



May 2018

QUA CVARC

A Newsletter for the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club

President's Message

Stu Forman-KK6VYS

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Saturday, May 19, is the 2nd Annual "Be Prepared" Safety Fair. The event is being held at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, 2100 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd., from 10:00 to 1:00. There will be booths and displays, safety vehicles and onstage demonstrations. ACS and CVARC will be participating, and I'd like to encourage you to attend. Bring family and friends.

As I mentioned in my first President's Message, this past January, I became interested in ham radio just a few years ago, while speaking with a friend about disaster preparedness. I was busy putting together earthquake kits for the home and cars, and I was researching the kinds of items that I might want to include, but I hadn't thought about communications. My friend suggested that I obtain a ham radio license and purchase a handheld radio. It was a brilliant suggestion, and one that I hadn't even considered.

This is probably not an especially unique story. I'm sure many people, like myself, came to the hobby as they took steps to become more prepared.

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QUA [CVARC](#) Newsletter Editor
 Stu Forman—KK6VYS
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Club Meeting and Pre-Meeting Dinner Information

The next regular club meeting is Thursday, May 17, 2018 (always the third Thursday) at the East County Sheriff's Station Community Room on Olsen Road at 7:30 pm. Talk-in coordination is on the Bozo repeater, 147.885 (- 127.3).

Topic/Guest Speaker: Field Day: CVARC Operations Chair Steve Gillis-KZ6H previews plans for the club's biggest event of the year! Field Day will be held on June 23-24 at Maple Elementary School, 3501 Kimber Drive in Newbury Park.

Raffle Prizes: ARRL Antenna Book; 150' of stranded 14 GA copped clad antenna wire; Heil Handie-Talkie Headset.

Pre-Meeting Dinner: Join fellow club members for a pre-meeting dinner, at 5 p.m., at Dugout Sports Grill, 109 W. Cochran St., Simi Valley, 805-955-9200.

President's Message - Continued

But what about the hams who came to the hobby by some other route? Beyond communications, are they prepared?

There are many levels to preparedness. You might never be the "prepper" with the remote bunker and the year supply of canned food, but doing anything is better than doing nothing. When I started researching, I realized that there is so much to think about. I pulled information from books, internet articles and websites, and I watched a lot of YouTube video of people showing off their kits. Of course, the situations I'm likely to encounter might be different than those of the people in the videos. The guy in New York is commuting mostly by public transportation and is thinking about what he would want to have with him in the event of terrorism. I'm almost exclusively in my own vehicle, and more concerned about being able to make it home after an earthquake. Some people are at home in the outdoors. They hunt and fish, and live in an area that makes that possible. In suburban Los Angeles, I should probably make other plans. Still, hearing what other people thought about was very helpful in my own preparation. In that spirit, I offer a few of my own thoughts.

Besides the obvious, earthquakes, there are many events that could require us to manage without utilities, or without being able to replenish food from our local supermarket shelves, or purchase gasoline, or get cash. This might be for just a few days, or perhaps longer. Are you prepared?

For me, the home prep was the easier part. At home I'll always have a change of clothes, tools and other supplies. Also, there is always some food on-hand, plus toiletries, medications, etc. But these things run out. In an emergency, I wouldn't want to be low on supplies, so I added a dedicated pantry to store extra food and water, toilet paper, soap, paper plates and plastic utensils, flashlights and batteries, and a little extra cash. These items are kept for emergencies only, although I try to be mindful of expiration dates and eat the food items towards the end of their shelf-life, and then replace them, and rotate batteries in and out. I also purchased a generator, which I intend to convert to run on propane gas, since I always have a few tanks on hand. These extra supplies should, hopefully, see us through until things get back to normal.

The other possible scenario is being away from home, and unable to get home. What if there was an earthquake, and sections of freeway overpasses had fallen, along with trees and powerlines, and you happened to be in Orange County and unable to get home. Would you be prepared? Do you have supplies in your car? Enough for just yourself? What if you had several passengers?

Preparing a kit for the car was more difficult. In short, I made two identical kits (one for each car), each with a backpack and a plastic tub full of essentials. It would take too long to list every item I chose to include, but here's a short list to give you a sense of what I included: Pouches of water, water purification tablets, an empty water bottle, rations and other food with long shelf-lives, a First Aid kit, toiletries, over-the-counter medications and ointments, toilet paper, flashlights, batteries, matches and lighters, an emergency radio (with solar panel and crank, and a USB outlet), various tools, work gloves, a tarp, emergency bivvy bags, space blankets, paracord, a safety vest, reading glasses, a changes of clothes (including comfortable shoes, and a sweatshirt), and some cash in small bills and coins. I had a 2M/440 50W radio installed in my vehicle and, when we go out in my wife's car, I try to bring the HT and the cigarette lighter plug. Just like the home kit, the food and batteries should be replaced periodically. Again, if we couldn't get home or to somewhere safe, and we had to spend the night in our car or in a park somewhere, at least we'd have some things to help keep us comfortable, and hopefully safe and informed until we're able to make it home.

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President's Message - Continued

If you haven't put together any emergency kits, I hope this serves to inspire you to do so. If you have any questions about the items I selected, or want to see my car kit, don't hesitate to ask. Preparedness is an important topic, and I love sharing information. The topic will be discussed further at the June club meeting with guest speaker Bill Boyd, Emergency Manager with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office. Hope to see you there.

73,

Stu-KK6VYS

Reminders:

- CVARC Board of Directors meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, at 7:00 pm, at the Westlake Village City Hall. All CVARC members are welcome.
- If you haven't done so already, please take some CVARC business cards to give to anyone interested in learning more about ham radio. You can get them at the club meetings from Zak-N6PK. They are especially good to have on hand when working portable.
- If you have general questions or concerns, you can always contact CVARC's Members at Large, Zak Cohen-N6PK at zakc99@aol.com, Tim Wheeler-K6POI at tim.k6poi@gmail.com or Ben Herrera-W6JWZ at w6jwz@outlook.com. Technical questions should go to Adrian Jarrett-K6KYat g4frz@hotmail.com.

April Meeting Summary

> About a dozen members met for dinner at Yolanda's Mexican Café in Simi Valley.



Stu-KK6VYS

> Meeting began at 7:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

> About 6 first time visitors and about 8 license upgrades.

> Thanks to Social Chair **Mike-KM6EII** for bringing the coffee, and **Andy-K6AGL** for bringing the cookies.

> Prizes tonight: N3FJP logging software (donated by N3FJP); a Samlex 250 W AC Inverter; and a Wall Wart RFI Noise Filter Bulk Pack.

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April Meeting Summary—Continued

- > Mini-FD/Picnic was this past Saturday. Nice turnout. Weather was great. Morse code group got some practice in. **Mike-KM6EII** brought in pizza and drinks.
- > Boy Scout Camporee is April 21. Contact **Ben-AI6YR** or **Stu-AG6AG** if you're interested in helping.
- > Love Run is June 3 Contact **Zak-N6PK** if you're interested in helping.
- > **Ben-W6JWZ**'s 15-year-old daughter, Gracie, is in PICU at UCLA Medical Center, and has been there for more than a month. She was admitted with strep, which turned into pneumonia, which resulted in respiratory failure, renal failure and shock. She was on life-support for more than 2 weeks and required 4 surgeries. She seems to be improving. **Bill-KF6JQO** brought a card for us all to sign.
- > The May pre-meeting dinner will be at Dugout Sports Grill in Simi Valley, and the speaker will be **Steven Gillis -KZ6H** on Field Day.
- > 6M Halo Antennas Build project is May 5 at ECSS. Contact **Adrian-K6KY** with any questions.

Steven-KZ6H

- > Spoke about the status of the Morse group. If you're interested in learning Morse code or improving your Morse skills, contact Steven at sggillis@gmail.com

Bill-KF6JQO

- > Education: Soon we'll be adding additional classes—Basic Tech Talk. Details to come.

GUEST SPEAKER: Peter Heins-N6ZE

Pete is an active contester and is considered an expert in VHF/UHF contesting. This is a great place for newer Hams and Technician class licensees to start contesting. Pete shared tips and tricks and discussed the technical aspects of VHF/UHF contesting along with the many possibilities for operating such as fixed station, rover or using a directional antenna.

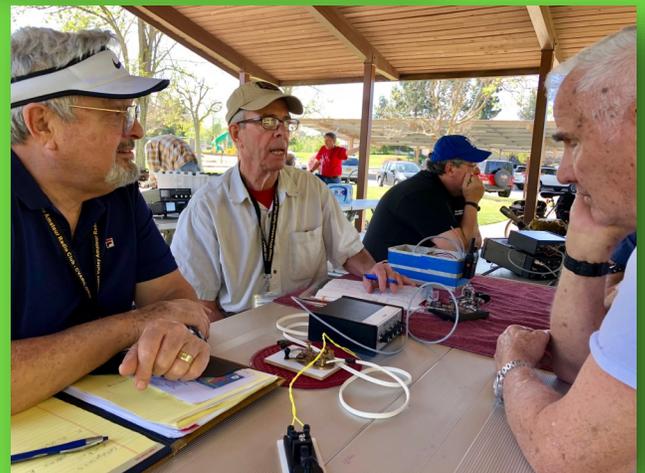


Guest Speaker Peter Heins-N6ZE

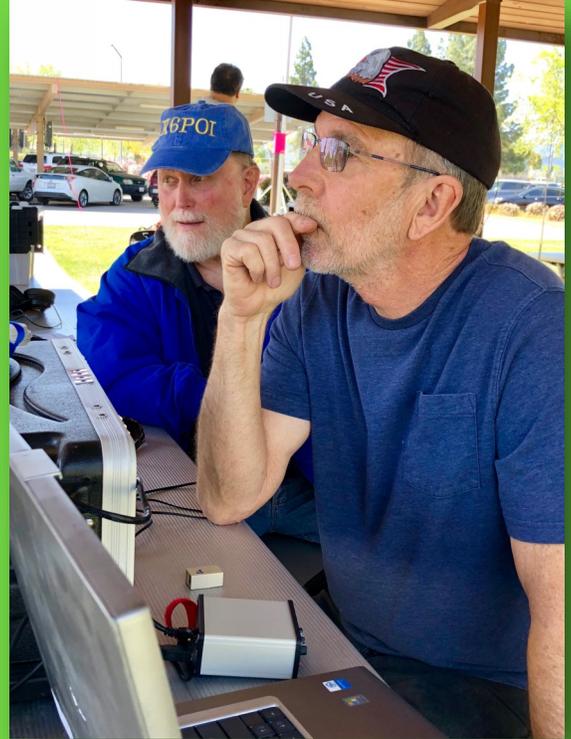


Raffle Grand Prize Winner James Inman

Mini-Field Day & Picnic



Mini-Field Day & Picnic - Continued



Planned CVARC Speakers and Topics

Thursday, May 17, 2018 – Field Day: CVARC Operations Chair Steve Gillis-KZ6H previews plans for the club's biggest event of the year! Field Day will be held on June 23-24 at Maple Elementary School, 3501 Kimber Drive in Newbury Park. - Pre-Meeting Dinner is at Dugout Sport's Grill, 109 W. Cochran St., Simi Valley. 5:00

Thursday, June 21, 2018 – Emergency Preparedness: Bill Boyd, Emergency Manager with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services discusses emergency preparedness and communication in Ventura County. - Pre-Meeting Dinner is at Brent's Deli, 2799 Townsgate Rd., Westlake Village. 5:00

Thursday, July 19, 2018 – Logging Software: Adrian Jarrett-K6KY, Rick Slater-AG6AY, Stu Sheldon-AG6AG and Dean Nedelman-K6DIN will present a panel presentation about several of the more popular logging software programs, such as N1MM, N3FJP, Logger32 and Ham Radio Deluxe. If you're considering purchasing a logging program, this discussion should help you determine which program is best for you. - Pre-Meeting Dinner is at Junkyard Café, 2585 Cochran St., Simi Valley. 5:00

Thursday, August 16, 2018 – Mobile Operation:

Thursday, September 20, 2018 – DMR

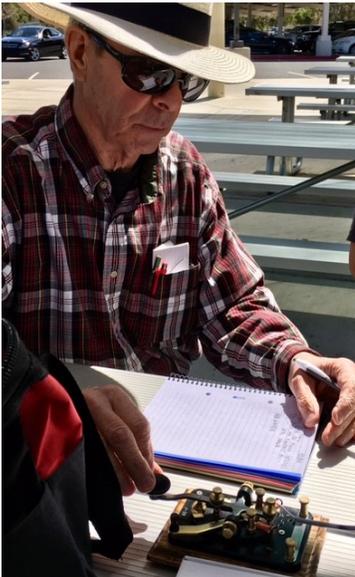
Thursday, October 18, 2018 – Repeater Systems

Thursday, November 15, 2018 – “I Just Got My Amateur Radio License...Now What?” Stu Sheldon-AG6AG continues our theme of providing information for newly licensed Hams. Stu offers common sense advice on a variety of topics from buying the right radio, setting up antennas as well as suggestions on activities where you can put your new ham privileges to good use. And as always, CVARC Elmers will chip in with their best tips.

Thursday, December 13, 2018 – CVARC Holiday Party: Join us for an evening of delicious food, drinks, awards and raffle prizes. Best Western Posada Royale, 1775 Madera Rd., Simi Valley. (805)584-6300.

The Speakers Committee (Mark Horner-KK6IKX Brad Ormsby-W6VO, David Arata-KA9WMI, Andy Ludlum-K6AGL and Stu-KK6VYS) is always interested in your program ideas. If you have thoughts on who might be a good speaker for a club meeting, please let any of us know.

Note: This is the latest schedule of planned Speakers and Topics. It is always a work-in-progress, and sometimes it becomes necessary to reschedule a speaker to another date. We apologize for any confusion.



You Want Change? Make Meaningful Change By Norm Campbell-AB6ET

Forget the reasons why there aren't a lot of new hams and why current hams aren't getting on the air. The fact is, there aren't a lot of new hams and a lot of current hams aren't getting on the air.

Instead of giving Technicians part of the HF bands to get them on the air, make changes that will get all hams on the air.

In the mid 1960s a program called Incentive Licensing cut up the bands for everyone leaving many hams with previous full operating privileges forced off certain frequencies until they upgraded again and again or moved on or out of ham radio. I'm not sure how well that worked, but it left a lot of unhappy hams which translated into fewer hams, fewer radios sold, and fewer club members. That program went on for many years and remnants of that disaster are still with us. Fixes were tried but nothing quite fixed everything.

Remember when computers hit the market? It was shortly after Incentive Licensing and many of the old hams who gave us Incentive Licensing were not ready for the major changes that took place. Those with talent gave us the internet, email, cell phones, and digital communications. Some were hams, many were not. How could that be licensed and turned into radio buying ham club members? It couldn't.

Now the proposal is a type of reversal of Incentive Licensing, maybe Dis-Incentive Licensing?

At one time, the Novice license was a true entry level license with very limited privileges and a CW Morse Code requirement of 5 WPM. There wasn't much difference in the testing between Technician and General except the Morse Code requirement of 5 WPM for Technician and 13 WPM for General. There wasn't much difference between testing for Advanced and Extra except the code requirement of 13 WPM for Advanced and 20 WPM for Extra.

Now that there is no CW requirement there should be no reason not to reinstate privileges for all hams since code was basically the dividing line. Give Advanced the same privileges as Extra. There is no Advanced license anymore anyway except those previously licensed. Give Generals as much band as currently allocated for Advanced. And finally, let the Technicians have limited access and limited power levels on HF. They have full privileges above 50 MHz as it always was. There is no Novice license so everyone has to start with Technician.

Maybe changes like this will truly create an incentive to upgrade or just to get on the air. Band activity will prevent loss of frequencies. Change? Make it meaningful.

CORRECTION:

Last month, the newsletter included an article entitled "Logging, HF Contesting and Proposed HF Privileges for Technicians." After the newsletter was published, it was brought to the author's attention that there were a few statements which needed clarification. The article has since been revised and is available online. Here's a link: [Logging, HF Contesting and Proposed HF Privileges for Technicians.](#)

6M Halo Antenna Build



6M Halo Antenna Build—Continued



Event Calendar

- May 12 Simi Expo - Simi Valley Town Center Steve ke6wez@gmail.com
- May 12 – 13 50 Mhz(6 Meters) Spring Sprint
<https://sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints/home/2018-information>
- May 17 CVARC General Mtg 7:30 pm ECSS
Topic: Field Day History
Pre-meeting Dinner is at Dugout Sports Grill, Moorpark, 5 pm
- May 19 “Be Prepared” Safety Fair
Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, 2100 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd., 10:00 - 1:00
Zak Cohen zakc99@aol.com
- May 19 Red Cross Ride for the Red Bike Ride Stewart Stone KG6BOV@arrl.net
- May 27 Mountain to the Beach Marathon - <http://www.mountains2beachmarathon.com/>
- June 2 – 3 10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest
<https://www.ten-ten.org/index.php/activity/2013-07-22-20-26-48/gso-party-schedule/2-uncategorised/51-open-season-rules>
- June 2 – 3 Special Event Station: USS Midway Museum Ship (museum ships weekend)
NI6IW San Diego 1600z – 2300z 14.320, 7.250, 14.070
- June 9 – 11 June VHF Contest <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>
- June 10 CVARC VE Exam ECSS Community Rm 8:30 am
- June 14 CVARC Board Mtg 7:00 pm Westlake City Hall
- June 16 ARRL Kids Day <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>
- June 21 CVARC General Mtg 7:30 pm ECSS
Topic: Emergency Preparedness
Pre-meeting Dinner is at Brent’s Deli, Westlake Village, 5 pm
- June 22 – 25 FD 2018 Commemorating the Lives of President Ronald & Nancy Reagan
21.320 14.255 7.260 3.810
- June 22 Field Day set-up - Maple Elementary, 3501 Kimber Dr., Thousand Oaks—Beginning at noon.
- June 23 – 24 Field Day <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>
CVARC is at Maple Elementary, 3501 Kimber Dr., Thousand Oaks.
- July 14 General Class classes begin. 5 Saturdays, 9-1:00 at the East County Sheriff Station.
- July 14 – 15 IARU HF World Championship
<http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship>
- July 14 Technician Class classes begin. 4 Saturdays, 1-5:00 at the East County Sheriff Station.



Newbie Net Schedule

Sunday nights, 7 pm, Bozo Repeater 147.885 (-127.3), all are welcome, especially newer hams. Want to be net control? The procedure will be provided. Contact Todd-KD6RCM, kd6rcm@arrl.net. Check the CVARC website and discussion group for additions and corrections to net control operators.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Net Control Operator</u>
May 13	OPEN
May 20	Stu-AG6AG
May 27	Bob-W6CJX
June 3	Todd-KD6RCM—Simplex Net to follow.
June 10	Stu-AG6AG



Net Control Operators, please send me your logs of check-ins after the net.

Todd-KD6RCM

Recurring Nets

Sundays: Newbie Net, 7 pm, Bozo Repeater 147.885 (-127.3), all are welcome especially newer hams. Want to be net control? The procedure will be provided. Contact Todd-KD6RCM, kd6rcm@arrl.net. Following the Newbie Net, look for the VHF Simplex Rag Chew, 146.550 MHz, open for all.

Tuesdays: ACS/ARES/RACES Net, 7 pm, Bozo Repeater and 7:10 Amgen Repeater.

Wednesdays: HF Roundtable, 7 pm, 21.333 ± MHz, USB, all are welcome.

Nightly: The Morse Group meets nightly on 28.053 MHz. All are welcome.

CVARC Yahoo Discussion Group

Are you interested in seeing current information or posting timely information yourself? Visit and join the CVARC Yahoo Discussion Group.

This is a closed Yahoo group so you have to go to the club website, select the “About Us” tab, and follow the “Discussion Groups” link to join. <http://www.cvarc.org/page2/page3/>

After being approved, you can read past and recent posts or comment and post information yourself. Take a look. Lots of timely information being passed back and forth.

The Ham Cam



A few photos from the radio room on the RMS Queen Mary, now W6RO—Long Beach, CA.



* * *

Hamvention is this month, May 18-20 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center. If you haven't already seen it, here's a video from [Hamvention 1987](#)... Yes, 1987!!!

Do you have any interesting gear? A vintage radio? An old or unique Morse code key? A special QSL card? Tell us about it! Send photos and a brief description to sforman66@icloud.com.

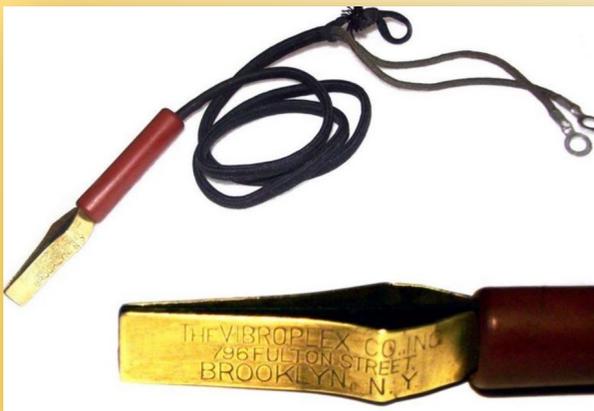


As some of you may know, a few of us have been working with the family of the late **Terry Graves (K7FE/sk)** to find new homes for many of his Amateur Radio and engineering treasures, while at the same time trying to recover some much-needed revenue for the family. To that end, in May, 2017, we published the first list (i.e., Rev. 1.0) of “**For Sale**” items for your review and consideration. We will try to keep the list as *current* and *accurate* as possible, dropping items that are either PENDING SALE or SOLD, refining item information as appropriate, and adding items as they become available. Items currently available for purchase are listed at <http://terrygraves.org>

* * *

Wanted - Morse code key bug wedge. Not looking for a collector's mint version, but something to use.

Norm-AB6ET
radioab6et@verizon.net
(805) 990-4972



If you have gear for sale, and you'd like to have it included in upcoming CVARC Newsletters, please send a brief description of each item, the price, your name and contact info and, if necessary, a photo to Stu-KK6VYS at sforman66@icloud.com.

General Information about the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club, CVARC

CVARC is a Special Service Club (SSC)

The Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated Special Service Club. To be recognized by the ARRL as a Special Service Club, 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, and Operating Activities.

Meetings and Location

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 7:30 p.m. with a pre-meeting social and technical assistance session beforehand or as announced. Meetings are open to the public, and members are encouraged to bring friends.

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 pleased to have you join.

CVARC Membership Rates

The simplest way to join (or to renew) is to give a check bearing your name and address to the Treasurer in person or by mail. Make the check payable to "CVARC" and please put your call sign and email address on the memo line.

CVARC single membership is \$20 per year. For a multi-year single membership, the special rate is \$16 per year. Family membership is \$25 per year. A special \$10 first year membership rate is offered to new hams licensed in the last 12 months and full-time students. CVARC membership dues are payable in May. If you are joining the club during any other month of the year, please contact info@cvarc.org or the club treasurer Christian Ylagan at a club meeting for the proper, prorated dues amount to get you on a May renewal schedule. An application to join is found on the club website.

Name, call sign, or address changes may be e-mailed to the Treasurer.

QUA CVARC

"QUA CVARC" is the club newsletter published monthly, not later than the Monday preceding the CVARC club meeting, by the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club, AA6CV, PO Box 2093, Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-2093.

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.

Tax Deductible Donations to CVARC

CVARC is an IRS-certified 501(c)3 charitable organization and donations are deductible pursuant to IRS rules. If you have working radio equipment or 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 to help fund and grow CVARC.

We cannot accept certain donations, and have to place some restrictions on them such as, no hazardous materials, nothing we could not sell, etc. If you are interested in donating, contact any board member at a meeting or via email.

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 for more details.

CVARC Officers

For the current list of CVARC officers together with their contact information, please visit the club's website at <http://www.cvarc.org>. You may view past newsletters on the website.