

VICTOR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

THE SPECTRUM

November 2009

The VVARC Officers for 2009

President: Robert Barton, W7OE

RDBC@verizon.net

Vice-President: David Deards, KI6HVI

RadioGramp@me.com

Secretary: Christy Hunter, KB6LTY

cchunter3@mindspring.com

Treasurer: Larry Kendall, KD7ZDG

kd7zdg@verizon.net

November General Meeting

Date: November 10, 2009

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Program: Nominations for 2010 Board, brainstorming events for 2010, and slide show presentation of JOTA and 2009 Field Day.

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.

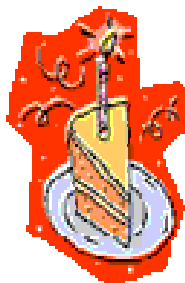
Report on Route 66 on the Air

Correction to last month's Spectrum:

Thanks for the hours of help in this year's event: James Pike, **Bruce Hunter**, Bill Baumruck, and Rod Zeka.

Club Member News

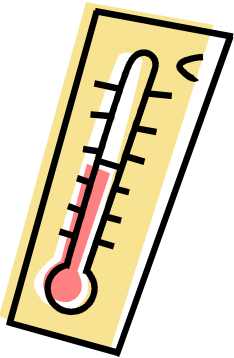
Birthdays



Nick Lamb	11/16
Tanya Mauldin	11/13
Scott Mayer	11/30
Henry Rivas	11/29

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

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



Let Sandi, 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.

Christmas Party – December 8th

Don't forget that our regular meeting next month will be our Christmas Party. Again this year we will be enjoying John's Incredible Pizza for all-you-can-eat buffet. Costs per person are:

Adults (ages 13 and over) \$12
Youth (ages 7-12) \$8.00
Children (ages 3-6) \$6.50

Prices do NOT include John's game tokens.

Remember that we reserve a room in the back. Do NOT pay at the door, but pay in the back. We'll list prices in the December Spectrum. There will be many door prizes, as always and there is also a gift exchange (with a suggested price of \$5 or so) for those who wish to participate.

New this year will be a raffle for a \$50.00 gift certificate to HRO.

It is also an important meeting where we will elect our Club officers for 2010. (Nominations are now being accepted.)

This is a family event and everyone is welcome. Looking forward to seeing everyone on

December 8th. Remember our meeting time is changed to 6:00 p.m.

2010 Membership Dues

It's that time again. Your continued support of the VVARC is appreciated. Dues can now be accepted for 2010.

Be sure and invite any of your friends to also join. The more the merrier!!!

Wanted: Volunteers

It's time for a slate of officers for 2010. It's your chance to help the Club. If not you, can you make a suggestion? If holding an office doesn't appeal, we are also looking for people to volunteer for committees to help with a single event, such as Field Day and Route 66 On-The-Air. Please consider taking your turn.

2010 VVARC Officer Nomination Form

President _____
Vice President _____
Treasurer _____
Secretary _____

You may nominate yourself or any other member for any office.

We are also asking for volunteers to FORMALLY co-chair (along with the Vice President-elect) the following committees. This is a great way to serve the club and the community without making a long-term commitment.

Field Day (June)
Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)
Picnic (July)
Auction (April or May)
Ice Cream Social (August)

Christmas Party (December)
Route 66 on the Air (September)

October Prize Winners

Half-Pot James Ashby \$7.00

Door Prizes

Membership

New Member

James Ashby, III, K5JCA

Welcome James!!!!!!!

HAM Radio Saves a Life

*from NBC Los Angeles, forwarded by Jeff
LaGrange, KD6JUC*

Karl Tso and wife Deborah Ava put their HAM radio training to use last weekend on Catalina Island. The recently trained volunteer radio operators rescued a man after he fell more than 40 feet onto the rocks below, a Los Angeles County Sheriff's sergeant said. Tao and Ava, both of Topanga, are members of the Topanga Disaster Radio Team. The team is part of the Topanga Coalition for Emergency Preparedness.

The couple had climbed a hill on Catalina Island to check out a repeater when they saw a 61 year old man bleeding and moaning. He fell more than 40 feet onto rocks. Tso and Ava had their hand-held HAM radios with them. They used the equipment to make contact with other HAM radio operators on the mainland, who called 911 to report the emergency. After HAM radio operators on the mainland called 911, Los Angeles County firefighter-medics responded and the unidentified injured man was flown by helicopter to St Mary's Hospital in Long Beach that night for treatment. The couple's quick thinking and knowledge of HAM radio

frequencies helped save the injured man's life, deputies said

2010 Census Cautions

Be cautious about giving information to Census workers. With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft.

The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census worker will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

The big question is *How do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con-artist?*

The Better Business Bureau offers the following advice:

1. A badge, a hand-held device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice.

Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.

2. Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card, or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census. While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, it will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers not will employees solicit donations.

3. Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, they will not contact you by email, so be on the lookout for email scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an email that is supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Give Your Generator Some Space

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the same folks that bring you WWV, publish a monthly newsletter called NIST Tech Beat. Here's an item from the 10/6/09 issue of NIST Tech Beat that will be of interest to radio amateurs:

To subdue the steaming heat of hurricanes or to thaw out during a blizzard, gasoline-powered, portable generators are a lifeline during weather emergencies when homes are cut off without electricity. But these generators emit poisonous carbon monoxide—a single generator can produce a hundred times more of the colorless, odorless gas than a modern car's exhaust. New research from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) shows that to prevent potentially dangerous levels of carbon monoxide, users may need to keep generators farther from the house than previously believed—perhaps as much as 25 feet.

Up to half of the incidents of non-fatal carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning reported in the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons involved generators run within 7 feet of the home, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Carbon monoxide can enter a house through a number of airflow paths, such as a door or window left open to accommodate the extension cord that brings power from the generator into the house. While some guidance recommends 10 feet from open windows as a safe operating

distance, NIST researcher Steven Emmerich says the “safe” operating distance depends on the house, the weather conditions and the unit. A generator's carbon monoxide output is usually higher than an automobile's, he says, because most generators do not have the sophisticated emission controls that cars do.

“People need to be aware that generators are potentially deadly and they need to educate themselves on proper use,” Emmerich says. With funding from CDC, NIST researchers are gathering reliable data to support future CDC guidance.

NIST building researchers simulated multiple scenarios of a portable generator operating outside of a one-story house, using both a test structure and two different computer models—the NIST-developed CONTAM indoor air quality model and a computational fluid dynamics model.

The simulations included factors that could be controlled by humans, such as generator location, exhaust direction and window-opening size, and environmental factors such as wind, temperature and house dimensions. In the simulations the generator was placed at various distances from the house and tested under different weather conditions.

“We found that for the house modeled in this study,” researcher Leon Wang says, “a generator position 15 feet away from open windows was not far enough to prevent carbon monoxide entry into the house.”

Winds perpendicular to the open window resulted in more carbon monoxide entry than winds at an angle, and lower wind speeds generally allowed more carbon monoxide in the house. “Slow, stagnant wind seems to be the worst case because it leads to the carbon monoxide lingering by the windows,” Wang explains. Researchers determined that placing the generator outside of the airflow recirculation regions near the open windows reduced carbon monoxide entry.

In the next phase of the study NIST will model a two-story house that researchers believe will interact with the wind differently. NIST researchers also have worked with the Consumer Product Safety Commission on related work. (See: "NIST to Study Hazards of Portable Gasoline-Powered Generators," NIST Tech Beat, March 5, 2008.)

The generator study can be downloaded at <http://fire.nist.gov/bfrlpubs/build09/PDF/b09009.pdf>.

L. Wang and S.J. Emmerich. Modeling the Effects of Outdoor Gasoline Powered Generator Use on Indoor Carbon Monoxide Exposures. (NIST Technical Note 1637,) 2009.

From the Good Sam Club Highway

Oct. 2009 issue, in the TECHtopics column.

A reader had written the question: Are CB radios widely used anymore for communication with other RVers? The answer: I suppose CBs are still used, but not as much as in the old days. Cell phones and FRS two-way radios seem to be more popular. And, of course, a number of RVers are going to Ham radio, since licensing requirements were relaxed.

Porky's Secret Code

from Reminisce Extra July 2009

"When Movies were Magic"

I once saw a 1937 cartoon, Porky's Railroad, in which Porky Pig was an engineer running a steam locomotive in a race against the 20th Century Limited, then a bright new train on the American scene. In an effort to warn Porky of a cow on the tracks ahead, a Morse code signal was sent to him. Being interested in such things and knowing Morse code, I spent some time listening to the message on a videotape over and over. I worked hard on it, because some of the code was overrun by the music.

The message said, in essence, "Listen up. Send a postcard to the producers of this cartoon and receive a picture of Porky." Interestingly, I discovered a similar message in 1939's The Lone Stranger and Porky. I see the whole thing as a little joke the cartoon producers played on the movie going public. I assume it was a long time before anyone caught on. I later discovered that others had taken note of this and had something published in QST, a magazine for amateur radio operators. Dan Schobert, Plover, Wisconsin.

ARRL Orange Section Events Announcements

October/November Presentations on Satellites and EchoLink

November 8 - QWCA Chapter 7 (Norwalk)

January 2010

January 2010 - Arizona -- Quartzite -- January 2010 -- Many people have joined in on the fun of the Annual Quartzite swap meets, from unique stones, RV equipment, and yes, even Amateur Radio. If you want something fun to do and learn more than you think you already know then visit <http://www.quartzfest.org/>

January 30, 2010 SATERN Annual Seminar - San Bernardino CA -- More information please contact Tony Stephens ke6jzf@verizon.net or visit the SATERN website: www.saturn.net.

January 30, 2010 - Palm Springs Winter FD/Hamfest/Picnic/Raffle -- Sponsored by the Desert Rats ARC & The Palm Springs DX Club. Start time of event: 9:30am -- 4:30pm Place: Gary KD6QLT & Susie KD6TVO QTH: 4193 Matthew Dr. Palm Springs, CA. 92264: Vendors and Groups: HRO, The DX Store, Hams for Less.com, ARRL, WPSS, SANCABLEXPARTS, W5YI, WARFA

** Bring your Ham gear to sell, no fee charged for selling, but bring own table and chairs, etc.

*** Lunch for a nominal fee*** (It was great the last time). Directions: From West: Take I-10 east to Palm Drive Exit. Turn R onto Gene Autry Trail. From EAST -- Take I-10 to Palm Drive Exit. Turn left onto Gene Autry Trail. Gene Autry Trail crosses E. Palm Canyon (Von's Market as marker) and becomes Matthew Dr. QTH is on Left.

Contact: Gary 760-328-9662 Alternate Contact: Bart K6UNR & Rita K6ARY, 1-760-340-4894. Talk-in frequency: 146.940 PL 107.2 -- Desert Rat Repeater.

February 6, 2010 - Volunteers Needed

Hello. I am the race director for the Twin Peaks 50m/50k Ultra that takes place on February 6, 2010. I am seeking help for radio communications during this race. Radio communications are very valuable in tracking runner progress, in case of medical emergencies, etc.

Twin Peaks takes place in the Santa Ana Mountains (covering Main Divide Road, Holy Jim, Santiago Peak, etc) just south of LA and on the border of Orange & Riverside counties. The actual start of the race is between Corona and Lake Elsinore. You can learn more about this event at <http://www.twinpeaks5050.com>.

I would appreciate if you could pass this on to your club members since radio communication is so important to a successful event!

Thank you for your time
Jessica DeLine, Race Director
<http://www.twinpeaks5050.com>
1-949-842-8452

April 16 -- 18 2010 International DX Convention, Visalia -- This will be the 61st Annual DX Convention. This is a great convention where everyone has a great time. Meet new friends and old friends from around the world or from around the corner that you may have talked to on the radio, but never met. If you are new to DXing or contesting, this is the place to be.
www.dxconvention.org

September 2010 Southwest Division Convention 2010 San Diego CA -- Sponsored by SANDARC for more information and registration please visit their website <http://www.sandarc.net/Convention2010.html>.

Limerick of the Month

Christmas comes but once a year.
The time for it is drawing near.

Don't delay
Save the day

The 8th at John's, we'll all be here.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Web Site Update – VVARC.ORG

Contact Larry Kendall, kd7zdg@verizon.net, with any comments or suggestions.

Spectrum

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