

THE SHORT CIRCUIT



<http://www.k6ox.club>

The official publication of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club

October 2024

President's Corner

Andy Gippetti W2AJG



Hello everyone, I just got back from a great two-week camping trip to Yellowstone & Grand Teton National Parks. It was the perfect time of year to go because there were very small crowds and the weather was perfect. We did not get very much Ham radio operations done but it was great waking up in the morning seeing moose in



your campsite grazing on the overgrown weeds.



73,
Andy W2AJG

Meeting Notice

Thursday, October 24th, 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, 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 **Loretta Smalls AJ6HO**, who will share more information about her various activities, so be sure to join us!



Loretta Smalls AJ6HO
AVARC Vice President

From the VEEP

Loretta Smalls AJ6HO

Doing The Dishes

No, I am not talking about the dinner dishes, I am going to talk about the microwave dishes I have been collecting for a couple of years now. I now have a variety of sizes and styles so what do I do now? Well, the only thing to do now is to assemble a microwave tower. The crank up tower I had for my Off Center Fed Dipole is now down and will be repurposed as a microwave tower, to include an azimuth horizon rotator. Currently I am temporarily using a mag mount mobile HF antenna with the FT 891 for hf activities, but let's talk about some of the dishes I have been doing the past couple of years.

I have a six foot dish I on the roof of the house and that is going to stay there, where I am going to get a longer cable for it and hook it up to the TV in the living room and see what I can get from it. It came with a C-band LNB and a downconverter which is for 4.0 to 8.0 GHz. I acquired a large 5 GHz drum that is going onto the new tower along with a 10 Ft dish I hope to use for radio astronomy and EME activities and this will require an azimuth horizon rotator. I acquired an X band feed horn and down converter from the Apex Electronics Store in San Fernando which is the 8.0 to 12.0 GHz frequency range. For mobile activities I am using a couple of old Dish Network dishes for both the Armadilla and Big Dilla simply because they are lighter and less bulky to haul around. The 30" dish I have been using with the Big Dilla will go

From the Secretary's Desk



Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club
General Meetings Agenda for September
26th, 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. 15
present. 1 Zoom
Club Presentations
- Monroe Quarles NS6W- FT-8

A V A R C club business
In reference to the minutes printed in the
September Short Circuit, are there any
corrections or amendments that need to
be included?
Is there a motion to approve the minutes
as printed/or with amendments? Made by
Mike/Seconded by Alan .The motion was
approved by the members present. YES/
NO
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

FYI: Pacificon is October 18-20 in San
Ramon, CA
2025 Yuma HamFest returns on February
21-22 in Yuma, AZ 2025 Big Bear Ham-
Cation is April 25-27 in Big Bear, CA.
Quartzsite Jan 20.

New Business:

It was brought up at this month's board
meeting that we should maybe donate
some money to the VFW Hall for allow-
ing us the have our meetings here for
free. Discussions? Tabled until we talk to
Larry. Good idea though.
Also, it was suggested that we allow for a
\$500 budget to buy presents for the De-

ember. Holiday party. Mike moved for
\$300 budget for holiday party., Adrienne
Seconded. Approved
Brian - Announced N6JED Campout in
Rosamond Nov. 1-3. Loretta will bring
Club Steppir antenna.
Dan - Records donation from Bob Holland.
Mike will accept filling cabinet.
Brian - Shakeout Oct. 17, 2024. Send in
DYFI reports via Winlink. CC Tactical
call SHAKEOUT. On day of event send to
USGS as well.
Mike - Scam text sent to Board members.
Spoofer from Andy. Involved gift cards.
Clubs being targeted. Be careful! Adri-
enne will update the newsletter masthead.
Mike - Short Circuit email k6ox.club has
been updated.
Adrienne - When sending newsletter items
do not send PDF's. Use docx or odt files.

Nominations of officers for 2025

- President: Loretta Smalls, (adrienne)
- VP: ?
- Treasurer: David Haberman
- Secretary: Dan Sherwood
- Master of Arms: John Tookey
- Board1: Brian Basura
- Board2: Mike Beckers

Future Presentations for General Meetings:

- Loretta Smalls AJ6HO
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

March 2025

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles for October 2024 -
Needed by: 10/16.
Next Board Meeting: Monday, October
14th (Columbus Day) at Foxy's
Next Club Meeting: Thursday, October
24th 2024 – VFW Post, 4342 W Ave. L,
Quartz Hill

Any other discussion?

Motion to Adjourned by Mike / Seconded
by Alan Meeting adjourned time: 2058
PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Sherwood W6DAS
Secretary

AVARC Board Meeting
Monday, October 14th 2024 10:53 am at
Foxy's, Lancaster
Call to order by Andy Gippetti W2AJG at
10: AM.
Board present: Andy Gippetti, Brian
Basura, David Haberman, Dan Sherwood,
Mike Beckers, George Becker
Others: Mark & Kathy Johnson, John
Tookey

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: 35 Total Members-
hip: 48 ARRL Membership 87%

Old Business:

- I have only one K6OX Patch left.
- Does the VFW know we are having our
November meeting one week early? –
Larry Mock (not present)
- <On File>
- Donating some money to the VFW Hall?
– Larry Mock: Andy suggests \$200.
Motion by Brian to donate \$200 for the
year. Second: Mike. Passed unani-
mously.
- Pacificon Prize Selection - Dan Sher-
wood

New Business:

- FYI: The 2025 Yuma HamFest has
changed its dates from February 21-22 to
February 14th-15th. Friday & Saturday in
Yuma, AZ
- Are the club's officers phone numbers
removed from our website to prevent scams
– Dan Sherwood. - Adrienne will remove
them from the boiler plate. Old NL's NOT
affected.
- For 2025, for the "Historian" position,
Bob Holland is not interested in partici-
pating so the position should go to someone
else. Is that to be Mike since he is accepting
the files from Bob? Mike will accept posi-

(Continued on page 3)

Secretary's Desk... From the Veep

(Continued from page 2)

tion. Check newsletter, net script, and web site and correct appropriately. Fix historian name in net script.

Prize selection: Ed Fong antennas, "Ventenna", Baofeng BF-F8HP Pro tribander. (2).

Bring election paperwork to the meeting.

George Beckers will serve as alternate VFW liaison to Larry.

Brian - Speaker setup for VFW post worked good. David brought it.

Future Presentations: - Loretta Smalls
A J 6 H O :

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

Announcements:

Short Circuit Articles for September 2024

- Needed by: 10/16. Sooner if possible.

Next Club Meeting: October 24th 2024 -

VFW Post, 4342 W Ave. L, Quartz Hill

Next Board Meeting: Monday, November 11th (Veterans Day) at Foxy's again or Zoom that evening?

Any other discussion? Comet visible in the evenings. Jed's campout on Nov. 1.

Meeting adjourned time: 11:50 AM



to haul around. The 30" dish I have been using with the Big Dilla will go on the tower along with a couple of other dishes.

Finding a rotator for the 10' dish was a bit of a challenge because I did not know where to look. Even Ebay did not seem to have what I was looking for so I asked around. There are so many rotators to look at but I had to consider the size of the dish and how much wind it can handle so I took the advice of Larry K6HLH and decided on the Alpha SPID Big Ras which I ordered from this website https://moonrakeronline.com/us/aplphaspid-big-ras-azimuth-elevation-rotator?__store=base_us. There are other places to order a rotator of this type such as RFHamdesign <https://rfhamdesign.com/> and alfaradio <http://www.alfaradio.ca/>, all are out of the country. I do know that I will still need to get control cables and no doubt other hardware to put this rotator on the tower and attach that big dish but I believe I either have all of that or can find it locally.

I use the Armadilla and the Big Dilla for the contests and demos, and those are still a work in progress as I continue experimenting with the other dishes. One of the other challenges I have is downloading software for radio astronomy. I did not have very good luck with the radio spectrograph for Radio Jove so I am going to try out some other software such as High Definition Software Defined Radio. <https://www.hdsdr.de/index.html> which,

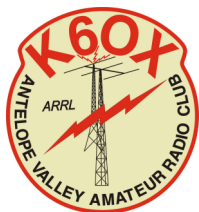
according to their website, will work with the SDR I got from Radio Jove. I have not given up on the radio spectrograph I am just putting it aside until I have time to mess with it. What happened was Windows did an update and after that was done I was not able to bring back the spectrograph that at one time I did have working very well

It is taking me some time to get this all figured out, I have other things going on besides ham radio stuff, but it keeps me occupied in my spare time and keeps me motivated. The 10 GHz contest was a bust for me but I know what things went wrong and I am working on those issues. I should have both the Armadilla and the Big Dilla operational for our club meeting this month, so hope to see y'all there. 73 and 88 from AJ6HO.

Humbly your Vice President

Loretta A Smalls AJ6HO.





Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club 2023 Officers

President	Andy Gippetti	W2AJG
Vice President	Loretta Smalls	AJ6HO
Secretary	Pat Okawa	KJ6CJI
Treasurer	David Haberman	AK6DH
Master-At-Arms	Tom Kane	KN6GLI
Board Member	Brian Basura	N6CVO
Board Member	Dan Sherwood	W6DAS
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 Newslines, 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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