

February QUA CVARC 2012

A Monthly Publication for the Members of the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club

President's Message

Rob Hanson, W6RH

Why do we do it? I am occasionally asked why I am involved in Ham Radio. Though there is no simple answer, I think the FCC in part 97 is a good start.

To paraphrase:

- (a) Amateur Radio exists to provide a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.
- (b) Advancement of the radio art.
- (c) Advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.
- (d) Expansion of the existing reservoir of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.
- (e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

It sounds right to me. Why are you a Ham? What would you like to see CVARC do to help you achieve your goals? What are you willing to do to help CVARC? I would like to welcome our new board members who are serving CVARC. Ken Segedie, WD9DPK as Treasurer, and Nic Maddox, KJ6RLI as Education.

I hope you will join us to hear Dick Norton N6AA, ARRL Southwest Division Director and meet us for dinner before.

ARRL Field Day: 2012 Field Day Packet Now Available

It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for ARRL Field Day, June 23-24, 2012! ARRL's flagship operating event -- always held the fourth full weekend in June -- brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun. Field Day packets are now available for download at

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day> and include the complete rules, as well as other reference items such as forms, ARRL Section abbreviation list, entry submission instructions, a Frequently Asked Questions section, guidelines for getting bonus points, instructions for GOTA stations and a kit to publicize your event with the local press. A brief one-page flyer with basic "What is Field Day" information has also been included in this year's Field Day packet. Amateur Radio clubs and individuals are encouraged to reproduce this flyer as a handout for information tables.

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The CVARC club meeting is held at 7:30 PM on the third Thursday of the month at:

The East County Sheriff Station
2101 East Olsen Road
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

The East County Sherriff Station facility is just off the 23 freeway from the Olsen Road off-ramp, north, between Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley.

Trivia Corner

Who holds the world's speed record for receiving Morse Code? Ted R. McElroy set a still-standing record for copying CW at 75.2 WPM in July, 1939, at a contest in Asheville, N.C!

February Speaker

Dick Norton, N6AA

Dick Norton, N6AA, will speak on "The American Radio Relay League – our organization"

He was first licensed in 1955 as KN2PHF. Dick is an active contester where he operates in CQ and ARRL World-Wide DX contests. He has operated from all of the 40 zones. Dick is the ARRL southwestern Division Director and is president of the Southern California Contest Club.

Dick's discussion will focus on the benefits of ARRL membership. Many of our members are new hams and may not know the various programs that the ARRL offers. This includes web programs and aliases for members. He will also discuss some of the important issues that are we facing today and pending FCC actions.

We are affiliated with the ARRL as a full-service radio club and we actively promote full club member affiliation.

Submitted by Zak, N6PK

Dinner with the Speaker

Diane Wainwood, KJ6JEJ

Join your CVARC friends and speaker Dick Norton, N6AA, for dinner this month at **The Soup Plantation** in the Simi Valley Town Center. Last month's buffet was so popular, I thought I'd try to find another buffet! Dinners are reasonable (\$10.29 per person + beverage) and there's a wide menu beyond the giant salad bar--soup, pizza & pasta, breads & muffins, fruits & puddings, soft ice cream for dessert. There's really no reserved seating, but they assure us seating close to each other. If you can, please RSVP to me by the day before, as last month I reserved for the usual 16 or

so, and 30 of us showed up! The more the merrier! My phone & e-mail: 805-241-6967 and winay@verizon.net. **Directions:** Take Hwy. 118 to either Erringer or First St. exit. The restaurant is in the Simi Valley Town Center between these two. It faces the parking lot at #1555. Go through the line & pay and look for the CVARC group. (If you're really thrifty, check the Sunday paper or on-line for discount coupons.) I'll get there by 5:00 to be sure we have tables near each other. The restaurant phone: 805-584-8140.

"Newbie" Net

Diane Wainwood, KJ6JEJ

Our Newbie Net continues to meet Sunday evening at 7:00 pm on the Bozo repeater 147.885 with a negative offset 127.3. Our attendance is up to about 7-12 each week, a good mix of newbies and Elmers, and we're hearing from hams in Moorpark and Simi Valley as well. It's nice that the Simi Settlers net follows an hour or so later in the evening at 147.705 with a negative offset of 100; we newbies can get a "double whammy" on one night! If any newbies would like to run the net for an evening (believe me, it's not hard and I've learned a lot from doing it), check with me at the meeting or e-mail me and I'll send you a "script". It would be great to have a "back-up" if I'm unavailable. Talk to you on-the-air on Sunday! 88 de KJ6JEJ

Radio Jake's Corner

How would you like to receive a free raffle ticket for the prize drawing at the February CVARC meeting? Be the first to e-mail me with the **correct answer** to the questions below and the raffle ticket will be yours. RadioJake1@aol.com. There will be a new question each month. The winner, along with those submitting the correct answer, will be

mentioned in the next month's newsletter along with the correct answer. Since this is the ARRL's Year of the Antenna we will start this month with an antenna question.

What is the formula for calculating the length of a Half-Wave antenna, also known as a dipole? What is the length of an antenna resonant at a frequency of 28,400.0 MHz?

This frequency was chosen as it is in the middle of the Technician portion of the 10 meter band and is essentially the heart of the band. You may be surprised how short the antenna is. It is simple to construct. All that is needed are a few feet of copper wire, a center insulator, and two end insulators. The wire should be cut exactly in the middle and attached to each side of the center insulator. The two other insulators are connected to the ends of the wire. Enough extra wire length should be added to allow for wrapping around the center and end insulators. The coaxial cable is attached at the center. This antenna can be strung in trees, placed in an attic, or hid inside a nonmetallic rain gutter or behind it. It can be mounted horizontally, vertically, or any angle between. You can use a small diameter feed line such as RG-58 or RG-59 as long as you do not exceed 400-500 watts. An antenna for the 15 meter band is not much longer, so what is keeping you from getting on HF? Both the 10 and 15 meter band are open daily to many parts of North America and much of the world. That's it for this month. Open your books, get out your calculator and e-mail me your answer. Radio Jake

Raffles and Flourishes

Ray Biederman, WB6L

The prizes for the February CVARC meeting will be a gift certificate from **Ham Radio Outlet**; PL259 silver plated connectors; ARRL log book; HQ-1 center support for a dipole antenna which includes an eyelet for hanging, SO-239 connector, & copper

tie points for the ends of the dipole; radio related T-shirt; bright LED flashlight; electrical tape.

Kudos to Kevin Shute, KG6BCL, for donating several raffle prizes and one ARRL handbook to the CVARC library. WB6L

Peter Heins, N6ZE, was the grand prize winner of the Arrow Antennas VHF/UHF satellite antenna & duplexer at the January meeting. Peter is also an ARRL VUCC Field Checker & WAS/HF Awards Manager. Ray Biederman, WB6L

Helpful Hints

"Ever Wish You Had An Extra Hand?"

This device is a stable platform and mini-vise for holding items while making repairs or soldering connectors.

The Hobbyist HAM has been designed with the field QTH in mind. Now you have a stable platform for making repairs and upgrades to your Antenna, Microphones, speakers and much more.

The new HAM incorporates cut outs for all of your popular connectors and even includes a vise to hold your PL259, two row D Sub connectors and other odd items. You get a device that has manufactured with the HAM operator in mind. It includes these connector ports: 1/4" Phone plug, 5.5mm coax plug, 3.5mm mini phone plug, male and female phono (RCA) plug and jack ports, a DIN connector and an 8 pin plug port. Other features include a cool little screw storage well with a threaded cap to store spare screws so they won't get lost. You also get a stainless Post-N-Clip system for holding your cable properly. All in all, I think this is a cool tool to add to your workbench. Check it out

at: <http://solderbuddy.com/products/solderbuddy-hobbyist-ham/>

Mike D'Amore – N6MDA

New Rules for 5 MHz (60 Meters) To Go Into Effect March 5

From: ARRL News 02/03/2012

On November 18, the FCC [released](#) a Report and Order ([R&O](#)), defining new rules for the 60 meter (5 MHz) band. These rules are in response to a Petition for Rulemaking ([PRM](#)) filed by the ARRL more than five years ago and a June 2010 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ([NPRM](#)). In the [February 3 edition of the Federal Register](#), the FCC [announced](#) that these new rules will go into effect at 12:01 AM (EST) on March 5, 2012.

In summarizing the new rules, the FCC explained that the new rules amend the current rules to facilitate more efficient and effective use by the Amateur Radio Service of five channels in the 5330.5-5406.4 kHz band (the 60 meter band): “Specifically, and consistent with our proposals in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in this proceeding, the Commission replaces one of the channels with a less encumbered one, increases the maximum authorized power amateur stations may transmit in this band and authorizes amateur stations to transmit three additional emission designators. The Commission also adopts an additional operational rule that prohibits the use of automatically controlled digital stations and makes editorial revisions to the relevant portions of the Table of Frequency Allocations and our service rules.”

The Amateur Radio Service in the United States has a secondary allocation on 60 meters. Only those amateurs who hold General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class licenses may operate on this band. Amateur stations must not cause harmful interference to -- and must accept interference from -- stations authorized by any administration in the fixed service, as well as mobile (except aeronautical mobile) stations authorized by the administrations of other countries.

The Amateur Creed

Rob Hanson, W6RH

The Amateur Creed was composed in 1928 by Paul M. Segal - then 9EEA in Denver, and General Counsel of the ARRL. The creed has been updated a few times over the intervening years, to update the text and put it into contemporary terms. The Amateur's Creed appears in a number of ARRL publications such as the Handbook, and is just as valid today as it has been for nearly 70 years.

The Amateur's Creed:

Considerate...never knowingly uses the air in such a way to lessen the pleasure of others.

Loyal...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to their fellow radio amateurs, their local radio club, and to the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio is represented.

Progressive...with knowledge abreast of science. It is well-built and efficient. Operating practice is above reproach.

Friendly...slow and patient sending when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are marks of the amateur spirit.

Balanced...radio is their hobby. They never allow it to interfere with any of the duties they owe to their home, job, church, school, or community.

Patriotic...their knowledge and their station are always ready for the service of his country and their community.

Reminder: Dues

Ken Segedie, WD9DPK, Treasurer

Please check to insure you have paid and/or renewed your membership dues for 2012. If you are unsure if you are up to date see me at the monthly meeting or email at:

ken806@earthlink.net

and I will let you know when they are due. Save CVARC \$1 per newsletter – get yours by e-mail.

Thanks, Ken Segedie, WD9DPK

Pete Heins, N6ZE - Biography

In an effort to have our members learn a bit about each other, CVARC will try to publish a short bio about a member each month. The first subject was the winner of the grand prize Arrow Antenna at the January meeting.

Pete Heins, N6ZE, has continuously held an Amateur Radio License since being first licensed as a Novice in 1963.

His first call sign was KN1FJM, followed a year later by K1FJM when he passed his Technician test. Currently licensed as an Amateur Extra, Pete has extensively utilized his ham 'ticket' from the Boston, MA area; Eastern North Carolina; Homestead, FL; Thousand Oaks, CA; as well as from Western Washington. Although N6ZE/K1FJM usually operates from Thousand Oaks, he has operated from Newfoundland, Canada (/VO1); Grand Cayman (ZF2EW); Antigua (V2ADX-K1FJM/V2A; Martinique (FM7/K1FJM); the top of the Empire State Building (/2); atop the 6288 ft. MSL Mt. Washington, NH (/1); Stratford-On-Avon, Great Britain (/G) and Whidbey Island, WA (/7) to conduct various VHF/UHF Contest Roving activities. He primarily prefers to dabble on the bands 50 MHz & higher, but also operates on HF frequencies, primarily 10, 12, and 17 meters. Pete has earned awards for Worked All Continents (WAC); Worked All States (WAS) (with 6 meter endorsement); and VHF/UHF Century Club (VUCC) for both 6 and 2 meters from both California and South Florida. He recently 'discovered' that he has over 100 countries confirmed, primarily on 6 meters, and plans to apply for DX Century Club (DXCC). Current interests include VHF contesting and Roving as well as working new countries on all bands. N6ZE is normally capable of using 100 watts of SSB/CW/PSK/FM on all bands from 40 meters to 70 centimeters. In the past, he has operated as an aeronautical mobile station and has made 2 meter meteor scatter contacts and moon-bounce

contacts. Pete participates in Ventura Co. ACS as well as Island Co. (WA) RACES groups. As a member of an ARRL Special Service Club, CVARC, N6ZE is a volunteer ARRL VUCC Field Checker and HF Awards (WAS) Checker. He's a member of the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club (CVARC); Ventura Co. Amateur Radio Society (VCARS); Island Co. (WA) Amateur Radio Club (ICARC); Pacific Northwest VHF Society (PNWVHFS); and Life Member ARRL. Now retired from military and airline flying, Pete drinks coffee on a daily basis at 0800 @ "Bean Crazy", formerly called "Bent on Coffee" on Hillcrest Ave. across from Janss Marketplace/Sears Mall.

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- ALL ELECTRICAL WORK
 - LOW AND HIGH VOLTAGE
 - 24 HOUR SERVICE
 - SOLAR POWER
On & Off Grid



ARIE IZHAK
C-10 & C-7
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ORPAX USA
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Distributor

The Electric Touch Company

e-mail: i.arie@verizon.net KJ6MCT
425 Dena Dr. Newbury Park, CA 91320
818-509-0000, 805-375-7482, Cell 818-402-9799

Amateur Radio Exam and Study Guide Websites

<http://www.qrz.com>

On the right column under "Ham Study", go to "Practice Tests"

<http://www.eham.net>

On the left column under "Resources", go to "Ham Exams"

<http://www.KB0MGA.net>

Log in is required

<http://www.radioexam.org>

Practice Exams

Tax Deductible Donations to CVARC

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 and wish to donate to the club, please contact one of the board members and we will be happy to talk to you about the process. Many companies will either grant or match employee's gifts to non-profit organizations like CVARC.

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 up, or any other board member at one of the meetings or contact us via E-Mail (our addresses are on page 8 of this newsletter).



Send information/application to:
Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2093
Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-2093

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

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Class: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____

E-Mail: _____

ARRL Member expiration date (on QST label): _____

ACS#: _____ ARES# _____

Date: _____ Update Roster Only? _____

Family Membership: Names/Calls _____

You will automatically receive the newsletter via E-Mail. If you wish
To receive a paper copy by mail, check here: _____

New or Renewal: _____

Single Membership \$25 _____

Multi-year _____ years @ \$20/year = _____

New Ham (licensed in last 12 months) \$10 _____

Single Membership & full-time student \$10 _____

ARRL Membership Renewal (incl. 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: _____ Earning a ham license _____

Ventura County ACS/ARES Times and Frequencies

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



| Area | Time | Mode | Frequency | Shift | PL | Repeater/Notes |
|----------|-------------------|--------|-----------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Area 1 | 7:00-7:30 pm | Voice | 146.805 | - | 100.0 | Simi Valley |
| Area 2 | 7:00-7:30 pm | Voice | 146.850 | - | 94.8 | N6EVC/Grissom |
| Area 2 | 7:10-7:30 pm | Voice | 224.700 | - | 156.7 | K6HB |
| Area 2 | 7:10-7:30 pm | Voice | 449.440 | - | 131.8 | W6AMG/Amgen |
| Area 2 | (Simplex) | Voice | 146.445 | None | None | Conejo |
| 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 | 145.460 | - | 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 7:00 p.m.

Visitors are welcome and have the opportunity to operate the station. Please contact Gino Spinelli, K16DJV, 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, at (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.

2012 CVARC Officers

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| President..... | Rob Hanson | W6RH | (805) 376-9350..... | rob@w6rh.com |
| Vice President | Zak Cohen | N6PK | (818) 991-2913..... | zcohen@ieee.org |
| Secretary..... | Eric Peterson | WB6PYK | (805) 479-9953..... | expeterson@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Ken Segedie | WD9DPK..... | (818) 706-2507 | ken806@earthlink.net |
| Public Relations | Dave Singer..... | K16YVI | (805) 492-6667..... | singers3@verizon.net |
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| Operations | Todd Kleopfer..... | KD6RCM | (805) 844-8708..... | kd6rcm@arrl.net |
| Newsletter Editor | Mike Slate..... | N6TEA | (805) 498-9590..... | mplate@yahoo.com |
| Education..... | Nic Maddox | KJ6RLI | (805) 499-1783..... | nsmaddox@clunet.edu |
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| Member at Large | Byron Hesser | KJ6CRK | (805) 529-3106..... | hesser_byron@yahoo.com |
| Member at Large | Andy Ludlum | K16NON | (818) 370-3402..... | ki6non@arrl.net |
| Member at Large..... | Mike D'Amore..... | N6MDA | (805) 496-1073..... | mike.damore@roadrunner.com |



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 website at <http://www.cvarc.org>. In addition to visiting the website, 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.

“QUA 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 e-mailed to the Treasurer. Current annual rates are: Regular Membership Family Membership \$30. Special discounts are available for new members (licensed in the last 12 months) \$10. Full-time Students: \$10. Regular members renewing for multiple years: \$20/year. Family members renewing for multiple years \$25/year.