

# The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

July 2024

## President's Corner

Andy Gippetti W2AJG



Field day has come and gone for 2024 and it was definitely eventful. Last year high winds showed

up in the evening knocking down antennas and caused us to retreat to our RVs. This year we got a surprise visit from the Lancaster park's sprinkler system which got us and all our equipment soaking wet, which again ended our Field Day early. But, comparing last year to this year we had much more people show up to help during Friday and Saturday. Special thanks to Ken Fessia KM6AZK who provided generators for the RVs so we could keep them cool and for all the physical labor help when setting up and tearing down. George Becker KC6UVM set up a unique antenna made out of a couple of slinky's stretched between two trees which performed quite well. Also, thanks to Mike Beckers K6YQO for doing the pizza run. And most of all, thanks to Dan Sherwood for doing all the Field Day logging, counting and scoring for the ARRL submissions.

Our next general club meeting will take place on Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup> and be held again at the VFW Hall in Quartz Hill, 4342 W. Ave L Quartz Hill.

Brian Basura N6CVO will be giving a interesting presentation about Pico Balloons.

## Meeting Notice

**Thursday July 25**, is the next meeting of the AVARC 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. Eyeball QSO starts at 7 pm, and the meeting starts at 7:30.

This will be a hybrid meeting, both in person and on the Zoom online video app. Current members should have received the meeting invitation link via the email announcement of the previous month's newsletter. If you are not a Zoom user, installation instructions can be found at: <https://zoom.us/signup>. Sign up for the free account, and it will then lead you to download and install the necessary plug-ins to join our meeting.

If you are a guest or former member, please send an email to [meeting@k6ox.club](mailto:meeting@k6ox.club), stating your name, callsign (if any), and interest in the Club, and we will send you the meeting invitation link.

This month's meeting will feature our own **Brian Basura N6CVO**, who will give a presentation on pico balloons. Brian is very active in this very popular activity, and several of his balloons are circumnavigating the globe. This promises to be a very interesting meeting, so be sure to mark your calendars and join us!



**Brian Basura N6CVO**

## From the VEEP

Loretta Smalls AJ6HO

### Thank You AVARC

I want to give a sincere and hearty THANK YOU to all the officers and board members, past, present and future who are doing their best to keep the club going. It is not an easy task to come up with presentations, speakers, events and activities to keep folks interested in staying and to attract new members. This has become more difficult, especially when members move away, have health issues, perhaps still a little worried from the pandemic and other concerns, and have opted to stay away. It is also not always predictable when a speaker has to cancel and/or reschedule so we have to improvise as best as we can. For example, our speaker for June had to reschedule so we threw together some photos and a brief synopsis of the October microwave activity presentation which, at this time, only included the microwave tune up party. Hats off to those who have been able to think fast, be creative and do their best to make our club meetings as presentable as possible.

Folks, it is not always the easiest thing to keep a club going when members are dropping like flies. We are doing our best to scout for locations and venues for our radio activities and meetings, and sometimes these venues are not so open to having a radio club setting up antennas, radios and power equipment. Most recently was the June Field Day where our club was met with

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# From the Secretary's Desk



## Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club General Meeting Minutes for June 27th, 2024

Quartz Hill VFW Post - 4342 W Ave. L Quartz Hill 93536  
Meeting called to order at 7:32 PM  
Member introductions.  
Pledge to the Flag  
Introduction of members present -  
Club Presentations:  
Loretta did a brief presentation on microwaves. Dishes were pointed at signal generator at the microwave tune-up. Slides were shown from that event.

10 GHz contest is Aug. 17-19 and Sept. 21-23.

Field Day was discussed by Andy. Spoke about issue with sprinkler being turned on effectively ending the event. Possible equipment damage due to water ingress. Good performance from slinky antenna brought by George. 2025 location - Saddleback butte a possibility. Betsy - perhaps use Poppy Reserve? Jed's yard a possibility. Dave Haberman - Contact Steve Hoffbauer for park suggestions?

**AVARC club business:**  
In reference to the minutes printed in the June Short Circuit, are there any corrections or amendments that need to be included? No  
Is there a motion to approve the minutes as printed/or with amendments?  
Made by Larry /Seconded by Loretta

The motion was approved by the members present. YES  
Treasurer's Report - David Haberman AK6DH

Checking account: <ON FILE>  
Deposits: \$ <ON FILE>  
Expenditures: <ON FILE>  
Cash on hand: <ON FILE>

Total: <ON FILE>

**L i f e M e m b e r s :**  
Total Paid Members: 13 Total Membership: 47 ARRL Membership 87%

### Old Business

-Larry Mock - VFW Holiday Meeting - Do we have the date Friday, 12/20/24 reservation confirmation? NO - New regime coming into VFW. House permission to do 50/50 draws. VFW must clear this.

-We still need volunteers to step up & do Net Control on Wednesday nights (I have scripts & cheat sheets printed up).

### New Business:

Web Site - Dan W6DAS: Would prefer to pay club domain renewal via club credit card.

David - Will facilitate payment for the domain fees.

ARRL Web site is still having issues.

Mike to be reimbursed for FD dinner expense, (pizza).

Hamcon Zion is on July 12-13 at St. George, Utah

Future Presentations for General Meetings: - Loretta Smalls AJ6HO:

Thursday, July 25th 2024 - Brian Basura - Pico Balloons

Thursday, August 22nd 2024 - Andy Gippetti - P O T A

Thursday, September 26th - Monroe - FT8 / Nominations

October - Aug and Sept. Microwave contests.

November - Karen Thompson RT systems. Radio programming.

December - Christmas Party.

### Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles for July 2024 -

Needed by: 7 / 1 5

Next Board Meeting: Monday, July 8th 2 0 2 4 7 p m v i a Z O O M

Next Club Meeting: Thursday, July

25th 2024 Quartz Hill VFW Post, 4342 W Ave. L Quartz Hill

Any other discussion? Rocket launch - not Starling. Make an AVARC patch? There's a company that can do this. About \$10 each for 20 of them.

Motion to Adjourn by Larry Mock/ Seconded by Mike Beckers Meeting adjourned Time: 9:23 PM

### AVARC Board Meeting

Monday, July 8th 2024 7:02pm on Zoom

Call to order by Andy Gippetti W2AJG at 7:03 PM.

Present: Dan Sherwood, Loretta Smalls, Mark Johnson, Brian Basura, Andy Gippetti, David Haberman, George Becker, Mike Beckers

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: 34

Total Membership: 47

ARRL Membership 87%

### Old Business:

Andy will be at Hamcon Zion at St. George, Utah this week. leaving Wednesday so I will not be on Wednesday night's net.

Larry Mock - VFW Holiday Meeting - Do we have a confirmed date reserved for Friday, December 13th or 20th?

Dan: Preliminary FD score 1620, (400 QSO and 1220 Bonus points). Logs submitted.

### New Business:

Dan - Passed domain renewal info to Dave for payment. Payment made.

## Secretary's Desk....

*(Continued from page 2)*

July 11th is the next SBMS So-Cal 2024 Microwave Meeting.

Discussion on handling complaints about length of meetings. Presentations before or after meetings? To cut speakers off or not? Dan - Allow for special presenters to start early and end late, (e.g. Todd Hall). Publish this online and in Newsletter so people are prepared. Ad-hoc presenters should be cut off if needed if no pre-notification is provided.

Audio at meetings for Zoom - Ways for better sound were discussed.

Future Presentations: - Loretta Smalls AJ6HO

Thursday, July 25th 2024: -Brian

Basura N6CVO- Pico Balloons

Thursday, August 22nd 2024: -

Marcus Martinez KE6RHV-

Emergency Prep & AI Thursday,

September 26th 2024: -Monroe

Quarles NS6W- FT-8 / Nominations

Thursday, October 24th 2024 - Loretta

Smalls - Micro Wave / Elections

November - RT Systems presentation on radio programming.

December - Holiday potluck.

Announcements:

Next General Meeting Thursday, July 25

Next Board Meeting: Monday, August 5. Zoom 7pm.

Short Circuit articles - July 15.

Any other discussion? Launch updates, (Mike)

Total AVARC members in attendance today: 8.

Meeting adjourned time: 7:56 PM



## From the VEEP....

*(Continued from page 1)*

hostility by Park Rangers not just on Friday but Saturday as well. Then the sprinklers were turned on our members Saturday night and soaked radios and laptops. In spite of this, the club did pretty good on making contacts, better than we have in the past few years and we should give those members who showed up, helped set up and tear down and operated a pat on the back and our support. They remained steadfast in spite of the hostility, even though we had a valid permit. Needless to say, we will not be returning to Rawley Duntley Park and are actively scouting for a new place even if we have to pay for camping.

It is easy to overlook these efforts unless you have assisted in setting up these meetings, gone out there and secured venues and locations, or dealt with city officials. It is not just securing a location or talking to folks, it is also getting the permits and making sure our club insurance is up to date. There is a lot more behind the scenes than some people realize, but to those who do we want to thank our club board members and officers for all they do and try to do. That includes dealing with hostile entities, environmental difficulties like sprinklers being turned on your equipment, the heat, high winds etc...After what our members had to endure at this year's field day, I just hope that other members who may not be aware of this can at least appreciate the efforts of our field day participants that weekend.

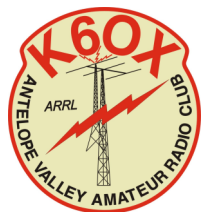
Speaking of going the extra mile, most of us do have to drive a good distance to come to these meetings, set up the tables and chairs, make sure the internet and zoom link is operational and greeting the owners/operators of the location that is allowing us to be there. We are doing our best, and sometimes we make mistakes or get pretty busy with other life events and forget to do

something. We, just like everyone else, are human too. If there is anyone out there who think there is a better way to do all of this then by all means, jump in here and give us a hand, become an officer or board member, and just offer to help out in some way. It was mentioned that we should be passing out flyers to STEM schools to get students out to our Field Day which is a great idea. Recently we had flyers to pass around at one of our meetings and folks were encouraged to make copies and pass them around. This is how folks can help out, pass these flyers around especially if you have connections to some of these tech schools, or any school with a great STEM curriculum, by all means, share our planned activities with anyone you know.

We are doing our best, some of us are new to being an officer or board member of a club so we are learning too. It can get a bit hectic for us at the meetings as we are still dealing with those who are on Zoom, keeping track of the notes for the minutes, packing and unpacking equipment and so on. We are all also still learning about ham radio as this is an ever evolving activity, and no matter how long we do this, we should not forget that we were once new at this, and as amateur radio moves forward, we will continue to be new at this, which is what makes this hobby so wonderful. We try to help out new hams and field day is one of the best ways to have new and non hams come by and see how this all works. We are working on other field activities outside of field day to bring in these new hams and we will keep you informed about these activities. Thank you so much officers and board members for all you have done, tried to do, and plan on doing in the future.

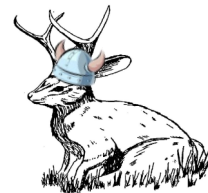
Humbly your V.P

Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO



**Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2024 Officers**

<b>President</b>	Andy Gippetti	W2AJG	433-2106
<b>Vice President</b>	Loretta Smalls	AJ6HO	547-7571
<b>Secretary</b>	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS	480-5227
<b>Treasurer</b>	David Haberman	AK6DH	917-4594
<b>Master-At-Arms</b>	Larry Mock	KI6BKP	943-6736
<b>Board Member</b>	Brian Basura	N6CVO	268-6061
<b>Board Member</b>	Mike Beckers	K6YQO	805-906-9555
<b>Trustee</b>	Keith Hoyt	K6GXO	533-4025
<b>Ex Officio</b>	George Becker	KC6UVM	478-0818



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 Newslines, and all members and guests are invited to check in.

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

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