

# The Short Circuit

<http://www.k6ox.club>



The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

September 2024

## President's Corner

Andy Gippetti W2AJG



Hello everyone, at our last meeting, Marcus Martinez, KE6RHV, joined us on the Zoom stream and gave us a very detailed explanation of Artificial Intelligence and how he integrates it into HAM radio use. Marcus also gave us some demonstrations of Artificial Intelligence in use and how he has it running on his own computer server at home. Very interesting stuff.

On the weekend of October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, the annual ARRL HF contest called the California QSO party happens. What makes this HF contest different than most contest is that everyone in the country (& Canada) will be trying to make contact with HAM radio operators in California. I always enjoyed participating in the CA QSO party because it is great having people trying to contact me instead of fighting to be heard in other HF contest. It is a lot of fun and you can find more information about it on their official web site at [www.cqp.org](http://www.cqp.org).

Our next general club meeting will take place on Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup> and be held again at the VFW Hall in Quartz Hill, 4342 W. Ave L Quartz Hill. Our very own Monroe Quarles, NS6W, will be giving us a talk and demonstration on FT-8.

Andy - W2AJG

## Meeting Notice

Thursday September 26, 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 **Monroe Quarles NS6W**, who will give a talk and demonstration on FT-8. This should be a very interesting and informative meeting, so be sure to mark your calendars and join us!



**Monroe Quarles NS6W**

## From the VEEP

Loretta Smalls AJ6HO

### The Fires

I have been keeping an eye out on the Bridge Fire that I can see creeping over the mountains since September 10. Late that night the flames could be seen with the naked eye from the roof of my house and I saw how fast they spread. The following morning I could see how much ground that fire covered and how close to Llano and the 138. I began to wonder about how much trouble we may be in and decided that if embers started landing on our roof, we better be ready to skedaddle.

I do realize that the chances of any actual fires reaching us are slim to none but if there is one thing being a ham radio person has taught me is never take anything for granted. It pays to be prepared, even if nothing ever happens for a long time. I listen to the folks on the radio and what they are going through and I hope it is of some consolation that I am learning from what has happened to them and what they had to do. I remember the Bobcat fire and the hams that lost homes, pets and their radio equipment. I remember that we did not have to drive far from our house here in Lake Los Angeles to see the fires by Pinon Hills.

One of our biggest problems is our animals, we do have a lot of them, some of them were feral when we rescued them and a part of them still is

*(Continued on page 3)*

## From the Secretary's Desk



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club  
General Meetings Agenda for August 22,  
2024 Quartz Hill VFW Post - 4342 W  
Ave. L Quartz Hill 93536

Meeting called to order at 7:31 PM

-Pledge to the Flag

-Everyone please remember to sign roll  
sheet

-Introduction of members present -

Introduction of everyone on Zoom

Members present: 21

Club Presentations

- Marcus Martinez KE6RHHV- Emer-  
gency Prep & AI - vai Zoom

- usedbooksrus.com Marcus' AI web-  
site.

AVARC club business

In reference to the minutes printed in the  
August Short Circuit, are there any cor-  
rections or amendments that need to be  
included? No

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

Made by Alan / Seconded by David  
The motion was approved by the mem-  
bers 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>

Life Members: 13

Total Paid Members: 34 Total Member-  
ship: 47 ARRL Membership 87%

Old Business

- Reminder, our December Holiday  
Meeting is confirmed for Friday, De-  
cember 20th at the VFW.

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

- K6OX Patches - 2 left. \$6.00

New Business:

TASMA Email concerning coordination  
of Hauser repeater - Keith has documen-  
tation. Will respond.

Brian - Yuma Hamfest 3rd week in Feb-  
ruary. Same location as before. Bright

future ahead. Coordinate through Rob  
K6RJF.

Pacificon - 3rd week of October.

(Adrienne)

Mike - Possible launch at 1AM Friday.

Future Presentations for General Meetings:

- Loretta Smalls AJ6HO

Thursday, September 26 2024: -Monroe

Quarles NS6W- FT-8 / Nominations

Thursday, October 24 2024: – Loretta

Smalls - Micro Wave / Elections

Thursday, November 21, (1 week early due

to Thanksgiving): -RT Systems Presenta-

tion Friday, December 20, Holiday Party/

Meeting - Member brag night

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles for September 2024 -

Needed by: 9/16 ?

Next Board Meeting: Monday, September

2 (Labor Day) Foxy's ???

Next Club Meeting: Thursday, September

26 2024 – VFW Post, 4342 W Ave. L,

Quartz Hill

Any other discussion?

Motion to Adjourned by Adrienne / Sec-

onded by Mike Meeting adjourned Time:

9:19 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Sherwood W6DAS

AVARC Secretary

(Note: Public version. Full minutes avail-  
able to club members- email secre-

tary@k6ox.club)

### AVARC Board Meeting

**Monday, September 2nd 2024 10 am at  
Foxy's, Lancaster**

Call to order by Andy Gippetti W2AJG at  
11:04 AM/PM.

Present: Mark Johnson, Bike Beckers,  
Larry Mock, Dan Sherwood, David  
Haberman, George Becker, Andy Gippetti.

**Treasurer's Report** – David Haberman  
AK6DH

Checking account: <ON FILE>

Deposits: <ON FILE>

Expenditures: <ON FILE>

Cash on hand: <ON FILE>

Total: <ON FILE>

Life Members:13

Total Paid Members:34 Total Members-  
hip: 47

ARRL Membership 87%

PO Box rent due in December.

### Old Business:

- I have only two K6OX Patches left. If  
anyone still wants one, they are only  
\$6. George will take one.

- Does the VFW know we are having  
our November meeting one week  
early? – Larry Mock - To be handled  
by Larry Mock.

- We still need volunteers to step up &  
do Net Control on Wednesday nights.  
When asking "Is there a net control"  
there is a script available on the web  
site.

### New Business:

Larry: Donation to the VFW is considered.  
Bring up at club meeting.

FYI: Pacificon is October 18-20 in San  
Ramon, CA.

2025 Yuma HamFest returns on February  
21-22 in Yuma, AZ 2025 Big Bear HamCa-  
tion is April 25-27 in Big Bear, CA.

Andy: Yuma hamfest. Website has not  
been updated. Fairground reserved for 3  
years.

April 25-27 2025: Big Bear hamcation.

Loretta: Suggests removing "Newline"  
from the script. Andy suggests leaving it  
optional or just leaving it in.

**Future Presentations:** - Loretta Smalls  
AJ6HO

Thursday, September 26th 2024: -Monroe

Quarles NS6W- FT-8 / **Nominations.**  
**Andy will not be there.**

Thursday, October 24th 2024 – Loretta Smalls - Micro Wave / **Elections**  
 Thursday, November **21st, (1 week early due to Thanksgiving):** -RT Systems Presentation Friday, December **20th, Holiday Party/Meeting** - Member brag night.

Andy: Get-together before meetings is just that.

#### **Announcements:**

Short Circuit Articles for September 2024  
 - Needed by: 9/16th

Next Club Meeting: September 26 2024 – VFW Post, 4342 W Ave. L, Quartz Hill. Nominations for officers. Andy not present. Others should be nominated.

Next Board Meeting: October 14th, **Columbus Day** at Foxy's.

**Any other discussion?** For next Club meeting bring up:

1. Pat Okawa. Larry to discuss at meeting.
2. Christmas party budget.
3. Donation to VFW.

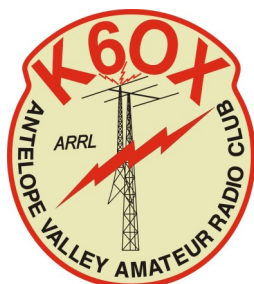
Total AVARC members in attendance today:7

Meeting adjourned time: 12:08 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Dan Sherwood W6DAS, Secretary

(Note: Public version. Current members may contact secretary@k6ox.club for the original version.)



## **From the VEEP....**

*(Continued from page 1)*

so they will be very difficult to corral. We do have various animal carriers that are on the ready line in case it comes to that. I have what radio equipment, antennas, power supplies and anything else I can throw together. Of course that does include as much of my microwave equipment I can throw in there. Most important of all is that we are ready to bug out with our food and water, important papers and any meds, and most important....coffee and a way to make that pot in the morning.

We will probably hook up trailers to both the F.J and the Tundra, that way we can haul animal food, water and have a place to sleep if it comes to that but we are fortunate to have a blank area of our acre where we can probably just camp out there and not have to leave our home. I am in the process of relocating my ham shack farther away from the house and out into that blank area of our acre where I won't have to worry too much about my equipment catching on fire. We are also in the process of constructing a microwave tower for all the dishes. More on that in next month's notes.

The radio equipment and antennas I have are mostly ready to go including magmount antennas, an inverted L, I still have an R-8 Cushcraft, various masts not to mention I do have the Stepp IR club antenna which will go with me if we do need to bug out. We have generators and solar panels for our off grid system so we are set to jet. Hopefully it never comes to that, but I practice quick set ups as often as I can the mag mounts being the fastest. I have HF antennas on magmount as well as V/Uhf and of course, Armadilla and Big Dilla. Each of my radios has it's own power source and I have a couple of extension cords specifically for ham radio and for nothing else. Marcus

KE6RHHV just did a presentation on AI and emergency preparedness and I am working on that. Just purchased a Survivor USB flash drive from Amazon to start preparations for that. Next will be a separate laptop to use with Linux, and once I get this figured out I will download all the ARES documents, Winlink and I will share all I have learned.

In closing I feel you can never be too prepared, and many of our drills are to keep those skills in our minds. Since we really don't do any drills anymore we can at least keep practicing, and keep learning on our own time. The Bridge fire is an example of what can happen overnight and months if not years of planning and prepping can go a long way to being set to jet on the ready line. We are not wasting time searching for this or that, where is paperwork and cash, where are the cat carriers, where are the antennas etc....Practicing drills at least two or three times a year will keep the locations of these necessary items in your mind and precious seconds are not spent searching.

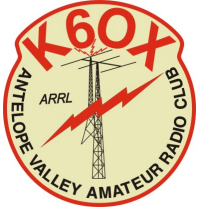
Humbly yours,

AJ6HO Loretta A Smalls AVARC Vice President.

## **Ridge Rally at Jawbone Canyon Seeks Ham Volunteers**

This year's Ridge Rally at Jawbone Canyon is seeking hams to volunteer on Saturday, December 7. Sign up at [www.rallydata2.com](http://www.rallydata2.com) or contact Paula N6OQQ at [mpgibeault@gmail.com](mailto:mpgibeault@gmail.com)





**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 Newslite, 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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