attack on Fort Sumter, Lincoln had all the telegraph wires connection Washington to points south severed.)

“To a larger degree than most people care to admit,” Klein writes, “we have become what our technologies made us.” The idea that our machines make us who we are can be traced to the eighteenth century. “Man is a tool-making animal,” Benjamin Franklin said.

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## **Radio Limerick for the Month**

The auction is coming and here is the plot:  
Get rid of unwanted stuff that you've got!

But if you bid in,  
Take care, you might win  
And then you'll have more than you brought

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).