

October
2009

NEWS FROM CVARC

President's Message Phil Bartlett, K6UJO

In grammar school I built a crystal set. I can still smell the shellac on the paper coil form with the 14ga magnet wire wound around it. Yes, I heard several radio stations as I moved the whisker across the crystal trying to find a hot spot and sliding the copper contact across the scraped wire on the top of the coil.

In junior high I stayed up late at night listening to short wave broadcasts and long range AM stations with a chassis salvaged from an old Silvertone (Sears) upright, console radio.

And then in 6th grade I went with a group of scouts to the National Guard Armory in Glendale, CA and there I saw a military radio on the back of a jeep and the soldier handed me a microphone and I spoke with someone that I did not know and did not see. That night I was hooked on this thing that's all about knobs, speakers, antennas, and microphones and the adventure/mystery of who might be at the other end of the radio waves. I was hooked. A short time later I was invited to a civil defense class and introduced to Gonset Communicators with the green eye in an underground survival site, where we learned code and got to operate the nets, taking check-ins and passing messages.

President's Message, continued on page 2

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October Club Meeting "Batteries for Fun and Profit"

Bill Willcox – KF6JQO

If we think about batteries at all it is usually only after they have failed to live up to our expectations. Are all batteries doomed to be the bane of our portable life-style or do we just have unrealistic expectations?

Maybe we just need a better understanding of how to select and maintain the right battery and charging system for the job. That's the goal of the October talk.

We'll take a look at:

- The difference between a primary and secondary battery.
- Different types of popular battery chemistry in terms of their relative performance, life, lugability and cost.
- How to select a battery type, capacity and charging system.
- How to keep your batteries happy, long-lived and ready to go.
- Some emerging types of battery technology (from a chemistry you would not expect)

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

The East County Sheriff Station facility is just off of the 23 freeway between Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley. We look forward to seeing you there.

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

I have done lots of things in life but they all have involved gadgets, gizmos, wires, electrons, chips, displays, and communications. A lot of people along the way encouraged me and helped me understand these things and shared their passion for the science and engineering and the ideas that have made technology possible and almost indispensable. These gifts were gladly given and thankfully received.

When I came to CVARC 25 years ago, I came to fellowship with those that had lived a similar journey and to share what I knew and had experienced with the novice, curious, adventuresome, person that was in search of that seed that could grow into interest and purpose and become a foundation of a lifetime. ...To hand them the microphone and show them the mystery and adventure.

Why do you come to our meetings, what have you taken and given back? CVARC needs your help to continue our purpose of teaching and leading new people into their dreams. Consider how you can serve CVARC.

I am willing to help, can we count on you?

Phil

Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club 2009 Event Calendar

October 6	Technician License Class Complete
October 11	FCC License Exam
October 15	CVARC Club Meeting
October 16 - 18	Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)
October 20	Fifth Technician License Class Begins
October 31	TRW Swap Meet
November 14	Malibu Endurance Ride
November 19	CVARC Club Meeting
November 28	TRW Swap Meet
December 5	CVARC Holiday Party
December 8	Fifth Technician Class Completes
December 13	FCC License Exam
December 26	TRW Swap Meet

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

Dinner with the Club Speaker Sue Hanson, N6OIZ

Hope all that attended last month had a nice dinner.

This month's speaker, our own Bill Willcox, should be very good company for those that care to join in for dinner. The QTH for this month's dinner will be Toppers Pizza. Toppers is located at 1416 North Moorpark Road. The menu consists of pizza, sandwiches and one of the best salad bars around. They don't have a web site so a land line number if you need it is 495-4444. We will plan on getting together around 5:30, so there is time to make it to the meeting afterward.

Any suggestions for a location for a future dinner?? Please let me know!! Sue Hanson
Sue@W6RH or (805) 376-9350.

73 Sue

Nominating Committee to Report at October Meeting Neil Waybright AF6CD

The nominating committee working to come up with a slate of nominees for next year's board is looking for additional nominations for all positions. Several members of the board are willing to carry on and run again for their existing seats (but would be thrilled to run against real competition), several would like to try a different role on the board (particularly if a replacement can be found to fill their existing seats), and several have commitments or scheduling problems for the coming year that leaves them unable to be on the board next year.

We will call for additional nominations before we announce the outcome of the nominating committee. The final slate will be presented at the October club general meeting as required by Article 11, section 2 of the bylaws <http://www.cvarc.org/by-laws.shtml>. Additional open nominations will be accepted at the November meeting before the vote for next year's officers.

Board Positions

Neil Waybright, AF6CD

This is a quick primer on each of the positions on the board, what the by-laws require of them and what they actually do month-to-month.

The Board meets once a month, currently on the Thursday prior to regular CVARC meetings. The meetings start at 7:30pm and run to 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. depending on how much discussion there is. In addition to the Board Meetings themselves, there is often some informal discussion at General Meetings or by email. The functions of Board positions are outlined in the By-Laws (<http://www.cvarc.org/by-laws.shtml>), but in reality the exact division of labor varies somewhat each year depending on the skills and interests of the individuals involved. The quotes from the by-laws are in "quote marks", with the commentary afterwards in italics

President: "The President shall preside at meetings of the Club, and shall be an ex officio member of the committees and Chairperson of the Board. He/she shall perform other customary duties pertaining to the office of President."

He or she chairs the Board and General meetings. The president also writes a monthly message in the newsletter, and occasionally answers emails from people looking to join the club, or wanting help from volunteers.

Vice President: "The Vice-President shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President and shall assume the President's duties during his/her absence. He/she shall be responsible for communicating the objectives, policies, plans, programs and activities of the Club to the membership and, as appropriate, to the public and amateur fraternity at large; also, serve as chairperson of the Program Planning Committee."

The VP performs the role of the President in his or her absence and arranges guest speakers.

Secretary: "The Secretary shall keep record of the proceedings of meetings, maintain a roster of

members, carry on necessary Club correspondence and ensure notice is provided to members announcing special meetings of the Club. He/she shall retain the official copies of the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws, which shall be available for inspection by members at reasonable times. The Secretary shall be responsible for the archiving of records and data. The Secretary shall keep current and provide to officers a procedural manual."

The secretary takes minutes at meetings and is the keeper of official records (insurance policies, tax-exempts status letters, etc.).

Treasurer: "The Treasurer shall be specifically responsible for monies of the Club. He/she shall pay bills approved by the President, or Vice-President in the President's absence, collect monies, handle banking and keep adequate financial records. He/she shall also maintain an inventory of Club Property, prepare budgets for Board approval and keep the Board currently informed concerning expenditures in relation to budgeted items. He/she shall submit a summary of disbursement and receipts semi-annually to the Club and monthly to the Board of Directors. He/she shall be responsible to see that Federal and State tax forms and recurring filings are filed and paid in a timely manner. He/she shall at the expiration of his/her term turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the Club to his/her successor."

The treasurer handles pretty much everything financial and maintains the "official" membership roster.

Publisher: "The Publisher shall be responsible for coordinating, editing and providing newsletters to Club members and others having interest in our Club activities."

Publishes the newsletter, and oversees the web site, too.

Education Coordinator: "The Education Coordinator is responsible for developing and offering a broad program of education and training in the theory and application of electronics, Amateur Radio practice and lore so as to fulfill the corpo-

rate purpose and improve the skills of members and trainees. He/she shall foster an effective liaison with citizens in the community who constitute a large resource of potential radio amateurs.”

The education coordinator arranges for licensing classes and leads efforts on any other necessary education issues.

Technical Coordinator: “The Technical Coordinator shall be responsible for Club efforts in maintaining a high level of technical knowledge and skill within the Club and be a resource available to the Club and member stations to maintain their equipment's technical performance characteristics. He/she shall be the Club representative to other amateur organizations and the community on technical matters such as radio and television interference and QRM.”

The Technical Coordinator addresses technical issues, interference, technical “Elmering” and making sure club events do not result in harmful interference.

Operations Coordinator: “The Operations Coordinator shall be responsible for on-the-air operations of the Club and its members - including network, bulletins, contests; and for the construction, purchase, installation and maintenance of the Club's radio and technical equipment.”

The operations chair handles issues surrounding the CVARC van, Field Day, and other official club-sponsored field operations.

Public Relations Coordinator: “The Public Relations Coordinator shall be responsible for fostering mutual understanding, cooperation and membership in the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), communicating the needs and views of the Club to the ARRL, FCC and government within the limitations of the Club's non-profit status; encouraging individual and corporate charitable contributions; establishing the Club's objectives and long-range programs, and acting in liaison with other amateur radio organizations on matters of common interest.”

The PR coordinator handles publicity. ARRL interface and other outreach activities. The ARRL

has lots of help on this so you don't have to be a professional PR person to handle this.

Social Coordinator: “The Social Coordinator shall be responsible for planning, organizing and conducting social activities for the Club. He/she shall assist and coordinate with the Vice-President in implementing these responsibilities and serve as chairperson of the social committee.”

The social chair arranges social events, primarily the two group meals at field day, the summer picnic, and the Christmas party.

Concerning the member-at-large, this is all the by-laws have to say: “The Board shall consist of the Officers specified in ARTICLE VI plus one(1) Member-at-large for each 50 members or fraction thereof. One of the Members-at-large shall be, with his/her concurrence, the immediate past president of the Club unless he/she shall be a current Officer.” Since our membership is greater than 50 and less than 100, we are able to elect two members-at-large. They typically represent the membership to the board, and have no other formal duties. They are often learning roles where you see if you like “Board duty” and learn how the club operates as an organization. This is where I started and enjoyed the position a lot. The members-at-large are free to contribute more, and frequently do.

Please think seriously about serving on the Board. The current and past board members would be thrilled to Elmer a new board member in at literally any position on the board. None of these are so difficult that a new ham or a new club member couldn't be successful in the role. We would all work with you to make sure that you would succeed and have a good time. It is our club too, and the fact is that the club could benefit from your experience and new ideas. I have never seen a situation that the new members on the board each year don't bring fresh new viewpoints that help improve things for all of us.

Thanks,
Neil, AF6CD

Foxhunt in Santa Barbara **Joe Moell K0OV**

Lake Los Carneros Park in near Santa Barbara, CA will be the site of southern California's next international-style on-foot foxhunt on Saturday, October 17, 2009. This event is being staged especially for Santa Barbara area Scouts in the annual nationwide Jamboree-On-The-Air, but all are welcome and can be accommodated. A ham radio license and knowledge of radio equipment are not required. Bring the kids and grandkids, then go out on the course with them! There will be no charge for the transmitter hunting.

This session is being hosted by Marvin Johnston KE6HTS. Besides some easy fox transmitters just to help you learn and test your equipment, there will be a beginner-level international-rules course on 145.565 MHz FM. The site area is slightly less than 140 acres. It is relatively flat, making it a good site for foxtailers of all skill levels. Full-color orienteering maps will be available.

The session starts a 9 AM and hunters may start at any time until 1 PM. Courses close at 3 PM.

Because of the Scout involvement, there won't be time or space for the usual antenna and attenuator building clinic before the hunt. However, Marvin will have kits available for pickup and building at home if you if you contact him ahead of time. Send e-mail to Marvin (marvin@west.net) to order kits.

Directions to Lake Los Carneros: From US 101 about 8 miles west of downtown Santa Barbara, take the Los Carneros Road exit, head north about 1/4 mile and turn right into the Stow House parking lot. Parking is free. Look for the orange-and-white orienteering flag. The hunt will start in the picnic area, just east of the railroad depot. A map to the site is at www.homingin.com

Ham radio talk-in is on the K6TZ repeater, 146.79(-) PL 131.8.

For Sale by Owner
Neil Waybright, AF6CD

We have indicated several times in the past that club members may place a "space available" classified ad in the newsletter for those wanting to sell Amateur Radio related equipment. This is not a general sales place, and the newsletter editor will be the final arbiter of what is appropriate. We suggest a title, description, and a link to a review or further description of the item. I'll blaze a trail for others to follow since I have an extra key to get rid of.

Classified Ads

Bencher BY-1 *Ultimate Iambic Paddle*, black base, in good condition in original box with brand new Vibroplex keyer cable. \$125.00 new from Bencher http://www.bencher.com/ham/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=1_5&products_id=1 .

Reviews are very good

<http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/43>

\$75.00 or O.B.O. Contact Neil, AF6CD 805-657-7566

The CVARC Christmas Party is Approaching!

We have confirmed the Cameron Center in Thousand Oaks for the CVARC Christmas party and auction on Saturday the 5th December. Further details will be forthcoming, but be sure and save the date. We traditionally have a pot luck dinner, so you have plenty of time to think about what you would like to bring. We typically have almost 40 people come for the party, so don't miss it this year.

Another great reason is that we have had an equipment auction the last few years where folks have donated to the club (for tax purposes) equipment that is auctioned off at the party. Some great deals have been available in years past, so come prepared to look for a treasure or two....

US Senate Introduces Bill 1755 **Neil Waybright, AF6CD**

For those that missed it, I am including the email Rob Hanson sent to the CVARC Discussion group this past week.



Tax Deductible Donations to CVARC Neil Waybright, AF6CD

CVARC is an IRS-certified 501(c)3 charitable organization and donations are deductible pursuant to the IRS rules. If you have working radio equipment and ancillary equipment that you can donate for the Christmas party and auction, please contact one of the board members and we will be happy to talk to you about the process.

We cannot accept certain donations, and have to place some restrictions around them (no hazardous materials, nothing we could not sell, etc.) If you are interested, look me, or any other board member up at one of the meetings, or contact us via email (our addresses are on page 7 of the newsletter).

October 6, 2009 U.S. Senators Joe Lieberman (D-CT) and Susan Collins (R-ME) introduced a companion bill to HR 2160 which was introduced to the House of Representatives by Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX-18) in April 2009. Senate bill is 1755 is also known as "The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009".

More complete information can be found on ARRL website at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/10/07/11127/>.

I highly recommend each of you with an interest in Ham radio study the information on this bill and write your senator and encourage him or her to support this bill.

Name: _____
Call Sign: _____
Class: _____
Address: _____
City, ST Zip _____
Tel: (_____) _____ - _____
E-Mail: _____
ARRL Member expiration date (on QST label) _____

ACS # _____ ARES# _____
Date: _____ Update Roster Only? _____
Family Membership: Names/Calls _____

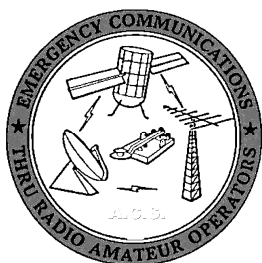
Send Information/Application to:
Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2093
Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-2093

New Renewal
Single Membership - \$25 _____
Multi-year ____ years @ \$20 = _____
New Ham or New Member - \$10 _____
Single Membership, Full-Time Student \$10 _____
Family Membership - \$30 _____
ARRL Membership Renewal (include ARRL form) \$ _____
AD Space (2x3) One Year (member) - \$35 _____
AD Space (2x3) One Year (non-Member) - \$75 _____
Total Enclosed \$ _____
Cash Check Number _____

Interested in License Upgrades? _____
Joining ARES/ACS? _____
Disaster Action Team? _____
Obtain a HAM License? _____

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>
<u>Area 2</u>	<u>7:10-7:30 pm</u>	<u>Voice</u>	<u>224.700</u>	-	<u>156.7</u>	<u>K6HB</u>
<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	146.970	-	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	146.385	+	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	145.650	None	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, KI6DJV at (805) 529-6101 if you would like to attend.

For questions concerning ACS/ARES, please call the Area 2 Emergency Coordinator, Jerry Goldman, KC6JSO at (805) 405-8213 or go to the ACS/ARES section of the CVARC website at <http://www.cvarc.org>.

ACS members should remember that their ACS card is issued for only two years. When your card is due to expire, please call Jerry B. Goldman KC6JSO (805) 405-8213 or (805) 493-0076 Office. Jerry works with OES on a regular basis and will track your renewal to ensure that you receive your new badge in the shortest possible time. You will need to complete a Volunteer Update form for your renewal. Jerry will email this form to you 45 days prior to your ACS card expiration date. Please make sure that Jerry has your correct email address at all times.

2009 CVARC Officers

President.....	open	open	open	open
Vice President.....	Phil Bartlett.....	K6UJO.....	(805) 499-6935.....	peb@peb.net
Secretary	Mary Ho.....	KI6COG.....	(805) 494-9241.....	abele7213@mypacks.net
Treasurer	Dave Morton.....	W7DMM.....	(805) 495-3920.....	dmorton@rain.org
Public Relations	Brad Ormsby.....	WA6GLE.....	(818) 991-1130.....	bormsby@sbcglobal.net
Technical	Rick Barrett.....	KE6DKF.....	n/a.....	ke6dkf@roadrunner.com
Operations	Rob Hanson.....	W6RH.....	(805) 376-9350.....	w6rh@verizon.net
Newsletter Editor	Neil Waybright.....	AF6CD.....	(805) 517-2962.....	af6cd@arrl.net
Education.....	Karl Moody.....	AE6TO.....	(805) 523-0622.....	ke6wvz@aol.com
Social.....	Sue Hanson.....	N6IOZ.....	(805) 376-9350.....	robhanson@juno.com
Member at Large	Hugh Bosma.....	AE6YC.....	(805) 498-1987.....	hrbcrb@aol.com
Member at Large	Mike D'Amore.....	N6MDA.....	(805) 496-1073.....	mike.damore@roadrunner.com



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.