

August

# QUA CVARC

2013

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

## Inside this Issue:

President's Message .....	1
Trivia Corner.....	1
Meeting Discussion.....	1
Portable Antennas.....	2
Dinner Before the Meeting.....	3
Iowa Battleship Field Trip.....	3
Newbie Net.....	3
CVARC VE Session.....	3
CW For Beginners.....	3,4
CVARC 2013 Calendar.....	4
PRB-1.....	4,5
Silent Key.....	5
Amateur Radio Study Guides.....	5
For Sale.....	6
Guide to non-taxable donations....	6
Ventura County ACS/Repeater.....	7
CVARC List of Officers.....	7

The CVARC club meeting is held at 7:30 PM on the third Thursday of the Month (except for December) at:  
The East County Sheriff Station  
2101 East Olsen Road  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

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

## Trivia Corner

Who invented coaxial cable? Coaxial cable (or coax) was invented by English engineer and mathematician Oliver Heaviside, who patented the design in 1880.

## President's Message

Zak, N6PK

## CVARC BBQ

We had a wonderful BBQ on Sunday. Not only was there good food but we also had a mini-field day. There were three stations set up and we had a chance to use different antennas to see how they operated. There was also a fox hunt with treats for the winners. Thanks Diane for planning and executing the event. We would like to have more mini-field days at different locations. What do you think?

## Emergency Communications

The fire season is now with us again. We don't have the automatic system set up yet, so we have placed another procedure in place until the other system is in place. If we are on alert, an announcement will be made on BOZO every hour on the hour for Area 2. If we are on standby, information announcement will be made every 20 minutes (on the hour, 20 minutes after the hour and 20 minutes before the hour). If activated we will have continuous information on BOZO. Also listen to County for information announcements. Look on our website ([vc-acrs-ares-area2.org](http://vc-acrs-ares-area2.org)) for frequencies and other information.

## Other Events

We have the Camarillo Air show coming up August 17th and 18<sup>th</sup>. Still need volunteers – give me a call and I will give you information on who to notify to volunteer. The Santa Barbara Division Convention will be in Buellton on September 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> – go to the SBARC website for more information. A lot of us will be going.

## CVARC Meeting and Discussion – August 8, 2013

The Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club meeting on August 8, 2013 will have an exciting panel discussion moderated by Bill Willcox, KF6JQO.

Several of our members will present discussions and answer questions on Dipoles, Inverted Vees, Buddy Poles, different beams and portable antennas.

There are many of us who have special needs when it comes to antennas such as HOA, space limitations, expertise, etc. All these areas will be addressed. Please bring your questions.

Please join us at pre-meeting dinner at 5:30. The location is on the CVARC website.

### **Zak Cohen – N6PK**

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### **Portable Antennas – A Movable Ham Feast**

Hey there HF enthusiasts, CCR's got you down? Live in an apartment or condominium but yearn to reach out beyond the limitations of indoor antennas? You liked field day and operating in the great outdoors. A lot? Well, have we got a program for you.

This month CVARC has assembled an amazing conglomerate of HF portable antenna guru's with a broad range of opinions, expertise and experiences. And they are not afraid to share it.

Seriously, we are going to have a panel discussion (hopefully with significant audience participation) on HF portable antennas consisting of:

Bill Willcox, who will attempt to moderate and will talk about a nifty, 13 pound, folding, 6-band antenna that is 8" in diameter and 4 feet long when folded and 23 feet in diameter when deployed.

Brad Ormsby will wax poetic on the topic of his trusty buddy pole antenna.

Eric Peterson will regale us with his expertise and experience using dipoles and off-center fed dipole wire antennas.

Rob Hanson will thrill us with information about the club tri-band beam in a bag and, as an extra bonus, the amazing spider beam.

Jay Harland will muse on the topics of vertical and inverted V antennas.

Will Newman will surely stop the show by explaining man-packs radios and antennas.

Finally, we have an extra special guest, Chris Sasso, who is our secret weapon - a new HF enthusiast with a ton of questions to stump the aforementioned, ahem, experts.

For each type of antenna we propose to divulge some of the following fun facts:

- What does it look like?
- How small can it get? How large can it get and how much does it weigh?
- What is good about it and what is bad about it?
- Where would you get one or the parts to make one?
- Would this be a good antenna for a starting Ham?
- Would it be a good recommendation to any Ham?
- Where has it been used? How far did it go?
- How much does it cost?
- Does it need a mast?
- Web pages for more information.

Got a favorite portable antenna of your own to talk about or just have questions? We'll see you there.

### **Bill Willcox KF6JQO**

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## Pre-meeting dinner:

Join us this month for dinner with your radio friends (and speaker?) at Brent's Deli, 2799 Townsgate Rd., Westlake Village. We meet at 5:30, the reservation is for about 20 (our usual attendance), Phone No.: 805-557-1882. (Diane's cell: 805-630-7994)

It's been a while since we've been to one of our most popular spots, so I'm looking forward to seeing you all there!

## FIELD TRIP: USS IOWA - The Battleship of Presidents

Save the date-- **Sunday, Sept. 15** -- to carpool down to San Pedro for a tour of the USS Iowa Battleship. We'll leave about 7:30 a.m. from the Rancho Road Park n Ride, arriving at the ship about 9:30. Our docent-led tour begins about 10:00 a.m., and is about 2 hours, depending on how many questions are asked. Following the docent-led tour, members of BIARA (Battleship Iowa Amateur radio Association) will take us to the ship's transmitter room on deck 3 and then to the comm center that is midship on deck 1, where an HF station will be on the air and, propagation willing, Qs can be made. BIARA is also trying to arrange a reservation for lunch at a local restaurant where members of both groups can mingle and visit (everyone is "dutch", just as on our pre-meeting dinners). Cost for the tour is \$13.00 for seniors and military (including retired), \$8.00 for youth aged 6-18, and \$16.00 for adults. Add \$3.00 for the cost of the docent guide, so your total will be either \$16.00, \$11.00, or \$19.00. Make your check payable to CVARC, mark it clearly that it's for the Iowa Battleship Field Trip. You can either give it to Diane or Ken at the meeting on August 15, or mail it to me. 25 people signed the interest list at last

month's meeting. If more than 25 people want to attend, the docent fee may go up, as they limit their groups to 25 for ease of staying together, hearing, etc. Final date for receipt of payment is September 3rd. The trip is not recommended for children under 11-12 (for the safety of the child), or for people with major disabilities, as there are steep steps to climb and descend, and no elevators or ADA accommodations. If you have any questions, ask at the meeting, or call/e-mail me. Lookin' forward to it!!

**PS-** You can also reserve a spot for the trip on the CVARC website. Plan to bring a little spending money to chip in for gas for the driver, and for the souvenir shop (and lunch!).

## Thanks for a great picnic!

Many thanks to all who helped make our club picnic on Sunday Aug. 4 a fun afternoon! As usual, the food was good, the company was great, and radio was the topic of the day! If you didn't make it this year, we hope we'll see you there next year!

## Newbie Net

The "Newbie Net" continues to thrive on Sunday evenings, 7:30-7:45 pm on the Bozo Repeater, 147.885, negative offset, PL 127.3. Please join in even if you are not new.

**Diane KJ6JEJ**

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## CVARC VE Session Report – August 11, 2013

As this session was only held this past Sunday, results were not yet available for this newsletter at press time. Results will be available in the September newsletter.

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## CW for beginners information on classes

Okay, CW beginners. Here is your chance. I will have an open house for CW learning, etc. on the second and fourth Thursday of the month, starting now in Aug and ending in Oct. 2013.

If you come to my QTH for learning, time will be from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. You can arrive at 7:15pm to settle in. Bring a key and oscillator if you have one as well as pencil/pen and paper to take notes and copy CW. I only serve water, so if you need something else to "relax you" bring it and we can work up a glass and maybe ice as I do not have an ice maker, but I do think I have some in the freezer. I have 2 cats, one that might come out, and a dog, so if you have any allergies, take a pill before coming. Repeat customers are welcomed.

**Greg, K6SDW**

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## 2013 CVARC Calendar

August 15, 2013	CVARC Meeting
September 2, 2013	ACS District Meeting
September 12, 2013	CVARC Board Meeting
September 15, 2013	USS Iowa visit
September 19, 2013	CVARC Meeting
October 10, 2013	CVARC Board Meeting
October 13, 2013	FCC Exam
October 17, 2013	CVARC Meeting
November 4, 2013	ACS District Meeting
November 14, 2013	CVARC Board Meeting
November 21, 2013	CVARC Meeting

December 8, 2013	FCC Exam
December 7, 2013	CVARC Xmas/Holiday Banquet
January 25, 2014	Winter Field Day

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## PRB-1

PRB-1 gives amateur radio operators the right to install an antenna on private property unless the licensee moves to a location that has CC&Rs that restrict the installation of antenna. In this case, the licensee had agreed to the condition of no antenna installation prior to purchasing the property and therefore is bound by contract. PRB-1, in essence, states that federal law pre-empts state and city law and that since amateur radio operators are under federal license, they are subject only to building codes with respect to safe antenna installation and height restrictions. Building permit fees must be reasonable. By reasonable cost should be in line with those fees of surrounding communities. This is what is meant by "reasonable accord" in the actual law. Refer to:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/index.htm?job=prb-1&id=amateur&page=1>

The state of California has enacted laws guaranteeing amateur radio operators the same rights as does PRB-1. The city of Thousand Oaks has not cooperated with me in the past with respect to reasonable accord. I was told that a building permit for my tower would come under "Special Use Permit" at a cost of seven hundred dollars (\$700).

I refused to pay it and called the FCC's Amateur Radio Enforcement Officer, at that time it was Raleigh Hollingsworth. He called the city and threatened them with a federal violation and possible litigation. I have never heard from the city since and my tower is still up. The conclusion I draw from this is to stand your ground, now

your rights, and be fair with respect to the esthetics of your installation and take pictures of the various steps of the installation if you cannot get a building permit. You must have the tower manufacturer's installation instructions, pictures with ruler showing hole depth, width, and length, proper installation of rebar, and anchors. Then go ahead and complete the pouring and tower/antenna installation. If you do not have the documentation as noted, the city can require that you remove the installation. I recommend that you insist on a regular building permit at a nominal fee and if the city does not cooperate, call the FCC. There are several amateur radio operators that are lawyers in this area and they would be willing to litigate with the city on a contingency basis. It is sad, but you must stand up to the bureaucratic nightmare. One of the documents I was given had a list of all the people and their address within view of my house and I was required to send each one a letter explaining what I was applying for and then notifying them that they could appeal this to the planning commission. I refused to do this at my old house, I had a sixty foot (60 ft.) tower with a full two element cubical quad. I stated that it didn't matter what the opinions or complaints of these people were because I was complying with building codes and the planning commission and my neighbors did not pre-empt federal law. That tower was a noticeable fixture in Thousand Oaks for over twenty (20) years.

I should mention that the old house backed onto the 23 Freeway and there were utility poles along the freeway, so I was not interfering with any esthetics! When I confronted the city attorney, he backed off and I got a building permit for thirty five (\$35) dollars. This was not the case in my current location, so I just went ahead and installed the tower as stated above. I still have the pictures and installation documentation. I did insure that there were no CC&Rs in effect when I purchased the house; the home owner's association (HOA) was inactive.

Another factor one may consider if there is a HOA active, read their restrictions and see if there are any violations that have not been enforced by the HOA such as: inappropriate paint color, boats in front view, motor homes stored in view, satellite dishes, basketball back boards, and the like. If that is the case, install the antenna, after getting the building permit because the HOA restrictions are null and void because "selective enforcement" makes them non enforceable.

**Fred Martin, KI6YN**

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### **Byron Hesser, KJ6CRK – A Silent Key**

It is with deep sorrow that I announce the passing of Byron Hesser, KJ6CRK. He had been battling lung cancer and other ailments. He passed peacefully in his sleep last Tuesday. There are no plans for a funeral or Celebration of Life at this time. I will be handling his estate sale which I will announce at a later time.

**Todd Kleopfer  
KD6R**

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## 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

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### For Sale:

I have 50 years of Amateur Radio related items/equipment to downsize. This is just a start.

ARRL Handbooks: \$10 unless noted otherwise, 2010, 2007, 2006, 2004, 1996, 1990 (HC), 1989, 1988 (HC), 1987, 1985, 1983, 1982, 1981 (HC), 1980, 1979 (HC), 1978, 1976, 1975, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1969 (HC) \$4, 1952 \$15.

ARRL Handbook: Collector Edition 1926 (Reprint) of the 1st edition. \$12

"Radio" Handbooks: 9th, 16th, 19th, & 23rd editions. \$7 each

ARRL Antenna handbooks: 10th & 15th editions. \$5 each

"Flying Horse" Callbooks: 1987, 1989, & 1993. \$4 each

Principles of Radio (1938) \$3

Audels Radiomans Guide (1944) \$3

J.W. Miller Automatic Antenna Tuner AT2500. Like new 2500 watt antenna tuner. SWR & F/R Wattmeter. Fully automatic or manual. 4 antenna outputs. \$550.00

Ray, WB6L Phone 499 1713



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

**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.

Please note that the detailed list of ACS/ARES frequencies, repeaters, off-sets, etc. is available on the internet.

The official frequency list was released last December and is available at: <http://vc-ares.org> per Jim Fortney, K6IYK.

For quick reference, you may wish to pick a local repeater, shown courtesy of Zak Cohen, with their offsets/PL from the abbreviated list below:

146.805 – 127.3 Simi Valley AD6SV  
147.885 - 127.3 Thousand Oaks - BOZO N6JMI  
147.915 - 127.3 Camarillo WB6ZTQ  
146.970 - 127.3 Oxnard W66YQN  
145.400 - NIL Ojai Valley N6FL  
147.975 - 127.3 Ventura N6VUY  
146.385 + 127.3 Santa Paula & County Wide SOUTH MOUNTAIN WB6ZSN  
145.460 - 127.3 Moorpark K6ERN  
146.880 - 127.3 Red Mt / County / SMRA County Wide WA6ZTT  
146.850 - 94.8 Thousand Oaks - Grissom N6EVC  
224.700 - 156.7 Thousand Oaks – Grissom K6HB  
223.960 - 141.3 Thousand Oaks - Rasnow Peak N6CFC  
445.580 - 100.0 Simi Valley K6ERN  
449.440 - 131.8 Thousand Oaks (AMGEN) W6AMG  
447.000 - 103.5 Camarillo Springs K6ERN  
147.150+ 127.3 KOAKS

For questions concerning ACS/ARES, please call Zak Cohen or go to the ACS/ARES section of the CVARC website at <http://www.cvarc.org>.

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 Zak Cohen, whose info is listed below, to arrange it.

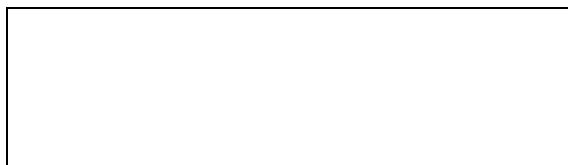
**2012 CVARC Officers**

President.....	Zak Cohen.....	N6PK .....	(818) 991-2913.....	<a href="mailto:zcohen@ieee.org">zcohen@ieee.org</a>
Vice President.....	(currently vacant)			
Secretary.....	Eric Peterson .....	WB6PYK .....	(805) 479-9953.....	<a href="mailto:erxperterson@gmail.com">erxperterson@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer .....	Ken Segedie .....	WD9DPK .....	(818) 489-6990 .....	<a href="mailto:ken806@earthlink.net">ken806@earthlink.net</a>
Public Relations .....	Dave Singer.....	KI6YVI .....	(805) 377-2459.....	<a href="mailto:david.f.singer@gmail.com">david.f.singer@gmail.com</a>
Technical.....	Bill Willcox.....	KF6JQO .....	(805) 526-0351 .....	<a href="mailto:kf6jqo@yahoo.com">kf6jqo@yahoo.com</a>
Operations.....	Adrian Jarrett .....	K6KY .....	(805) 915-7562.....	<a href="mailto:g4frz@hotmail.com">g4frz@hotmail.com</a>
Newsletter Editor .....	Mike Slate.....	N6TEA .....	(805) 498-9590.....	<a href="mailto:n6tea@arrl.net">n6tea@arrl.net</a>
Education.....	Tim Wheeler.....	K6POI .....	(818) 541-0321.....	<a href="mailto:k6poi@arrl.net">k6poi@arrl.net</a>
Social.....	Diane Wainwood .....	KJ6JEJ .....	(805) 241-6967.....	<a href="mailto:kj6jej@yahoo.com">kj6jej@yahoo.com</a>
Member at Large .....	Todd Kleopfer .....	KD6RCM .....	(805) 844-8708.....	<a href="mailto:kd6rcm@arrl.net">kd6rcm@arrl.net</a>
Member at Large .....	Andy Ludlum .....	KI6NON .....	(818) 370-3402.....	<a href="mailto:ki6non@arrl.net">ki6non@arrl.net</a>
Member at Large.....	Charles Pember.....	KG6CLT.....	(805) 495-6701.....	<a href="mailto:crpember@aol.com">crpember@aol.com</a>



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 \$25. 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.