

VICTOR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

THE SPECTRUM

July 2009

The VVARC Officers for 2009

President: Robert Barton, W7OE

rbarton@ci.victorville.ca.us

Vice-President: David Deards, KI6HVI

RadioGramp@me.com

Secretary: Christy Hunter, KB6LTY

cchunter3@mindspring.com

Treasurer: Larry Kendall, KD7ZDG

kd7zdg@verizon.net

July General Meeting

Date: July 14 2009

Time: 7 p.m.

Program: ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

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.

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



No July Birthdays???????

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

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

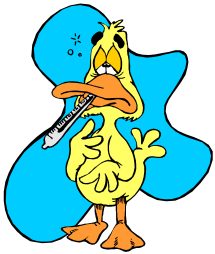
Field Day Results

Well the results are in. We had about 188 contacts this year.

Check out next month's Spectrum for pictures.

Route 66 on the Air Sept 12 – 20 2009

Mark your calendar, as our club has again committed to working on the Route 66 On The Air event. We have been assigned the special event 1X1 call of **W6D** for this year. We will be looking for local Hams to get up on the radio from their homes. All you have to do is announce the special event call and be there for Hams looking for you! It is fun to do, as you hear the other W6 calls and people tell you how many of the stations they have reached so far. More about this event as we get closer to September, but please consider being one of the people who get up on the air for this.



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.

New Members

Greg Rickerl - KI6YEI - Tech - New Ham

Jeffrey Allen - KI6YDS - Tech - New Ham

Paul Dendrenos - KI6YDZ - General

Paul Puckett - NC8W

WELCOME TO ALL OUR 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.

A note from the Halls - Club Party

It was a pretty chilly second Tuesday of June last month, but the club picnic was a pleasant event, as always. It is fun to just relax and chat—and eat of course. Thanks for all the good food that came along with our guests.

Jamboree On The Air

Jamboree on the Air will be held in October at the Mojave Narrows Park. Dave is in charge and is looking for volunteers. Anyone interested, let him know.

Does Your Club Have an Elmers List?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Whilst looking up information for a recent Hamfest, I found the club's website and began surfing around. In doing so, I came across their Elmer page (<http://www.mcrca.org/elmers.htm>). On it, they list a variety of topics with the name, call, and phone number of someone who can answer questions on that topic.

My club something similar once, but it was less than successful. I think that one of the problems was that we asked people to fill out a form on our website if they needed any help. That information was e-mailed to one guy, who then forwarded it to the appropriate Elmer. There was just too much time lag between the time someone asked for help and when they

got it. Or, it may have been that filling out the form was just too impersonal.

We are going to try it again, though, using the format that the Monroe club uses. I'm also going to give it more billing on our website, and push it more at meetings and other gatherings.

The topics the Monroe club lists on their website are:

- * Antennas
- * Buying Your First Radio
- * Code Practice
- * Computers
- * Packet
- * County Hunting
- * DXCC Awards
- * Rag Chewers Club
- * Worked All States
- * DX
- * FM
- * Homebrew
- * Testing
- * Public Service
- * Technical Q&A
- * Traffic
- * Tube Radios

We already have Elmers for several of these topics. I, for example, would be more than happy to volunteer to be the Morse Code/CW Practice Elmer. We have one member who is an avid County Hunter, another who restores vintage gear, and yet another who's been spearheading a statewide effort to set up a packet network throughout Michigan.

In addition, we are going to add or modify several of the categories. For example, Computers might become "Computers/Software" depending on who volunteers to be the Elmer. We have a couple of guys who are heavily into VHF/UHF operation and contesting, so we'll be adding those topics as well.

I really do hope that this will be an important resource for our club. In the past year, we've helped quite a few folks get their licenses, and now we need to help them take advantage of

that license and get the most out of the hobby. Elmering is the way to do that.

Does your club have an Elmer list? If so, does it have topics that I haven't thought of yet? How do you get newcomers to take advantage of the knowledge and experience of your Elmers? And, finally, what topics have you volunteered to be Elmer for? Let me know by e-mailing me at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

Santa Barbara SWD Convention/HAMFEST 2009

*Reported by Carl WU6D
Orange Section Manager*

Date: August 15, 2009

Where: EARL WARREN SHOWGROUNDS

Time: 8:00 am - 5 pm

Building: Warren Hall

Presentations: 9 am

Lunch: BBQ - Tri Tip/Chicken (Great BBQ)

Entry Fee: FREE

Parking Fee: FREE

Major raffle prizes every hour

GRAND PRIZE: Elecraft K-3 plus Spouse prizes - valuable restaurant gift certificates.

For the YL's get into the Home Garden show next door FREE

Please go to the Earl Warren Showgrounds www.earlwarren.com for directions or google a map.

Please also Visit: www.sbarc.org for further information:

They do have a flyer and registration form - you can also download the flyer and form off of

our website: www.orange-arrrl.org - give it a day or two before trying to download - need to get it to the web master. You can also go to www.wu6d.com

Hope to see you there.

June Prize Winners

Door Prize Winners:

Half Pot Winner:

Carolyn Schow

Membership Drawing:

Richard Durant won \$30.00. July drawing is \$10.00.

The Power Makers; Steam, Electricity, and the Men who Invented Modern America,

From a book review by Jill Lepore in the New Yorker magazine, May 12, 2009

You can learn a lot about how the magnetic telegraph works in "the Power Makers," 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 states. (Nine days after the attack on Fort Sumter Lincoln had all the telegraph wires connecting Washington to points south severed). In Klein's account, Morse enjoys unrivalled success with the telegraph in 1844, finds domestic happiness four years later when he marries his young, poor, deaf cousin; makes a valedictory trip to Europe to visit Hans Christian Oersted's laboratory in 1856; gains

"both fortune and fame at home and abroad"; and dies "rich and revered in April 1872.

It's More than Radios - Part I

A guest editorial by Bill Pasternak, A6FTF, that appeared in the Santa Clarita ARC newsletter, SCARC Reporter, in Feb, 2004.

In September of 1991, Icom American Inc and Zman Productions of Seattle, WA, premiered their 30 minute Ham radio motion picture "More than the Radios." The video movie tells the story of an "old Time Ham" or "OT" who takes a newcomer under his wing, "Elmering" him into the hobby and its traditions. "More than Radios" was not a "great" movie but it did tell our story in a pretty dramatic way.

The simple story line revolves around a teenage boy who gets forced to go on a family vacation to a desolate area. He feels lonely and abandoned until he meets a "crotchety old Ham." The Ham is at first hesitant to deal with this youngster who is forced into his life. He quickly relents, becomes the youngster's "Elmer" and the story then takes you through the "OT" passing along his love and respect for the hobby.

In the end, the "OT" becomes a Silent Key but before passing, he bequeaths his "old telegraph key" to the new grown up young Ham. In his farewell note he asks the newer Ham to be his successor and to carry on the traditions of the hobby.

Sadly, the movie was not well received by the nation's Ham radio community and quickly disappeared from distribution. Why? I cannot say but I suspect it may be because by the early 1990s we were already living in this fast paced world and even Hams had little room in their lives for "tradition."

To be continued next month

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.

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.

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.

Radio Limerick for the Month

*I have a favor to ask that won't take
much time
No work to do; no mountain to climb
As I type all alone
In the comfort of home
I wonder if anyone's reading my rhyme.*

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.

The Spectrum

Submitted by Virginia kd6rdc@juno.com

Time again for another newsletter and I have dug through my files to find a little information that I've been hoarding. I save anything dealing with radio thinking of the newsletter when I see something interesting. While the

months seem to come along at a faster and faster rate and Club participation is dropping, it's still fun to see what tidbits I can pass along.

Just curious to hear who is out there reading this, so maybe you could let us know, or even pass along stuff to put into an upcoming issue.

Web Site Update – VVARC.ORG

If anyone has changes, comments, suggestions, etc., contact anyone on the Board or email larrykendall@charter.net.

Spectrum

Submit any Spectrum entries to Sandi, sdeweert@verizon.net, by the last week of the month. Any comments and suggestions are welcome.