

The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

December 2024

Meeting Notice: December 18th will be our annual AVARC Holiday Potluck party. Please note this will be on Wednesday instead of Friday as originally planned. Location will be at the VFW Hall in Quartz Hill, 4342 West Avenue L. Talk-in is available on the Hauser Repeater (146.73 MHz. PL 100) if you need directions. Although the dinner will be at 6:00PM, we will need setup help at 5:30 PM. This is potluck, so please bring something to share. Main dishes are always appreciated. This will be followed up by a "Member Brag Night", and some nice door prizes for the members.



From the Prez - Andy Gippetti W2AJG:

This is the time of year when we look back and think about all the things we accomplished. For four years now I have been writing Short Circuit articles, two as Vice President and two as President. Now that this will be my very last article, I am surprised how fast time flew by. Next month the new President, Loretta Smalls, will take the reins and I am sure she will do an outstanding job. The years since Covid have not been great for our club. We lost our regular meeting location and club membership has been dropping, though we have gotten a few new members in the last couple of months. We need to continue to try to get the younger, newly licensed people, to join our club by offering HAM radio education & training. Hopefully, in the near future, we can start having classes again. And maybe, we could get help from the VFW Hall's facilities.

Our next meeting in December had to be changed to Wednesday December 18th due to a conflict with the meeting room. Apologies for the change, it was the best we could do in such a short notice. This meeting will be our holiday pot luck party that starts at 6pm. We could use some people to come early to help set up the room at around 5:30pm. Again, it will be located at the VFW Hall in Quartz Hill, 4342 W. Ave L.

73s for the last time,
Andy - W2AJG

FROM THE V.P'S DESK
Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO
December 2024
MOVING FORWARD

This is my final submission as you Vice President before I move on to the role as your President. I will do my best to live up to the title and I hope I did okay as your Vice President. A back injury has kind of set me behind on a few things including some of my projects but I am slowly getting back into a routine and hope to get caught up soon. I want to thank those who stepped up as net control on the Skywarn, AVARC and other nets while I dealt with the worst of this injury. I do believe there definitely needs to be more folks to be net control on our Wednesday evening net and moving forward I will try to encourage folks to try out being a net control operator, not just for the practice but to give some of the other NCOs a break and allow them a chance to just be a regular check in.

I can see that it has been difficult to get young folks interested in joining the club let alone amateur radio. Right now it is just us older folks and we all seem to have our aches and pains, medical issues, and some of you folks still have jobs. That being said we should not wait until someone falls ill or has an injury to step up and participate in one of our easiest and most fundamental activities; running the Wednesday evening net. Until we can get more folks to join the club and participate in activities it's going to be just us older folks. Moving forward it would be nice to see the net control schedule that includes a variety of operators. This not only spices up the weekly net with different personalities, but also gives operators excellent practice in radio etiquette, developing strong net control skills and gives the impression of strong club teamwork.

My back injury also cost me the opportunity to attend Jed's (N6JED) radio campout last month. The plan was to bring the club antenna and we team up to put this Stepp IR up, fire up the radios, and get folks on the air. I missed out on this opportunity but that does not mean there won't be another one. Moving forward we need to have more opportunities for club activities like this so that folks who missed out on one radio event will have a chance at a different one. I count myself lucky to have gone to Bud's (N1ROE) JOTA event before my injury became serious and I had to go to ER. I look forward to another club activity such as an antenna party for this Stepp IR. I would also like to mention that there are hams that have had little or no HF experience, or with assembling an antenna. We must not forget that these events help new and inexperienced hams get hands on training, putting the written word to visual recognition.

There were a couple of our club meetings that included live demos. Live demos are the best because not only is there a presentation on screen but actual hands on demonstrations about the topic being discussed, most recently, Monroe (NS6W) brought his radio and antenna and gave a live demonstration about FT8. Moving forward we will try to do a lot more of these live demos about a variety of topics. I would love to have the kind of live demos where folks can actually participate in hands on experience. Speaking for myself really, I learn best not just by reading the material but actually doing the project with my hands. This helps to apply visual and manual skill building along with the written word. (continued)

From the Veep, (con't)

It is never too early to start talking about field day. This coming 2025 field day we are hoping to find a place where we can call 'home' for this event. The Saddleback Butte State Park was mentioned before and seems to be the most promising because there are great campgrounds there and we don't have to worry about any sprinklers coming on or any confusing communications with park security. We do need to start discussing field day pretty much immediately following the just completed field day, including a continued discussion of a venue. Moving forward, at our post field day club meeting we need to start future plans for the next field day. If the Saddleback Park works out, where I believe the club's Stepp IR antenna will come into play very nicely, we can call it 'home' for any future club radio activities including POTA.

Our club meetings start with eyeball QSOs at 1900 hrs and the meeting itself at 1930. Sometimes the presentations can carry on pretty late which cuts short the meeting agenda, often because of how late it is and this often results in folks who may have questions or ideas not being able to voice them. Moving forward, we should try to tell any scheduled speaker to keep it at no more than one hour with a few exceptions. One such exception is the Advanced Skywarn presentation in March of next year, but we were advised by Todd Hall ahead of time about this and have made plans accordingly. The meeting needs to move forward in a timely manner so that we are not kept late, and I am sure the venue hosting us will appreciate this as well. I am sure we can get through all the agenda items and answer any questions in the time we are there.

Finally, we should not restrict ourselves to just field day. There is no reason why we cannot come up with ideas for our own events. There has been a few great ideas but very little support for them from other club members, either because they did not think it was a good idea or because there is just a lack of interest. Moving forward we should try to support ideas from other members and come up with a plan to implement them. We will be the stronger club for it, and perhaps get more interest from other hams to join the club when they see our enthusiasm toward fellow members. That is, after all, what drew me into the club.



Humbly your Vice President
Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO

Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club
General Meetings Minutes for November 21st, 2024
Quartz Hill VFW Post - 4342 W Ave. L Quartz Hill 93536
Meeting called to order at 7:28 PM

- Pledge to the Flag
- Everyone please remember to sign roll sheet
- Introduction of members present
- Introduction of everyone on Zoom

Members present: 13

Members on Zoom: 2 plus the presenter.

Club Presentations

- RT Systems Presentation. Karen Thompson KD4DXX
- AVARC2024 - RT Systems discount code. Valid till Dec. 21
- AVARC club business

In reference to the minutes printed in the November Short Circuit, are there any corrections or amendments that need to be included? Check spelling of Acton

Is there a motion to approve the minutes as printed/or with amendments?

Made by Mike Beckers / Seconded by John Tookey The motion was approved by the members present. YES

Treasurer's Report - David Haberman AK6DH

Checking account balance: <on file>

Deposits: <on file>

Expenditures: <on file>

Cash on hand: <on file>

Total: <on file>

Life Members: 13

Total Paid Members: 35

Total Membership: 48

ARRL Membership 87%

Old Business

- Bud Turner was able to confirm that VFW does know we are continuing our Thursday meetings in 2025. Rudy is the VFW Quartermaster. Friday holiday potluck is on their calendar.

- In reference to donating money to the VFW Hall, the person to contact at the VFW is the Quarter Master, Rudy Fuentes (661-478-5862) - David Haberman should make contact.

Bud Turner - discussion of sharing his domain hosting service. Will follow up. Hosting by Siteground - (Bud's provider)

New Business:

*Items brought up at board meeting:

- Reimbursement to Dan Sherwood for Pacificon holiday presents purchases - David Haberman. Settled

- Changing Web Site hosting company - Dan Sherwood. Follow up with Bud Turner.

Possibly looking into making a new club banner & QSL cards - Bud Turner

Motion to allow Bud Turner to make QSL Cards for the Club. Donated by Bud. Second by Betsy. Approved by majority of the members.

- Possibly next year doing Field Day together with the Action group

- Next year discussing the possibility of changing our yearly dues. Revenue vs. losing members.

Future Presentations for General Meetings: - Lorefa Smalls AJ6HO

Friday, December 20, Holiday Party/Meeting - Member brag night. Set up at 5:00. It is potluck. Loretta will bring coffee supplies.

Thursday, January 23, 2025 - State of the Club Report.

Thursday, February 27, 2025, Loretta Smalls - live Microwave

Thursday, March 27, 2025 - Todd Hall, (Advanced Sky-warn). Start 6:30.

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles for December 2024 - Needed by: 12/13.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, December 9th 7:00 pm Zoom

Next Club Meeting: Friday, December 20th

Any other discussion? Bud Turner - Social Media Accounts. Good idea to develop these by setting up social media accounts. Facebook and Instagram.

Motion to Adjourned by John Tookey / Seconded by Mike Beckers

Meeting adjourned time: 9:28 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Dan Sherwood W6DAS, Secretary



AVARC Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 9th 2024

7:04 pm on Zoom

Call to order by Andy Gippetti W2AJG at 7:04 AM/PM.

Present: Dan Sherwood, Andy Gippetti, Mike Beckers, Mark Johnson, Bud Turner, Larry Mock, David Haberman, Loretta Smalls, Brian Basura, Margie Hoffman

Treasurers Report: David Haberman

Checking account balance: <on file>

Deposits: <on file> Not yet, but received \$165 for 11 renewals)

Expenditures: <on file>

Cash on hand: <on file>

Total: <on file>

Life Members: 13

Total Paid Members: 35

Total Membership: 48

ARRL Membership 87%

Old Business:

- Thank you Bud Turner for alerting the board about the conflict with our holiday party & the VFW. After making several contacts with people at the VFW, I was able to get confirmation that we were able to move the date to Wednesday December 18th for our party/meeting.

Have we completed the donation to the VFW Hall yet? – David Haberman. Dave to meet up with Andy before the next post meeting to cut a check. Best to hand check in person. Meeting 12/12/24, 7-8:30PM. Larry recommends showing up at 6:30.

Loretta: Todd Hall needs to start early during March meeting.

- Does the VFW Hall have us on their calendar schedule for our 2025 meetings? I do not see it on their calendar that is posted on their website. - Bud Turner mentioned it to Rudy. This should be brought to the Post Commander's attention.

New Business:

-Bud Tuner made the suggestion that possibly, sometime in 2025, we could move our meeting nights to Tuesdays so we can patronize the VFW Taco Night restaurant since that is the only night of the week that it is open. It would make the club look favorable to the VFW and would

be a way to thank them for letting us use their facility.

-At our Holiday/meeting on the Wednesday December 18th, we need people to arrive early, around 5:30, to help setup.

Bud reported QSL cards came in. Also spoke about the Facebook AVARC page and the AVARC group.

Bud - Look into Google to post newsletters. Web site is expensive. Consider using Facebook or Google to host web site.

Brian - Suggests new ISP host. Bud - recommends SiteGround. Bud will help next year coordinating new web site.

Future Presentations: - Loretta Smalls AJ6HO

Wednesday, December 18th - Holiday Party/Meeting - Member brag night

Thursday, January 23rd 2025 - State of the Club Report

Thursday, February 27, 2025, Loretta Smalls - Live Demo

Microwave

Thursday, March 27, 2025 - Todd Hall - Advanced Sky-warn (starts early)

May - Pre Field Day discussion. (Saddleback State Park).

Dedicate the meeting to FD.

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles for December 2024 - Needed by: 12/13

Next Club Meeting: 6PM Wednesday, December 18th Quartz Hill VFW Hall (Our Holiday/meeting we need people to arrive early around 5:30 to help set up)

Next Board Meeting in 2025 TBD

Any other discussion?

Total AVARC members in attendance today: 10.

Meeting adjourned time: 8:07 AM/PM

Respectfully Submitted: Dan Sherwood W6DAS, Secretary

Acton Agua Dulce Amateur Radio Club
KK6MTQ





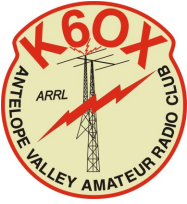
Amateur Radio Technician License Class

The Acton Agua Dulce Amateur Radio Club will be conducting a Technician license class beginning Thursday, January 21st, at the Acton Library on Crown Valley Rd. If you have ever been interested in Amateur Radio this is a great opportunity to find out more and earn your Technician License. In only a few weeks you will be prepared to take your exam with confidence and our club members will help you every step of the way. In previous classes we have a 100% passing rate!

To learn more about Amateur Radio, check out our website at www.aadarc.org or scan the QR code to the right.

For information on the class, look for the link at the bottom of the home page.





Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2024 Officers

President	Andy Gippetti	W2AJG
Vice President	Loretta Smalls	AJ6HO
Secretary	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS
Treasurer	David Haberman	AK6DH
Master-At-Arms	Larry Mock	KI6BKP
Board Member	Brian Basura	N6CVO
Board Member	Mike Beckers	K6YQO
Trustee	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO
Ex Officio	George Becker	KC6UVM



AVARC board meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month. All members are welcome to attend, although they should let the president or another officer know that they are planning to attend, as the meetings usually include a pot-luck dinner at the home of one of the officers.

The club net is on Wednesdays at 8:00, on the Hauser repeater (146.73 MHz PL 100). The net includes Amateur Radio Newslite, and all members and guests are invited to check in.

The Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club K6OX
 Post Office Box 1011
 Lancaster, CA 93584-1011

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To ARS:

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