

October
2010

NEWS FROM CVARC

President's Message Brad Ormsby, W6VO

The CVARC Board will be presenting the following a slate of Officers for next year. Please consider supporting our club and volunteer for a Board Position. You can refer to this October Newsletter for Board Positions and descriptions or you can contact anyone on the Board for additional information.

- President:
- Vice President:
- Secretary:
- Treasurer:
- Public Relations:
- Technical:
- Operations:
- Newsletter Editor/Web Master:
- Education:
- Social:
- Member at Large:
- Member at Large:

Raffle: (Non Board)
Your current Board members are:

Brad Ormsby	President
RobHanson	Vice President
Eric Peterson	Secretary
Dave Morton	Treasurer
Mike D'Amore	Public Relations
Bill Willcox	Technical
Greg Lane	Operations
Neil Waybright	Newsletter
Todd Keopfer	Education
Phil Bartlett	Social
Hugh Bosma	Member at Large
Charley Pember	Member at Large

President's Message, continued on page 2

"Radio Astronomy and the Radio Amateur" Dennis Kidder - W6DQ

You may not realize this, but modern radio astronomy owes its existence to Amateur Radio. We'll trace the history of this relatively new science and describe the ham radio connections. Radio astronomy has provided some major contributions to the understanding of our universe. We'll discuss how hams can perform simple experiments, many times with equipment on hand, with some real-life examples of what folks are doing in the hobby. If you like radio and watch the skies, you'll like how you can bring the two together!

An amateur astronomer, Dennis has spent a lot of time looking at the skies and has an active interest in amateur radio astronomy that even preceded his interest in ham radio. Astronomy seems to be a hobby that is shared by a great many hams. And it's only natural to begin looking beyond the optical wavelengths for a radio amateur.

Dennis is a System Engineer with a large defense contractor, developing air defense and battlefield communications systems.

As always, the CVARC club meeting is held on the third Thursday of the month at the East County Sheriff Station located at:

2101 East Olsen Road
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

The East County Sheriff Station facility is just off of the 23 freeway between Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley. We look forward to seeing you there.

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President's Message, continued from front page...

Bruce, K6ZB has started teaching a **General License Class**. The course will cover the modern practice of HF communications by hams, including; Practices and procedures, Regulations, Components and Circuits, Radio Signals and Equipment, Antennas, Propagation, Electrical and RF Safety. These subjects will be covered in sufficient detail so you will know how to put an HF station together and operate it correctly. He will cover the questions and answers in the General license exam, but that is not the only purpose for this course. If you have not signed up and would like to join the class, please contact a Board Member.

On October 9th we had a programming class at the East County Sheriff's Station Community Room. If you still need help or were unable to attend please contact our Technical Chair, **Bill Willcox** or any Board Member and let him know what your programming needs are, so we can give you some help and make you more "RADIO ACTIVE" !

We are in need of someone to host a "**Shack Tour**". Please consider having a few CVARC members over to share your station with. If you would like to host a "Shack Tour", please let me know so it can be scheduled. We are scheduling some field trips for next year, Rasnow Peak, Chatsworth Peak and a commercial radio station, so stay tuned!

Please mark your calendars for this year's CVARC Holiday Party which will be on **December 11, 2010** at the Cameron Center, more information to follow. We always have a fun auction, so if you have any excess equipment, parts or accessories that someone else could use, please consider a tax deductible donation to CVARC, which is a 501(c)(3) Non Profit Corporation. Be sure to read about the raffle and buy lots of tickets, everyone can always use a handheld radio, a TNC, or a mobile radio.

Remember..."BE RADIO ACTIVE"
Brad, **W6VO**

Dinner with the Club Speaker
Phil Bartlett, K6UJO

Join us at P&L Burgers, 2000-A East Avenida de los Arboles, Thousand Oaks for dinner with the guest speaker. Burgers, Sandwiches, Salads, Burritos, Combos, Dinners and a Kids Menu in a 50's Dinner atmosphere. This little shop is family owned and operated and been in T.O for many, many years. Walk in and go to the counter. Order, pay for your meal, take a seat; wait to be served. Food is hot, fresh, great tasting and the restaurant is clean, bright and comfortable. The P&L is located next to the DMV in the shopping center with OSH.

Burgers start at \$ 3.10 with Dinners at \$ 9.95. Drinks and sides of Onion Rings ("the best") Zucchini, Chili Cheese Fries, etc are extra. Specials with sand witches, side and drink are posted. OBTW, A great Breakfast selection is also available.

Join us at 5:30 pm before the meeting on Thursday, 21 October, for talk and fellowship. Our guest speaker will be there and share in the discussion. Invite your friends to join us. It is a great time to get to know the people in our community.

If you have any questions, e-mail or call, Phil at Peb@peb.net or 805.300.3045.

Board Positions

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.

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 (<http://www.cvarc.org/by-laws.shtml>), 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 in-

formed 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 (ARRL), 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 the position a lot. The members-at-large are free to contribute more, and frequently do.

Please think seriously about serving on the Board. The current and past board members would be thrilled to Elmer a new board member in at literally any position on the board. None of these are so difficult that a new ham or a new club member couldn't be successful in the role. We would all work with you to make sure that you would succeed and have a good time. It is our club too, and the fact is that the club could benefit from your experience and new ideas. I have never seen a situation that the new members on the board each year don't bring fresh new viewpoints that help improve things for all of us.

Thanks,
Neil, AF6CD

Next Month's Speaker Rob Hanson, W6RH

Next Month's Speaker is Dennis Hitter. First licensed in 1969, Dennis is active on most amateur bands through 24 GHz. His interests are varied - from collecting and operating boatanchors to building radios that work in the very short wavelengths. Weak signal work has become his favorite pastime, from being the first person ever to receive a signal from SAQ, in Sweden, on the US West Coast at 17.2 KHz (Yes, KHz), to bouncing radio signals off the Moon on 144 MHz and up.

He is involved in emergency communications as an Assistant Emergency Coordinator with the Orange County Hospital Disaster Support Communications System. Active in a number of Amateur Radio clubs, he is President of the San Bernardino Microwave Society and is currently a Director and former President of The Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach, W6RO. He is

also the Assistant Project Manager of the SBMS/OVRO EME Project.

Dennis is no stranger to working around big dishes having spent a number of years as an Engineer with Hughes Aircraft Company building satellite ground stations. He is now a System Engineer with another large aerospace company, working on battlefield tactical radio systems

About the Presentation

"Radio Astronomy and Amateur Radio" - Introduction to Radio Astronomy and how hams can get involved "So, you think you know what time it is?" - A history of precision time and frequency measurement "RF Exposure and Safety" - Discussion of issues surrounding exposure to RF and compliance with Part 97 Regs.

The CVARC Christmas Party is Almost Here!

We have confirmed the Cameron Center in Thousand Oaks for the CVARC Christmas party and auction on Saturday the 11th of December. Further details will be forthcoming, but be sure and save the date. We traditionally have a pot luck dinner, so you have plenty of time to think about what you would like to bring. We typically have almost 40 people come for the party, so don't miss it this year.

Another great reason is that we have had an equipment auction the last few years where folks have donated to the club (for tax purposes) equipment that is auctioned off at the party. Some great deals have been available in years past, so come prepared to look for a treasure or two....

CVARC Holiday Party Raffle Neil Waybright AF6CD

The CVARC Holiday Party Raffle is coming to the CVARC Christmas Holiday Party on the 5th of December. Prizes this year include a TH-F6A tri-band handheld radio (a favorite of discerning hams everywhere [such as your editor]), a KPC3Plus Terminal Node Controller (perfect for anyone wanting to get into packet radio), and a 2

meter mobile radio (exact model under evaluation).

The white tickets for the Christmas raffle will be on sale starting this months meeting. You need not be present to win the white ticket prizes. The tickets will be on sale from the raffle coordinator for the following price (including a nice quantity discount):

\$10.00	One Ticket
\$25.00	Three Tickets
\$50.00	Seven Tickets
\$100.00	Fifteen Tickets

The more tickets you have in the pool, the greater your chances of winning, but even one gets you into the drawing.

We will also be drawing for the red-ticket prize (drawn from the stubs from all of the red tickets purchased throughout the year). **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN THE RED TICKET.** The party is free to attend, so there is no reason not to come so we look forward to seeing you there.

Tax Deductable Donations to CVARC Neil Waybright, AF6CD

CVARC is an IRS-certified 501(c)3 charitable organization and donations are deductible pursuant to the IRS rules. If you have working radio equipment and ancillary equipment that you can donate for the Christmas party and auction, please contact one of the board members and we will be happy to talk to you about the process.

We cannot accept certain donations, and have to place some restrictions around them (no hazardous materials, nothing we could not sell, etc.) If you are interested, look me, or any other board member up at one of the meetings, or contact us via email (our addresses are on page 7 of the newsletter).

Donation To Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club (CVARC) Library

The Board of the Ventura Co. Amateur Radio

Society (VCARS) has donated a package of four current ARRL Basic Radio/Electronics Manuals to the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club (CVARC) Education Library.

Background: Several months ago, VCARS received two identical sets of four American Radio Relay League (ARRL) books: "Getting Started with Ham Radio" (#9728), "Basic Antennas" (#9994), "Basic Electronics" (#823), & "Basic Radio" (#9558) which were donated jointly by ARRL & Amateur Electronic Sales (AES) for VCARS to distribute in conjunction with N6R's Field Day 2010 activities. One set was previously presented by VCARS to the Thousand Oaks Grant Brimhall Main Library.

Discussion: The VCARS Board desired that maximum availability & use of the second set of manuals be the basis for distributing the manuals. A raffle of single manuals to 4 VCARS members did not seem appropriate nor did a proposed donation to a non-profit after school care facility seem to provide maximum utilization of the materials.

Because CVARC's activities as an ARRL Special Service Club encompass both a very active amateur radio licensing class program and VEC testing program as well as having a well developed (and accessible) Amateur Radio Lending Library, the VCARS Board has donated the four ARRL Manuals to CVARC's Amateur Radio Lending

Library to be utilized for educational purposes.

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



Eric J. Christensen
Manager
K6EJC

1525 W. Magnolia Blvd.
Burbank, CA 91506
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burbank@hamradio.com

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 Tel: (_____) _____ - _____
 E-Mail: _____
 ARRL Member expiration date (on QST label) _____
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 Date: _____ Update Roster Only? _____
 Family Membership: Names/Calls _____
 Send Information/Application to:
 Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. Box 2093
 Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-2093

New Renewal
 Single Membership - \$25 _____
 Multi-year _____ years @ \$20 = _____
 New Ham (licensed in last 12 months) - \$10 _____
 Single Membership, Full-Time Student \$10 _____
 Family Membership - \$30 _____ (Multi-year \$25/year)
 ARRL Membership Renewal (include ARRL form) \$ _____
 AD Space (2x3) One Year (member) - \$35 _____
 AD Space (2x3) One Year (non-Member) - \$75 _____
 Total Enclosed \$ _____
 Cash Check Number _____

Interested in License Upgrades? _____
 Joining ARES/ACS? _____
 Disaster Action Team? _____
 Obtain a HAM License? _____

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>N6EVC/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>W6AMG/Amgen</u>
Area 2	(Simplex)	Voice	146.445	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	146.970	-	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	146.385	+	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	145.650	None	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.

For questions concerning ACS/ARES, please call the Area 2 Emergency Coordinator, Jerry Goldman, KC6JSO at (805) 405-8213 or go to the ACS/ARES section of the CVARC website at <http://www.cvarc.org>.

ACS members should remember that their ACS card is issued for only two years. When your card is due to expire, please call Jerry B. Goldman KC6JSO (805) 405-8213 or (805) 493-0076 Office. Jerry works with OES on a regular basis and will track your renewal to ensure that you receive your new badge in the shortest possible time. You will need to complete a Volunteer Update form for your renewal. Jerry will email this form to you 45 days prior to your ACS card expiration date. Please make sure that Jerry has your correct email address at all times.

2010 CVARC Officers

President.....	Brad Ormsby	W6VO	(818) 991-1130	bormsby@sbcglobal.net
Vice President.....	Rob Hanson	W6RH	(805) 376-9350	rob@w6rh.com
Secretary	Eric Peterson.....	WB6PYK.....	(805) 479-9953	expeterson@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dave Morton.....	W7DMM	(805) 495-3920	dmorton@rain.org
Public Relations	Mike D'Amore.....	N6MDA	(805) 496-1073	mike.damore@roadrunner.com
Technical	Bill Willcox	KF6JQO	(805) 657-0351	wlinport@pacbell.net
Operations	Greg Lane	K7SDW	(805) 498-0454	k7sdw@verizon.net
Newsletter Editor	Neil Waybright.....	AF6CD.....	(805) 517-2962	af6cd@arrr.net
Education.....	Todd Kleopfer.....	KD6RCM.....	(805) 844-8708	kd6rcm@arrr.net
Social.....	Phil Bartlett.....	K6UJO.....	(805) 499-6935	peb@peb.net
Member at Large	Hugh Bosma.....	AE6YC.....	(805) 498-1987	hrbcrb@aol.com
Member at Large	Charlie Pember	KG6CLT	(805) 495-6701	cpember@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 call sign and/or email address, if you have one, on the memo line of your check. Name, Call sign, 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 (licensed in last 12 months): \$10. Full-time Students: \$10. Regular members renewing for multiple years: \$20/year, family members renewing for multiple years is \$25.00/year).