

September
2008

NEWS FROM CVARC

President's Message by Greg Lane, K7SDW

If any of you have not participated in a QSO party, then maybe you should gear up for one! Here is a message I got from Rick I would like to share with all CVARC members for their opportunity to participate. "Fire up those rigs and burn up those antennas" and see what you can achieve for this event!

When: 1600 UTC October 4, 2008
to 2159 UTC October 5, 2008
Where: 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m,
10m, 6m, 2m
Modes: CW, SSB
Logs Due: November 15, 2008

The only real change this year is that we will not have county line operations. This means that there is only one county given on a QSO. We feel this makes it easier for everyone.

Key Information:

Website: <http://www.cqp.org>

Rules:

<http://www.cqp.org/Rules.html>

County Registration

<http://www.cqp.org/Counties-Plan-2008.html>

Operating Strategy:

http://www.cqp.org/pdf/cqp_strategy_k6rb.pdf

Information: info@cqp.org

President's Message, continued on page 2

September Club Meeting "Remote Station Operation"

Our own Bruce Elbert, K6ZB will be speaking on remote station operation from a restricted location. He will provide an interesting view into how he was able to use his home HF rig to make QSOs while he was traveling across country.

This interesting tale of rig remote control, voice over IP (VOIP), remote rig monitoring and automation is a fascinating exploration of how far a determined hobbyist will go to stay on the air. Come join us for a look into a fascinating side of ham radio.

Bruce will be covering the equipment needed, tips on how to set it up, and sources of additional help and information that are needed when you come to a brick wall in your design process.

Join us for this fun, but practical session Thursday September 18th at CVARC's regularly scheduled meeting to learn more about the fascinating topic.

As always, the CVARC club meeting is held on the third Thursday of the month at the East County Sheriff Station located at:

2101 East Olsen Road
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

This facility is just off of the 23 freeway between Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley. We look forward to seeing you there!

Inside this issue

2008 Event Calendar	2
Board Openings	2
August VE Sessio	2
Ham Aid	3
New ARRL Benefit	4
Call Sign Sheets	4
K6AER Repeater Fund	5
4:1 Balun Project	5

President's Message, continued from front page...

CQP Flyer:

http://www.cqp.org/2008/CQP2008_Flyer.pdf

One page key information, date, times, frequencies and rally times. Also, maps showing likely rare counties and state/provinces.

CQP Package:

<http://www.cqp.org/2008/EviteCQP2008.pdf>

General invite, Rules, County/State Abbreviations

Last year if you were in Montana and sent in a log you would have won the state. Get the certificates, plaques and wine that you deserve. Send in your logs.

Charging Forward

Rick "The Rhino" N6RNO

@ Tehama for California QSO Party, October 4-5 2008.

Where will you be?

<http://www.cqp.org>

Thanks Rick for the info and I hope this prepares our members to get on the air!

73 de Greg K7SDW

Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club 2008 Event Calendar

- Sep. 18 CVARC Club Meeting
- Sep. 12-14 ARRL SW Division Convention
- Sep 27 TRW Swap Meet
- Oct. 7 4th CVARC Technician Class Completes
- Oct. 12 FCC License Exam at CVARC
- Oct. 16 CVARC Club Meeting
- Oct. 18-19 JOTA (<http://home.tiscali.nl/worldscout/>)
- Oct. 21 5th CVARC Technician Class Begins
- Oct.25 TRW Swap Meet
- Nov. 20 CVARC Club Meeting
- Nov. 29 TRW Swap Meet
- Dec. 6 (tentative) CVARC Holiday Party
- Dec. 9 5th CVARC Technician Class Completes
- Dec. 14 FCC License Exam at CVARC
- Dec 27 TRW Swap Meet

Please submit suggestions for additional dates to af6cd@arrl.net

Openings on the Board Neil Waybright, AF6CD

The positions of Technical Chair and Operations Chair are open for un-related reasons. CVARC needs to find good candidates for these roles for the rest of the year. Rick Barrett continues to have a school conflict with the Thursday nights where both the board and club meetings fall. He enjoys the technical chair role, but is not available when many of the members need him.

George Bryant has received a wonderful opportunity for a new role inside his company that includes a nice promotion, but it entails moving back to the east coast. This will be his last meeting with the club before his move.

Consider carefully whether you might be able to fill either one of these positions. The technical chair role is best filled by someone with a good technical background. The operations role is best filled by someone who has a flare for organizing and recruiting teams. Since George has completed the major event of the year for which the operations chair is responsible, the job is one where you will have a chance to grow into it.

If you are interested, please contact Greg Lane, or any of the members of the board at the July meeting.

CVARC VE Session Report August 10, 2008

The CVARC VE session of August 10 served ten candidates. Among those who passed elements were:

Name	Call	New Lic. Class
John C. Aitken	KI6STB	Technician
Marshall Dormire	AF6LI	Extra
Christine Dormire	KI6STC	Technician
Steen Ottosen	KI6STF	Technician
Mark R. Spaulding	KI6RYI	Extra
Stephen R. Stratton	KI6STA	Technician
C. D. Thompson	KI6STD	Technician
Robert Thompson	KT6RRT	General
Tamara Thompson	KI6STE	Technician

It should be noted that Marshall Dormire went from no license to Extra in a single sitting. CVARC congratulates his success.

Thanks to the VEs who gave their time to make this CVARC session possible, George Tamayo WD6EJO; Hugh Bosma AE6YC; Noel Van Slyke K6NVS and Ken Larson KJ6RZ.

The next session is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Sunday, October 12, 2008 at the East Valley station.

Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR

(Editor's note – Marshall visited the CVARC field day site and operated a number of stations on many bands for hours on Saturday, and came back that evening and help again. You can see him in photos in the July 2008 CVARC Newsletter manning the 40m station. Marshall is a testament to the success of Karl Moody's CVARC Licensing Classes - Neil)

ARRL "Ham Aid" Go Kits Support Amateur Radio Operations During Hurricane Gustav

As Amateur Radio operators prepared for Hurricane Gustav, the ARRL deployed complete radio stations comprised of industry-donated Amateur Radio equipment, thanks to the generous contributions of ARRL members to the Ham Aid Fund. Created in 2005 to assist with the response to Hurricane Katrina, the Ham Aid Fund is designated to finance Amateur Radio equipment needed for disaster response. In preparation for Hurricane Gustav, ARRL received requests for radio equipment from Louisiana and Texas. The shipping costs for this equipment were covered by the Ham Aid Fund.

According to Assistant Manager of the ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Department Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, several kits were shipped to Louisiana; Fusaro is handling Ham Aid requests during Hurricane Gustav. "We sent three HF kits, 3 VHF/UHF kits and a combination kit complete with HF, VHF and handheld transceivers to the Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) facility in Baton Rouge, as well as four VHF/UHF base antennas and a support box that included coax, rope, wire an-

tennas and connectors." Fusaro also said that a 600 W amplifier was sent to Jim Coleman, AI5B, in Bogalusa, Louisiana to be used at the Emergency Operations Center there, and an HF radio was sent to Joel Colman, NO5FD, of New Orleans, replacing his rig that was damaged during set up at the firehouse.

"To me, these Go-Kits ramp up ARRL's ability to support Amateur Radio volunteers in the field when the next big disaster hits," said ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH. "They won't replace or supplant anything that's already on the ground and working well, but the kits will strengthen it and add flexibility to Amateur Radio's overall response capabilities."

In setting up these Go Kits, League staffers consulted with volunteers who were in the field during Hurricane Katrina to find out what gear served them best or what they wished they'd had but didn't. The Go Kits, stowed in rugged, waterproof Pelican 1650 containers, enable the League to loan out needed equipment on a moment's notice. "The idea is that this makes it easy to ship," explains Fusaro, "and since they're less than 50 pounds apiece, they can be shipped by air."

The HF Kit contains a 100 W HF transceiver, a tuner and antenna, a microphone and a power supply. The VHF/UHF Kit includes a dualband mobile transceiver, power supply, headset, 10 handheld transceivers and a supply of alkaline batteries. In the Handheld Transceiver Kit are eight dualband handheld transceivers and antennas, plus a stock of extra batteries. The Support Kit includes a length of BuryFlex RG-213 coaxial cable, rope, 15 foot jumper cables with battery clamps at one end and an Anderson Powerpole on the other. The kit includes various fittings and adapters to connect to the power distribution unit and to make RF feed line connections. All kits contain any necessary manuals.

Hobart said it's imperative to sustain and enhance ham radio's emergency communication capabilities for the future: "Disasters happen to

be one place Amateur Radio can shine," she pointed out. "We need to maintain a high level of readiness to do those things that are second nature to ARES members, but that the public is just coming to recognize." Making the Go Kits available to ARES teams, Hobart said, will help to cement Amateur Radio's position as a community resource. "We want to be able to ensure that we have the personnel and the equipment," she said. "With a disaster of any magnitude, we need to be ready."

Since the arrival of Hurricane Gustav, Hobart said that the Ham Aid fund has been depleted. "With more storms on the horizon, the ARRL is seeking member contributions to rebuild the Ham Aid Fund. This vital lifeline of resources to support the ARRL Field Organization and Amateur Radio Volunteers will benefit from the renewed generosity of radio amateurs." Contributions in any amount can be made online <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/basic/>>.

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Volume 27, #35 of September 5th, 2008, Reprinted by permission)

ARRL Presents New Membership Benefit

With just a mouse click or two, ARRL members can now access the online QST magazine archive <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/qstsearch.html>>. This new benefit -- a service of the ARRL Technical Information Service (TIS) <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/>> -- provides PDF copies of all QST articles from December 1915 through December 2004, enabling members to view and print their favorite article, project and more. For many years, the TIS has provided members with assistance researching ARRL periodicals and publications, as well as providing members and non-members with article reprints for a small fee. Access to the new online digital QST archive is free for ARRL members, and is for their personal use only -- material in the archive may not be freely distributed or copied.

"Having access to every issue of QST through 2004 is absolutely incredible!" said ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI. "The best of the

best of QST from every era is now at the fingertips of every ARRL member with a keyboard and an Internet connection. Members can research articles on any subject that interests them, or just browse the past issues. This will be a popular membership benefit that will be of special value to new and long-time hams alike. This valuable content will help radio amateurs who use QST as a technical resource -- for projects, equipment 'hints and kinks' -- and for other research contributing to the advancement of the radio art. We know many hams will simply enjoy perusing these pages of history, too."

The ARRL Periodicals Archive and Search lists every article for QST from 1915 to the present, QEX from 1981 to the present, Ham Radio from 1968 to 1990 and NCJ from 1973 to the present (please note that beginning in 1998, each issue of QEX covers two months). Only ARRL members will be able to download and print copies of the QST articles.

QST magazine is the official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. An interest in Amateur Radio is the only essential qualification of membership. ARRL membership is \$39 per year in the US. For a complete list of membership benefits and dues, please visit the ARRL Membership Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/join>>.

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Volume 27, #36 of September 12th, 2008, Reprinted by permission)

Fold Out Call Sign Sheets! Neil Waybright AF6CD

Due to family commitments, I was unable to make last month's meeting and couldn't pass out the call sign sheets. I have included the sheet in this newsletter so that all of the club members can recognize each other on the air.

Report on the K6AER (Grissom) Repeater Antenna Fund Dave Morton AA6DM

In the June, 2008 CVARC Newsletter there was a suggestion for voluntary contributions to replenish the money expended by the club to assist in the purchase of a new antenna for the K6AER (Grissom) repeater.

About a dozen contributions – including one from a particularly generous anonymous member – were received and enough money was donated to completely restore the treasury. (The exact count of the number of contributors is not known because President Lane “passed the hat” at the July monthly meeting and how many donated at that time is not certain.)

Based on the amount of money contributed, at the August meeting of the CVARC board of directors the Grissom Antenna Fund was closed.

4:1 Balun Construction Project Neil Waybright AF6CD

Hugh Bosma, AE6YC, has graciously offered to lead another ham radio construction project. This time we are building 4:1 baluns for use in constructing multi-band off-center feed dipoles (and other tasks). The details are on the CVARC web site and have been discussed on the CVARC discussion list several times. We are finalizing how many kits to obtain parts for and will set a date for the “project day” after that.

Hugh and I are trying to update the signup list linked from the article on the web site every couple of weeks with the new names as people email Hugh to be added on. Take a look and join Hugh for another fun and useful project.

For those that have already signed up, please bring your cash or check to the September meeting and see Roy so we will be able to order the parts as soon as the final details of the design are finalized.

Report on the K6AER (Grissom) Chatsworth Train Wreck Neil Waybright AF6CD

We have all read the stories about the horrific train wreck in Chatsworth on 9/12/2008. As I write this my neighbor is still in critical condition at Simi Hospital. All of us have friends or acquaintances that have been impacted by the crash.

I waited all evening for a call from the Ventura County ACS organization but we were not called out for this event since the disaster was in LA County. Had they asked for mutual aid, and VC ACS had activated, would those of you who are ACS members been ready to grab your go-kit and hit the door immediately?

Speed is of the essence in some types of emergencies, so having to poke around for hours finding all of your gear would dramatically blunt the benefit we provide. If first-responders need our help, we have to be ready to go.

If you are not currently a member of the Ventura County Auxiliary Communications Service, please consider joining us. This really is all about helping people in your own community. Had this tragedy occurred in Moorpark (where the train was bound when the wreck happened), what could we have done to help?

Ken Larson, KJ6RZ, in our club is the ACS Emergency Coordinator (EC) for the T.O., Oak Park and surrounding area (area 2), and Rick Tate, KQ6NO, is the EC for the Moorpark (area 8) portion of the organization. If you live in a different area, contact me and I'll help you get in touch with your EC to find out how to volunteer.

CVARC Member Call Sign List
(sorted by number, then suffix)

Callsign	First name		
W0UFC	Thomas	N6MDA	Mike
WA1ESF	Steve	W6NCT	Vern
KB1PFX	George	W6NML	Jon
N2BEU	Dennis	KI6NNW	Dalton
KG6AJH	Ted	KI6NNY	Nick
K6ARA	John	KQ6NO	Rick
KD6ARM	Alan	KI6NON	Andy
WA6ARU	Duane	WB6NSE	Art
KD6AXQ	Dennis	K6NVS	Noel
KG6BCL	Kevin	KN6OK	Dale
KI6BCP	Charlie	W6PDD	Pat
AF6CD	Neil	N6PH	Peter
KG6CLT	Charley	KI6PTW	Hanne
KI6COG	Mary	KI6PTX	Ted
KI6CU	James	WB6PYK	Eric
KI6DJV	Gino	KD6RCM	Todd
KE6DKF	Rick	KI6RKH	Robert
AA6DM	Dave	KJ6RZ	Kenneth
N6DTC	David	KF6TE	Bill
AF6DZ	Christopher	AE6TO	Karl
KD6ECF	Joseph	K6UJO	Phil
WD6EJO	George	KE6UMW	Roy
W6FIF	Ron	N6VUY	Jose
WA6GLE	Brad	KB6WIP	Ted
K6HB	Bill	K6WMD	Darren
KA6HHW	Bob	KG6WRG	Dave
AC6HX	Carl	NS6X	John
KI6IAG	Ed	AE6YC	Hugh
N6IAW	Bill	W6YLE	Joe
KD6IJF	Michael	K6ZB	Bruce
KC6IJM	Steve	N6ZE	Peter
NO6J	Dean	KG6ZRA	Ben
KF6JQO	Bill	K7FE	Terry
AE6JR	William	KA7OLD	Joe
AA6JR	Jeff	K7SDW	Gregory
KC6JSO	Jerry	N7WLC	Michael
KQ6K	Eddie	N9BRB	Brian
K6KY	Adrian	KA9WMI	David
KT6LA	Jonathan		
KI6LKD	Ray		

Ventura County ACS/ARES Times & Frequencies

Area 2 ACS/ARES members are encouraged to check in every Tuesday night at 7:00pm on the Area 2 check-in nets.



Area	Time	Mode	Frequency	Shift	PL	Repeater/Notes
Area 1	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	147.930	-	127.3	AD6SV
<u>Area 2</u>	<u>7:00-7:30 pm</u>	<u>Voice</u>	<u>146.850</u>	-	<u>94.8</u>	<u>K6AER/Grissom</u>
Area 2	7:10-7:30 pm	Voice	224.700	-	156.7	K6HB
<u>Area 2</u>	<u>7:10-7:30 pm</u>	<u>Voice</u>	<u>449.440</u>	-	<u>131.8</u>	<u>W6AMG/Amgen</u>
Area 2	(Simplex)	Voice	146.445	None	None	Simplex
Area 2	(Backup Repeater)	Voice	147.885	-	127.3	N6JMI "Bozo"
Area 3	7:15-7:30 pm	Voice	147.915	-	127.3	WB6ZTQ
Area 4	7:15-7:30 pm	Voice	149.970	-	127.3	WB6YQN
Area 5	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	145.400	-	None	N6FL
Area 6/7	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	147.975	-	127.3	N6VUY
Area 8	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	146.985	-	127.3	South Mtn.
County	7:30-8:00 pm	Voice	146.880	-	127.3	WA6ZTT
County	6:45-7:00 pm	Voice	52.980	-	82.5	K6SMR
County	7:30-8:00 pm	Voice	224.020	-	127.3	WB6ZTR
County	Before 6:30 pm	Packet	145.710	+	None	Hospital Net
County	(ACS Simplex)	Voice	147.570	None	None	Simplex

Net Control operations for the weekly ACS/ARES Area 2 check-in are run from the ACS/ARES communications center at East County Sheriff Station (on Olsen Road) every Tuesday starting at 7:00pm.

Visitors are welcome and have the opportunity to operate the station. Please contact Gino Spinelli, K16DJV at (805) 529-6101 if you would like to attend.

ACS members should remember that their ACS card is issued for only two years. When your card is due to expire, please call Jackie at the Office of Emergency Services in Ventura, (805) 654-2551, to renew it.

For questions concerning ACS/ARES, please call the Area 2 Emergency Coordinator, Ken Larson, KJ6RZ at (805) 495-9435 or go to the ACS/ARES section of the CVARC website at <http://www.cvarc.org>.

2008 CVARC Officers

President.....	Greg Lane	K7SDW	(805) 498-0454	k7sdw@verizon.net
Vice President.....	Tom Stough.....	WØUFC.....	(805) 373-6836	w0ufc@arrl.net
Secretary	Mary Ho.....	KI6COG.....	(805) 494-9241	abele7213@mypacks.net
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Public Relations	Jeff Reinhardt.....	AA6JR.....	(818) 706-3853	aa6jr@pacbell.net
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Operations	open	open	open	open
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Social	open	open	open	open
Member at Large	Hugh Bosma.....	AE6YC.....	(805) 498-1987	hrbcrb@aol.com
Member at Large	Dave Morton.....	AA6DM	(805) 495-3920	aa6dm@arrl.net



CVARC is recognized by the ARRL as a Special Service Club (SSC). To be a part of the ARRL's Special Service Club program, 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
- Operating Activities



Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 2093
Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-2093

Address Correction Requested

– FIRST – CLASS – MAIL –



CVARC Online

For up-to-date information and back issues of newsletters, please visit the CVARC Web Site at <http://www.cvarc.org>. In addition to visiting the Web site, you may like to join the CVARC Yahoo Group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CVARCDiscussion/>

The Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated Special Service Club. 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 7:30pm with a pre-meeting social and technical assistance session from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Meetings are open to the public, and members are encouraged to bring their friends.

“News from CVARC” is published monthly (on the Monday preceding the CVARC club meeting) by the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club, AA6CV PO Box 2093, Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-2093. It is mailed free of charge to all members.

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.

CVARC Membership Rates

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 very pleased.

The simplest way to join (or to renew) is to write us a check bearing your address, and give or send it to our Treasurer. Make the check payable to “CVARC” and please put your call sign and/or email address, if you have one, on the memo line of your check. Name, Call sign, or Address changes may be emailed to the Treasurer.

Current annual rates are: Regular Membership: \$25. Family Membership: \$30. Special discounts are available for; New members just licensed: \$10. Full-time Students: \$10. Regular members renewing for multiple years: \$20/year.