

October
2007

NEWS FROM C'VARC

President's Message by Neil Waybright, AF6CD

Each year in the fall, we elect new officers for the Club. Some will be incumbents, but hopefully many, particularly our Members at Large, will be new hams, or ones recently returned to being "active". This issue contains articles about the roles of each Board position. Take a few minutes to read each description and consider "applying" for one of these positions. You may read one of them and realize that it's talking about the sort of things you enjoy and have a flair for doing.

We have around 80 members in the club, though not all show up at the meetings. Some are seen only at Field Day (or other operating activities), and others show up for most club events, and others are frequently seen (or heard) on the ACS/ARES nets and activations. It really does "take all kinds" to make the world complete, but I would like to talk for a minute about the "kind" that organizes, assists, and provides some of the framework that we enjoy.

CVARC's Field Day 2007 was safe, fun and enjoyable this year due to the efforts of a small group that made sure:

1. the use of the property was okayed by the government officers that had to approve, and that it was reserved *see MESSAGE, p. 2...*

Inside this issue

2007 Event Calendar	2
Strays.....	2
CVARC Holiday Party!.....	3
Area 6/7 Repeater Change.....	3
Area 8 Repeater Change.....	3
Board Positions.....	4
2007 CVARC Officers.....	6
CVARC Online, Membership Rates.....	7

October Speaker: Hugh Bosma, AE6YC

AE6YC will speak on solar power for the ham shack. The presentation will be interactive and include several worksheets to help you implement a solar system. The "how to" will cover interpreting solar panel specifications for 12 volt systems, selecting a controller, determining your shack amp-hour requirements, lead acid battery characteristics, selection and charging, and summer to winter solar radiation numbers for our latitude.

Not ready for a full up solar system? Would you like to have a standby battery for power outages, Field Day and/or emergency communications? Use our worksheets and plug in your radios' current requirements to determine the needed amp-hour capacity for your application or shack.

Are terms like CCA, RC, MCA, AH, cutoff and float voltages; and battery types like SLA, VRLA, deep cycle, and marine confusing and keeping you from getting started? Not a problem, we will cut through all the terms and hype battery manufacturers throw at us. *See SPEAKER, p. 3...*

Correction of Speaker Item in September Newsletter

by Tom Stough, WØUFC

The speaker's biography for Ken Larson, KJ6RZ, gave the incorrect impression that he and his Bunker Ramo coworkers invented certain Internet protocols. Ken informs me that his team "rubbed shoulders with" the people who created TCP/IP and Ethernet. My apologies to all.

MESSAGE, continued from front page...

for the appropriate time window,

2. insurance forms were provided to the agencies that required them, and

3. the interests of surrounding residents were respected so we would be allowed to do this in the future.

There were many other contributions. Hugh Bosma, AE6YC and Steve Leong, KC6IJM obtained a large military surplus tent at a great bargain. Hugh spent many hours finding instruction manuals, making copies, welding tent stakes, setting up storage boxes, then overseeing deployment and tear-down of the "big top". Rob Hanson, W6RH and Sue Hanson, N6OIZ made sure the Saturday evening barbeque was culinary and social success.

We need other people we can call on to help out with the basic functions of the Club. We are losing, or have already lost, several active members and need a "bench" to call from. Rob has moved out of state, and I may be leaving soon as well. Luckily, the President and VP jobs are among the easiest, so I suspect we won't have a shortage of "applicants".

We ran without a Social Chair all year, and I miss having one. The ladies in our lives are less likely to come for purely technical outings, and I, for one, view amateur radio as a social as well as technical pursuit. We interact with people, not merely voices on the other end of the radio. Please consider the Social Chair role. This person has only three "required" events to manage: Field Day Saturday dinner, the summer club picnic and the Holiday Party (though he/she has complete freedom to pursue more).

Please take time to read the Board position descriptions, by-law excerpts and informal background notes from me. After the Chair of the Nominating Committee is chosen, please contact him/her if you'd like to stand for election. You will find it a rewarding and interesting experience.

See you on the air!—Neil, AF6CD

Strays...

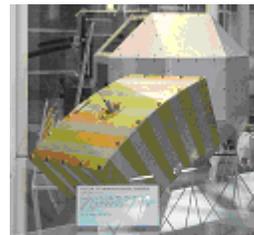


Jose Vazquez, N6VUY, will be /KP4 (Puerto Rico) from Nov. 3—Dec.

1. Look for him on PSK, SSB, CW and maybe SSTV.

Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, reminds us that the ACS/ARES station is open for casual HF contacts before CVARC meetings at 6:30 pm. "Newbie" HF licensees are welcome to learn basic operations from the "old pros".

Pete Heins, N6ZE, recently visited the new Smithsonian Air & Space Museum at Dulles International Airport near Washington, D.C. A small amateur radio exhibit in the Space Wing (about 100 ft. from the Shuttle "Enterprise") contains a model of OSCAR 1 and a description of the amateur satellite program.



2007 Event Calendar

Sep 20.....	CVARC Meeting
Sep 29.....	TRW Swapmeet
Oct 9.....	CVARC License Classes Begin
Oct 14.....	FCC License Exam at CVARC
Oct 16.....	CVARC License Classes Begin
Oct 18.....	CVARC Meeting
Oct 27.....	TRW Swapmeet
Nov 15.....	CVARC Meeting
Nov 24.....	TRW Swapmeet
Dec 4.....	CVARC License Classes End
Dec 8.....	(Confirmed) CVARC Holiday Party
Dec 9.....	FCC License Exam at CVARC
Dec 29.....	TRW Swapmeet

Please submit suggestions for additional dates to:
af6cd@arrl.net

CVARC Holiday Party!

By Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR
Public Relations Officer

CVARC's annual holiday party is confirmed for Saturday December 8 at the Cameron Center in Thousand Oaks. Plan to join us for a fun evening of great food, friends, prizes and our "Trash & Treasures" auction. Raffle tickets are now available - someone will be going home with a brand new HF radio!

SPEAKER, continued from front page...

Our presentation will focus on lead-acid technology as they are the best bang for the buck. However, if your interest is in portable operations where ni-cad, nickel metal hydride, alkaline, and lithium-ion are more appropriate we will do our best to field your questions.

We will also cover how time in service and depth of discharge affect battery life and capacity. How to verify an in-service or used battery's capacity, and when it's time to replace your batteries (hint - think current, not voltage).

When we say interactive - please join us at the October 18th meeting and share your experience and knowledge, battery charging war stories okay as well.

In this day and age of frequent Edison power outages be emcomm ready and part of the solution, not one of the problems. Start designing your power system today, okay the day after the meeting! And, yes--solar PV is truly green.

Hugh, AE6YC

ACS Area 6/7 Repeater Changes

by John Rotondi, WA2OOB,
Area 6/7 Emergency Coordinator

Please be advised that the Area 6/7 local net will be taking place...every Tuesday for the foreseeable future, at 19:00 on N6VUY/R: 147.975 MHz. -600KHz offset, 127.3 Hz PL.

Please program this into Memory Location #6 on your personal and Served Agency radios, replacing Grant Park (WB6ZTW 147.765 MHz.). You may want to consider copying the Grant Park info to a memory location above #20,first.

73, John

[Editor's note: Area 6 is the City of Ventura and Area 7 is Santa Paula/Fillmore/Piru. John asked me to say: N6VUY's repeater is open to all licensed amateurs.]

ACS Area 8 Repeater Change

By Rick Tate, KQ6NO,
Area 8 Emergency Coordinator

Due to the fact that Areas 6 and 7 have been combined and are now using the N6VUY repeater located in east Ventura as their primary net frequency, the Area 7 repeater, South Mountain, 146.985- (127.3), is now available for use by Area 8. Accordingly, we will begin using it for our weekly area nets effective... October 9. We are making this change on a trial basis in case any unforeseen issues should turn up. Net Control will continue to monitor the simplex frequency, 146.535, for the remainder of this month to facilitate the shift and reduce any confusion on the part of operators who may not have gotten word of the change.

Board Positions

by Neil Waybright, AF6CD

This is a quick primer on each of the positions on the board, what the by-laws require of them and what they actually do month-to-month. Some of this is borrowed from a similar article on this topic Steve Champion wrote in September 2006. The Board meets once a month, currently on the Thursday prior to regular CVARC meetings. The meetings start at 7:30pm and run to 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. depending on how much discussion there is. In addition to the Board Meetings themselves, there is often some informal discussion at General Meetings or by email. The functions of Board positions are outlined in the By-Laws (www.cvarc.org/By-laws.htm), but in reality the exact division of labor varies somewhat each year depending on the skills and interests of the individuals involved. The quotes from the by-laws are in "quote marks", with the commentary is afterwards in italics.

President: "The President shall preside at meetings of the Club, and shall be an ex officio member of the committees and Chairperson of the Board. He/she shall perform other customary duties pertaining to the office of President." *He or she chairs the Board and General meetings. The president also writes a monthly message in the newsletter, and occasionally answers emails from people looking to join the club, or wanting help from volunteers.*

Vice President: "The Vice-President shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President and shall assume the President's duties during his/her absence. He/she shall be responsible for communicating the objectives, policies, plans, programs and activities of the Club to the membership and, as appropriate, to the public and amateur fraternity at large; also, serve as chairperson of the Program Planning Committee." *The VP performs the role of the President in his or her absence and arranges guest speakers.*

Secretary: "The Secretary shall keep record of the proceedings of meetings, maintain a roster

of members, carry on necessary Club correspondence and ensure notice is provided to members announcing special meetings of the Club. He/she shall retain the official copies of the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws, which shall be available for inspection by members at reasonable times. The Secretary shall be responsible for the archiving of records and data. The Secretary shall keep current and provide to officers a procedural manual." *The secretary takes minutes at meetings and is the keeper of official records (insurance policies, tax-exempts status letters, etc.).*

Treasurer: "The Treasurer shall be specifically responsible for monies of the Club. He/she shall pay bills approved by the President, or Vice-President in the President's absence, collect monies, handle banking and keep adequate financial records. He/she shall also maintain an inventory of Club Property, prepare budgets for Board approval and keep the Board currently informed concerning expenditures in relation to budgeted items. He/she shall submit a summary of disbursement and receipts semi-annually to the Club and monthly to the Board of Directors. He/she shall be responsible to see that Federal and State tax forms and recurring filings are filed and paid in a timely manner. He/she shall at the expiration of his/her term turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the Club to his/her successor." *The treasurer handles pretty much everything financial and maintains the "official" membership roster.*

Publisher: "The Publisher shall be responsible for coordinating, editing and providing newsletters to Club members and others having interest in our Club activities." *Publishes the newsletter, and oversees the web site, too.*

Education Coordinator: "The Education Coordinator is responsible for developing and offering a broad program of education and training in the theory and application of electronics, Amateur Radio practice and lore so as to fulfill the corporate purpose and improve the skills of members and trainees. He/she shall foster an effective liaison with citizens in the community

who constitute a large resource of potential radio amateurs.” *The education coordinator arranges for licensing classes and leads efforts on any other necessary education issues.*

Technical Coordinator: “The Technical Coordinator shall be responsible for Club efforts in maintaining a high level of technical knowledge and skill within the Club and be a resource available to the Club and member stations to maintain their equipment's technical performance characteristics. He/she shall be the Club representative to other amateur organizations and the community on technical matters such as radio and television interference and QRM.” *The Technical Coordinator addresses technical issues, Interference, technical “Elmering” and making sure club events do not result in harmful interference.*

Operations Coordinator: “The Operations Coordinator shall be responsible for on-the-air operations of the Club and its members - including network, bulletins, contests; and for the construction, purchase, installation and maintenance of the Club's radio and technical equipment.” *The operations chair handles issues surrounding the CVARC van, Field Day, and other official club-sponsored field operations.*

Public Relations Coordinator: “The Public Relations Coordinator shall be responsible for fostering mutual understanding, cooperation and membership in the American Radio Relay League, communicating the needs and views of the Club to the ARRL, FCC and government within the limitations of the Club's non-profit status; encouraging individual and corporate charitable contributions; establishing the Club's objectives and long-range programs, and acting in liaison with other amateur radio organizations on matters of common interest.” *The PR coordinator handles publicity, ARRL interface, and other outreach activities. The ARRL has lots of help on this so you don't have to be a professional PR person to handle this.*

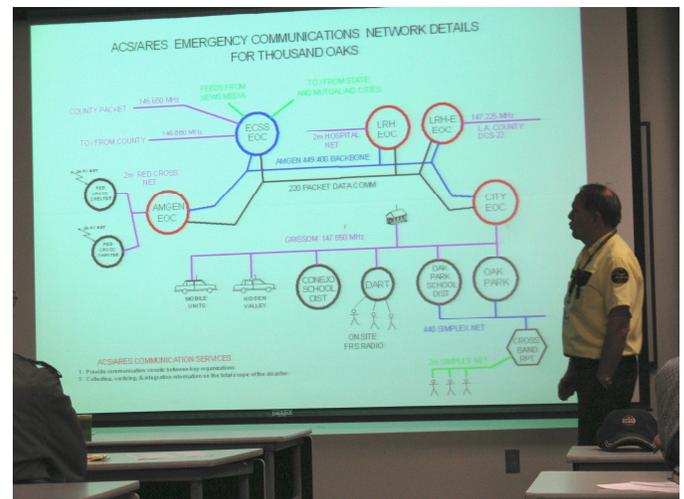
Social Coordinator: “The Social Coordinator shall be responsible for planning, organizing

and conducting social activities for the Club. He/she shall assist and coordinate with the Vice-President in implementing these responsibilities and serve as chairperson of the social committee.” *The social chair arranges social events, primarily the two group meals at field day, the summer picnic, and the Christmas party.*

Concerning the member-at-large, this is all the by-laws have to say: “The Board shall consist of the Officers specified in ARTICLE VI plus one(1) Member-at-large for each 50 members or fraction thereof. One of the Members-at-large shall be, with his/her concurrence, the immediate past president of the Club unless he/she shall be a current Officer.” Since our membership is greater than 50 and less than 100, we are able to elect two members-at-large. They typically represent the membership to the board, and have no other formal duties. They are often learning roles where you see if you like “Board duty” and learn how the club operates as an organization. This is where I started and enjoyed it a lot. The members-at-large are free to contribute more, and frequently do.

Please think seriously about serving on the Board. The club could benefit from your experience and new ideas.

Thanks,
Neil, AF6CD



Ken Larson, KJ6RZ, Sept. 2007 meeting/KI6COG Photo

Ventura County ACS/ARES Times & Frequencies

Area 2 ACS/ARES members are encouraged to check in every Tuesday night at 7:00pm on the Area 2 check-in nets.



Area	Time	Mode	Frequency	Shift	PL	Repeater/Notes
Area 1	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	147.930	-	127.3	AD6SV
<u>Area 2</u>	<u>7:00-7:30 pm</u>	<u>Voice</u>	<u>146.850</u>	-	<u>94.8</u>	<u>K6AER/Grissom</u>
<u>Area 2</u>	<u>7:10-7:30 pm</u>	<u>Voice</u>	<u>224.700</u>	-	<u>156.7</u>	<u>K6HB</u>
<u>Area 2</u>	<u>7:10-7:30 pm</u>	<u>Voice</u>	<u>449.440</u>	-	<u>131.8</u>	<u>W6EPO/Amgen</u>
Area 2	(Simplex)	Voice	147.555	None	None	Simplex
Area 2	(Backup Repeater)	Voice	147.885	-	127.3	N6JMI "Bozo"
Area 3	7:15-7:30 pm	Voice	147.915	-	127.3	WB6ZTQ
Area 4	7:15-7:30 pm	Voice	149.970	-	127.3	WB6YQN
Area 5	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	145.400	-	None	N6FL
Area 6/7	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	147.975	-	127.3	N6VUY
Area 8	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	146.985	-	127.3	South Mtn.
County	7:30-8:00 pm	Voice	146.880	-	127.3	WA6ZTT
County	6:45-7:00 pm	Voice	52.980	-	82.5	K6SMR
County	7:30-8:00 pm	Voice	224.020	-	127.3	WB6ZTR
County	Before 6:30 pm	Packet	145.710	+	None	Hospital Net
County	(ACS Simplex)	Voice	147.570	None	None	Simplex

Net Control operations for the weekly ACS/ARES Area 2 check-in are run from the ACS/ARES communications center at East County Sheriff Station (on Olsen Road) every Tuesday starting at 7:00pm.

Visitors are welcome and have the opportunity to operate the station. Please contact Gino Spinelli, KI6DJV at (805) 529-6101 if you would like to attend.

ACS members should remember that their ACS card is issued for only two years. When your card is due to expire, please call Jackie at the Office of Emergency Services in Ventura, (805) 654-2551, to renew it.

For questions concerning ACS/ARES, please call the Area 2 Emergency Coordinator, Ken Larson, KJ6RZ at (805) 495-9435 or go to the ACS/ARES section of the CVARC website at <http://www.cvarc.org>.

2007 CVARC Officers

President.....	Neil Waybright.....	AF6CD.....	(805) 517-2962.....	af6cd@arrl.net
Vice President.....	Rob Hanson.....	W6RH.....	(805) 376-9350.....	rob@w6rh.com
Secretary.....	Mary Ho.....	KI6COG.....	(805) 494-9241.....	abele7213@mypacks.net
Treasurer.....	Roy Deschene.....	KE6UMW.....	(818) 887-4039.....	RoyfD@aol.com
Public Relations.....	Jeff Reinhardt.....	AA6JR.....	(818) 706-3853.....	aa6jr@pacbell.net
Technical.....	Rick Barrett.....	KE6DKF.....	n/a.....	ke6dkf@roadrunner.com
Operations.....	Ken Larson.....	KJ6RZ.....	(805) 495-9435.....	kj6rz@verizon.net
Newsletter Editor.....	Tom Stough.....	WØUFC.....	(805) 373-6836.....	w0ufc@arrl.net
Education.....	Karl Moody.....	AE6TO.....	(805) 523-0622.....	ke6wvz@aol.com
Social.....	-OPEN-			
Member at Large.....	Jonathan Fox.....	KT6LA.....	(818) 889-1156.....	kt6la@yahoo.com
Member at Large.....	Hugh Bosma.....	AE6YC.....	(805) 498-1987.....	hrbcrb@aol.com



CVARC is recognized by the ARRL as a Special Service Club (SSC). To be a part of the ARRL's Special Service Club program, the club must regularly show that it is actively involved in certain areas, including:

- New Ham Development and Training
- Public Relations
- Emergency Communications
- Technical Advancement
- Operating Activities



Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 2093
Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-2093

Address Correction Requested

– FIRST – CLASS – MAIL –



CVARC Online

For up-to-date information and back issues of newsletters, please visit the CVARC Web Site at <http://www.cvarc.org>. In addition to visiting the Web site, you may like to join the CVARC Yahoo Group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CVARCDiscussion/>

The Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated Special Service Club. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month, except December. The meeting location is the Community Room at The East County Sheriff Station, 2101 E Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks. Meetings start at 7:30pm with a pre-meeting social and technical assistance session from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Meetings are open to the public, and members are encouraged to bring their friends.

“News from CVARC” is published monthly (on the Monday preceding the CVARC club meeting) by the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club, AA6CV PO Box 2093, Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-2093. It is mailed free of charge to all members.

Opinions expressed in articles in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the club, its Board, or its members.

CVARC Membership Rates

Visitors are always welcome at our monthly meetings, and we do not pressure newcomers to join. If, however, you would like to support the club and its activities by becoming a member then we will be very pleased.

The simplest way to join (or to renew) is to write us a check bearing your address, and give or send it to our Treasurer. Make the check payable to “CVARC” and please put your callsign and/or email address, if you have one, on the memo line of your check. Name, Callsign, or Address changes may be emailed to the Treasurer.

Current annual rates are: Regular Membership: \$25. Family Membership: \$30. Special discounts are available for; New members just licensed: \$10. Full-time Students: \$10. Regular members renewing for multiple years: \$20/year.