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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’s Station 2101 East Olsen Road Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

The East County Sheriff’s Station (“ECSS”) facility is just off the 23 freeway from the Olsen Road off-ramp, north, between Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley.

Trivia Corner
<p>The answer to last month’s Trivia Corner question is Ten-Tec and Alpha announced their intent to merge. For now, please name the companies that currently manufacture solid state HF amplifiers for amateur radio use. Be careful, one well known entity recently went bankrupt and was forced to liquidate. Kindly attend the general meeting or read next month’s issue of QUA CVARC for the answer.</p>

**Presidents Message
by Zak Cohen, N6PK**

We just successfully completed four events in four weeks. Each event gave us a chance to practice and hone our capabilities and expertise.

The *AMGEN Road to Recovery* gave us a chance to practice coordination between stationary stations, mobile operations and net control. We also conducted both cross band and multi-frequency operations. We were also cooperated operations with LA County DCS-22. We were quite successful and learned a lot.

“*Cruzin the Conejo*” gave us a chance to operate completely mobile – constantly re-assigning positions and practicing emergency responses when asked to pick up injured and tired bikers. Another success.

We operated at the *AMGEN Race* – the last Leg at the finish. We staffed only stationary positions to help with both surveillance of the bikers and the crowd. We staffed areas in both Ventura and L.A. County. We were very visible and noticed by several agencies many of whom commented favorably to the public on our help – all good notices and good public relations.

We just finished the LDS Emergency Fair in Newbury Park. We operated three stations including CW and digital operation. We operated as a micro-field day and had fun. We had people ask about amateur radio and fostered interest in ham classes and field day. This was a very successful month.

The next event is Field Day.

As mentioned last month, Field Day is a wonderful experience for all hams, ham wannabes and family members. We will have several stations set up for operations. Contacts will be logged for points. Many operators will be on the air simultaneously – some using CW, voice transmissions and digital operation. We need additional operators. We will also have a lot of social time. More information will be available at our meeting. Adrian Jarrett, K6KY, is our lead for the event.

CVARC Meeting and Discussion

The Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club will conduct its monthly meeting at 7:30 P.M. on June 19th, 2014, at the ECSS. We will have a presentation on Field Day by Adrian Jarrett.

Field day is a wonderful experience for all hams, ham wannabes, and family members. We will have several stations set up for operations for both hams and those who want to be hams. Contacts will be logged for points. Many operators will be on the air simultaneously – some using Morse Code, voice and digital operation.

We will have a “fox hunt” and plenty of time to socialize and discuss technology and other issues.

Adrian Jarrett, K6KY, is the CVARC board member in charge of Operations that includes all the different field day activities throughout the year. He is one of the most knowledgeable members of the club and has helped many members with questions on both mobile and stationary operation. He ran last year’s Field Day, which was very successful and was the best field day in which I ever participated.

I hope you can attend.

Zak Cohen – N6PK

Field Day 2014 (FD)

Food, Food and More Food!!

We hams are eating together a lot this month!! And good food it is! Friday Night

Field Day Potluck, June 27. The list (see below) has hams and spouses for a potluck after set-up, who will provide a delicious list of salads, sides and desserts. The club provides burgers, dogs, buns, condiments and beverages. You can still sign up for the potluck through the Thursday evening meeting, although sooner is better!! (I have to know how many burgers and hot dogs to buy!)

HELP!! If you have any extra folding tables for setting out food and for dining, or can bring a grill and/or serve as "chef", please let me know ASAP--many thanks!

Saturday Night BBQ – THE favorite meal of the year—last minute sign-ups will be accepted as Chef Christian is amazingly accommodating. See you all there!

Field Day Food

Hello, everyone---14 of us have signed up to participate in the **Friday night potluck on June 27**, after set-up:

Zak Cohen N6PK (1) TBD
Tim Wheeler (K6POI) (1) grilled veggies
Dean Nedelman (1) fruit salad
Bill Hughes (1) salad
Arie Izhak (1) watermelon
Joe Sprissler (1) pie
Mike Slate (1) cubed watermelon and cantaloupe melons
Brad Ormsby (1) salad
Tom Stough (1) fruit / veggies
Adrian Jarrett (1) coleslaw
Norm Campbell (1) TBD
Will Newman (1) salsa
Rob and Sue Hanson (2) desserts

Still plenty of time to sign up--even at the June meeting--but the sooner the better, as we need to know approximately how many burgers and hot-dogs to buy.

Also, if you can bring a bbq/grill and help play chef, or provide extra tables for food & picnic, we'll be very appreciative! Don't forget to bring your own chair!!

Field Day Update

Field Day is fast approaching. Plans are well underway and once again the site arranged at Maple Elementary School, 3501 Kimber Drive, Newbury Park. This school has a great take-off to the ENE, which is where America is from here, and so we are anticipating good propagation for both HF and VHF. We will install antennas on the playing field, which is about 220 feet by 500 feet. Talk-in will be on the Bozo repeater, so no chance of getting lost. Just call CVARC Field Day on 147.885 –offset, tone 127.3.

We will feature operation on all contest bands, 160m to 70cm, Phone, CW and Data. We will have dedicated antennas for all bands, dipoles for 80 and 40, and beams for 20m and up, and verticals for V/UHF. The HF tri-banders will be rotated by the Armstrong method;

Thank you to all those that signed up and offered to help at the last meeting. We will have quite a lot of gear to set up and will need lots of help. If you have not signed up, you can still volunteer....please.

IF YOU CAN'T COME TO THE SITE, YOU CAN STILL HELP US SCORE POINTS.

Barbeques to attend to? Grandchildren to entertain? Please break out your HT and try and work us on 6, 2, 220 and 440 so that we can earn an extra point or two. Terrestrial repeaters are not allowed. Call or listen out on; SSB 50.125, 144.200, 432.100; FM 52.525, 146.550, 223.500, 446.000; CW is not out of the question! We may move higher in the bands if a particular frequency is occupied. We will be starting set up on Friday, June 27th at noon. The main items to set up are tents and canopies, Phone, CW, data and V/UHF antenna masts, antennas, feeder cables (big field,

long cables!) and of course the stations. If you plan to come along and are able to bring some chairs and maybe a table, those items will be much appreciated. Please mark them well with your call-sign or name so they can find their way home.

Station check-out will take place Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, with the opportunity for some casual operating.

Don't forget the pot-luck Friday evening and the barbeque on Saturday evening. Contact me or Christian, or go to the CVARC website, to get your name on the list if you have not signed up already.

During the event there will be learning opportunities for the inexperienced. During setup, wire antennas will need to be tuned, impedance and VSWR will need to be checked (see antenna analyzers in action) and stations will need to be set up; there are bound to be some faultfinding and repairs to be done. OTJ training will be available during set up and check-out and there will be opportunities to learn something. More formal learning sessions will be held during the event.

A Fox Hunt will be held 4:00pm to 5:30pm Saturday, and possibly soldering lessons if there is enough interest; maybe someone can show me how to solder a PL259 ground connector the easy way!

During the 24 hours of the contest, operators and loggers will be most welcome. Even if you are inexperienced, a new licensee or still working on getting a license come along and make some contacts. This year we will have a get on the air (“GOTA”) station especially for inexperienced operators, with plenty of coaching. There will also be plenty of Elmers around to show you the ropes. Old hands are welcome, too.

Zak has volunteered, after just a little persuasion, to burn the midnight oil; I will relieve him during the early hours, so night owl or early bird, you still have the chance to operate when the LF bands will be humming. Last year, 3am, eighty meters was a treat and 40 and 20 were giving up loads of contacts. So that's it. There is quite a lot going on.

If you would like to see a particular aspect of this exciting hobby, which has not been covered, let me, or anyone else in the club, know. We may be able to arrange it.

73.....Adrian K6KY

How to Pick an Elmer (or Be One)

With the emphasis on a GOTA station as a function of this year's Field Day, we are well served to visit the functions of an Elmer. This little article will discuss what is an Elmer, how do you find one and, perhaps, if you might wish to become one.

An Elmer is an experienced ham who is more than many, very knowledgeable about amateur radio operations, equipment and even regulations. Elmers serve those who are just beginning their ham career or who have lacked someone to guide them in their past pursuit of the hobby.

Many Elmers are themselves electronic or communications engineers but there are no requirements for such; rather, their degree of knowledge approximates such education. In essence, they are extremely knowledgeable technicians who are willing to help others manage their hobby. There are no specific prerequisites to become an Elmer nor are there any ARRL, let alone FCC, rules to fulfilling the responsibility.

So, the challenge for a newcomer is to first identify who the potential Elmers are, say, within a club, and to decide which ones they might feel comfortable approaching. Rapport with is as important as knowledge gained from an Elmer. Most importantly, one must be willing to accept advice even if it runs counter to one's own wishes. For example, let's say you want to work

digital mode, primarily. The transceiver that you buy may be different than if you prefer SSB phone. This is because some newer transceivers have built in decoding for RTTY and PSK-31, perhaps the two most prevalent digital modes. Buying such a rig to start with may preclude one from having to buy a USB interface and setting up a PC or laptop with more software to generate tones and run the equipment. Later, such gear can be added to the station after the newcomer confirms that it is indeed a digital mode that they prefer.

Even before choosing a radio, the idea of whether to buy new or used equipment should be visited. If the newcomer has a good basic understanding of electronics and doesn't fear opening cabinets, a great deal of money stands to be saved if one is willing to buy used. Contrarily, if the newcomer is relatively unaware of what makes electronic circuits work, then new equipment, with its repair warranties is a better path.

The whole argument of what to buy first is of utmost importance. Most newbies want to run out to buy the most radio they can possibly afford even at the risk of running up their credit card to the line limit when in fact they should know first how to choose an antenna. Further, for digital modes, one hardly needs a linear amplifier but newbies find such gear much more exciting to talk about than whether they should cut wire or buy a manufactured aluminum antenna. A good and patient Elmer can temper this enthusiasm and redirect it to where the newcomer will be able to get much better performance out of whatever equipment they end up having chosen.

By these simple illustrations, it should be evident that the Elmer's role is primarily that of guidance; not doing it for the newcomer but helping them to learn how to do it for themselves and more importantly, why. An Elmer is never to be taken for granted as a free repairman for a newcomer's failed gear as a result of mistreatment from poor operating practice.

To be an Elmer, one must be infinitely patient, able to express his advice in terms that a newcomer can understand without too much mathematics and physics

but have the ability to “dumb it down,” as necessary. When he is communicating well, the Elmer will witness the newcomer finishing the Elmer’s sentences for him and correctly. They will have fun together and probably share some of the same interests such as more CW than phone, a love of wires instead of aluminum tubing, and so forth.

In the now 100 years of amateur radio, there have nearly always been those steady, reliable Elmers who guided newcomers on the air and helped them achieve perhaps even more than they themselves might have and took pride in both their accomplishments.

So, if you want to kick start your entry into ham radio, talk to several potential Elmers you might consider by asking for recommendations as to who may make a good one. Interview them without necessarily telling them they are being interviewed albeit they will probably sense the gist of the conversation regardless. Then, begin to ask for advice and follow it. There is nothing more inconsiderate than to ask for someone else’s help only to ignore it because someone else said to do otherwise. No one can be beholden to two or more for the same task at the same time and expect to have a smooth relationship with either.

For you valiant Elmers, you may take great pride in being a supporter of someone who without your help may well have simply left our hobby unhappy.

So, good luck to newcomers and Elmers, alike.

By Mike Slate, N6TEA

CVARC VE Session Report – June 8, 2014

The June CVARC VE session served 14 candidates; among those who earned new licenses or upgrades were:

Name	Call	New License Class
Vincent L. Bancroft Jr.	AI6BQ	Extra
Louis H Brandstetter Jr.	KK6NEA	Technician
Thomas R. Clark	KK6NDZ	Technician
David E. Cortes-Provencio	KK6NDY	Technician
Ryan Gielow	KK6NDX	Technician
Michael R. Herrmann	KK6FEQ	General
Eric L. Law	KK6NDW	Technician
Adam J. Manick	KK6NDV	Technician
Steven A. Manick	KK6NDU	Technician

The next CVARC VE session will be held Sunday, August 10 at 8:30 a.m. at the East Valley Sheriff Station

CVARC VE sessions are sanctioned by the ARRL VEC and are conducted by a team of experienced Volunteer Examiners. Participating Volunteer Examiners at the June session included: Ken Sandberg, KS3I; Andy Ludlum, KI6NON; Steven Reinhardt, K6SJR and George Tamayo, WD6EJO. CVARC Volunteer Examiners donate their time to help advance Amateur Radio and their assistance is greatly appreciated. VE sessions are one of the components that help CVARC qualify for the ARRL’s special service club designation.

Submitted by Jeff Reinhardt AA6JR, CVARC VE Session Coordinator

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.

Please determine if your company is among these and contact a board member so we may help fund and grow 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 email (our addresses are on page 8 of the newsletter).

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 \$30: 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 _____
Family Membership \$30 _____
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.

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

The official frequency list was updated 9/20/2013 and is available at: <http://vc-ares.org>. [Please note that these frequency charts are notoriously difficult to edit. If you see an error, please bring it to the Editor's attention. Thank you.]

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 – 100.0 Simi Valley AD6SV
147.885 - 127.3 Thousand Oaks - BOZO N6JMI
147.915 - 127.3 Camarillo WB6ZTQ
146.970 - 127.3 Oxnard WB6YQN
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

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.

2013 CVARC Officers

President.....	Zak Cohen.....	N6PK.....	(818) 802-8211.....	zcohen@ieee.org
Vice President.....	(currently vacant).....			
Secretary.....	Jim Feldman.....	W6CWM.....	(530) 248-3365.....	jdfeld@verizon.net
Treasurer.....	Christian Ylagan.....	KD6DWT.....	(202) 558-2009.....	kd6dwt@verizon.net
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Operations.....	Adrian Jarrett.....	K6KY.....	(805) 915-7562.....	g4frz@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor.....	Mike Slate (acting).....	N6TEA.....	(818)-917-6868.....	n6tea@arrl.net
Education.....	Tim Wheeler.....	K6POI.....	(818) 541-0321.....	k6poi@arrl.net
Social.....	(currently vacant).....			
Member at Large.....	Todd Kleopfer.....	KD6RCM.....	(805) 844-8708.....	kd6rcm@arrl.net
Member at Large.....	Andy Ludlum.....	KI6NON.....	(818) 370-3402.....	ki6non@arrl.net
Member at Large.....	Charles Pember.....	KG6CLT.....	(805) 495-6701.....	crpember@aol.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 \$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.