

President's Message Kits for Kids

How will we interest the next generation of amateur radio enthusiasts? I suspect that we will have to do what has always been done – show them what they are missing and take as much of the difficulty out as we practically can. What are the primary obstacles to getting school-aged kids involved? I see a number of them, and you can help me recognize it if I miss some important ones. The ones I thought of are:

1. Accessibility – this isn't a hobby that is easy for a newcomer to enter easily. It has what the marketing people call high barriers to entry
2. Technical level of difficulty – most kids would not voluntarily take on an unassisted course to enter the hobby because they view it as too hard
3. Cost – the cost of a radio that a kid might pine for is out of proportion to what most parents are willing to spend with no promise that their child will keep at it and they can recoup their "investment"
4. Many of the things they need are not located locally and are therefore difficult to obtain (parts, tools, books, etc.)
5. The adults they have access to are not able to help them much with these problems

Seeing the problems laid out has some value, but what do we do about it? I believe all five of these problems are easily attacked if we are willing to spend some time, effort and a small amount of money on the problem.

As you can guess from the title of the article, I am proposing that we try kit-building with some kids and see if we can't spark an interest in them. Children tend to enjoy learning something that they can put their hands on and do something with. Kit-building works on multiple parts of the list above. The missing part is a number of Elmers. They are the key missing ingredient that this idea will not work without.

Elmers make the hobby more accessible by putting a friendly, human face on what would be an impossible task. They can reduce the technical difficulty level by helping explain things in a different way that gets the point across and corrects minor, but building misconceptions. The club and donations can help defray the cost and judicious-

...see MESSAGE on page 2

March Speaker at CVARC

Our March speaker is Joy Matlack, KD6FJV. She is the Communications Director for the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay. The Challenge Cup Relay is the largest and most unique Law Enforcement race in the world. It is a 120-mile, 20-stage, foot race beginning at Baker, California and finishing at Las Vegas, Nevada. The Challenge Cup Relay began in 1985 with 19 teams as a race for Police Officers to improve their physical fitness. In 2006, the Twenty Second Annual Challenge Cup Relay accommodated 220 teams, thousands of runners, hundreds of support personnel, countless volunteers, and innumerable work hours, culminated in the finest race possible. Tens of thousands of spectators will line the course. This event is the "Super Bowl," of Law Enforcement and the Champions are the best the police world has to offer. This year the race will be held on April 21 to 22, so there may still be time to get involved.

This will be Joy's 17th year working the race. She is in charge of all aspects of communications for both the 8100 square mile race course, and the teams that participate in the race. The presentation will feature an overview of the race, how it is organized, the communications infrastructure, and how some types of communications are more successful than others, as well as some information about this year's upcoming race.

The race provides a unique opportunity to gain experience working a very active radio network. About 250 Hams work the course, and 400 to 500 communicators support the individual teams. Hams working the stages are also responsible for timing the hand-offs and acting as "tail-end-Charlie" for the last team to come in off the race course.

We look forward to meeting Joy and learning more about this huge Ham Radio event.

Rob Hanson, W6RH

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MESSAGE, continued from front page...

selection of excellent deals can keep this relatively inexpensive for the club and the kids. By us taking on the effort, we would help make sure all of the right pieces were available at the right time (kits, soldering irons, etc.). If we can partner with other adults in their lives (scout master, teachers, etc.) we can get involved in an effective way.

We have tried things with Scouts in the last few years and they never quite worked out. Much of the issue was the scale we were going for. Trying to do anything at the higher levels, with dozens or hundreds of troops, will be fraught with politics. If we can focus on small groups we can find something we can actually resource and get things going on. If it is a success, there are always people willing to come onboard and help expand the effort. What is needed to get things going are a few volunteers. We need to have the Elmers to make this work. If you have some time on your hands and enjoy working with kids, please contact me (at kg6qel@yahoo.com) and express an interest. "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world". Ann Frank penned this in her diary and I think it admirably captures the combination of a 'can-do' attitude and sense of personal responsibility to get the ball rolling. Let's see if we can't make something happen with a small group of youths in our neighborhood.

Neil KG6QEL

Spring Forward, Fall Back

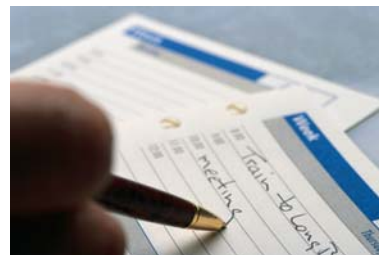


Just a reminder for those of you who use Microsoft Windows and also use the automatic Daylight Saving Time adjustment feature. The begin and end dates are changing as of 2007 and this may require adjustments to your operating system, if "Automatic Update" did not take care of it. For full details, see:

http://support.microsoft.com/gp/cp_dst

Microsoft no longer supports Windows 98. Win98 users can download a zip file containing a utility to edit their time zone dates from: <http://tz98.stevechampion.com>. The new dates are 2nd Sunday in March and 1st Sunday in November.

George M. Tamayo WD6EJO



2007 Event Calendar

- Mar 15.....CVARC Meeting
- Mar 25..... Westlake Street Fair Comms
- Mar 31..... TRW Swapmeet
- Apr 8..... No License Exam at CVARC (Easter)
- Apr 10..... CVARC License Classes End
- Apr 15..... Delayed FCC License Exam at CVARC
- Apr 17..... CVARC License Classes Begin
- Apr 19..... CVARC Meeting
- Apr 21..... Arbor Day Demo
- Apr 27-29 Visalia International DX Convention
- Apr 28..... TRW Swapmeet
- May 12 Cruisin' the Conejo Comms
- May 17 CVARC Meeting
- May 18-20 Dayton Hamvention
- May 26 TRW Swapmeet
- Jun 5 CVARC License Classes End
- Jun 10 FCC License Exam at CVARC
- Jun 12 CVARC License Classes Begin
- Jun 21 CVARC Meeting
- Jun 23-24 ARRL Field Day
- Jun 30 TRW Swapmeet
- Jul 3..... Moorpark Fireworks Comms
- Jul 19..... CVARC Meeting
- Jul 28..... TRW Swapmeet
- Aug 7..... CVARC License Classes End
- Aug 12..... FCC License Exam at CVARC
- Aug 14..... CVARC License Classes Begin
- Aug 16..... CVARC Meeting
- Aug 25..... TRW Swapmeet
- Aug 25..... CVARC Summer Picnic
- Sep 7-9..... ARRL SW Div. Convention, Torrance
- Sep 20..... CVARC Meeting
- Sep 29..... TRW Swapmeet
- Oct 9..... CVARC License Classes Begin
- Oct 14..... FCC License Exam at CVARC
- Oct 16..... CVARC License Classes Begin
- Oct 18..... CVARC Meeting
- Oct 27..... TRW Swapmeet
- Nov 15..... CVARC Meeting
- Nov 24..... TRW Swapmeet
- Dec 4..... CVARC License Classes End
- Dec 8..... (Tentative) CVARC Holiday Party
- Dec 9..... FCC License Exam at CVARC
- Dec 29..... TRW Swapmeet

Please submit suggestions for additional dates to:
steve@stevechampion.com

Amateur Radio with a Hearing Impairment

Commentary by Tom Stough

As many of you know, I have nerve-damaged hearing. In spite of this fact, I continue to have a lot of fun in our hobby. Here's what I've learned about this disability and its connections with ham radio.

There is little assistance available. At least, I've been unable to find much on the Internet. The first organization one might think of is HandiHams, which has assisted disabled amateurs for many years. Their focus, understandably, is on operators with limited vision and/or motion issues. They don't offer much advice for those with hearing issues, even though radio is an almost exclusively auditory medium.

Hearing impairment will become a bigger issue in the hobby. As the population of the USA ages, more and more people will experience this problem firsthand. The large generation of Baby Boomers who blasted their ears with rock concerts and recordings are already beginning to regret their youthful choices. (My hearing issues have an entirely different origin.)

So...what's a hearing-impaired ham to do? The first step is to see an audiologist and be fitted for high-quality (read: \$\$\$) hearing aids. These will assist the user in face-to-face conversation, but fall short in situations where audio must be heard at a distance. Most public auditoriums offer assistive listening devices that bring the speaker's voice to the listener's ear, figuratively speaking, and enable understanding.

For the fixed ham station, an equalizer such as the MFJ—616 Speech Intelligibility Enhancer will do a serviceable job of compensating for hearing loss when used with suitable headphones. However, I find the unit bulky and expensive for what it is (about \$180). It's also not possible to use this equipment in a mobile situation, as laws preclude the use of headphones while driving.

For mobile, portable, Field Day and ARES/RACES operations, I've found a better method: direct connection to

the equalization circuitry of my hearing aids through a special harness (proprietary, also not cheap). This way, I can unplug it to talk immediately to someone in person as needed without asking them to wait while I put my hearing aids back in. As always, the more direct the connection, the better the sound quality. A close second are inductive couplers, which can be used with most aids that have a switchable "T-coil" for telephone listening. In the modern world, of course, inductive coupling also brings noise from fluorescent lights, auto ignition systems and many other "nasties". In many cases, I find it's easiest to just balance lightweight headphones over the mikes in my hearing aids. Once you find the "sweet spot", it works fairly well.

When it comes to actual amateur operation, it's fortunate that my favorite mode also lends itself to my hearing problem: HF CW. The fastest Morse Code in the world is much slower than the slowest speech, of course; but the fact that you can tune your ears to one tone at a time also helps. There are, I'm sure, types of hearing impairment that make understanding Morse more difficult than comprehending voice. I'm glad that's not the case with me.

With VHF/UHF FM, I also have few problems. Perhaps that's because of a high signal-to-noise ratio and the relative high-fidelity of this mode. For my ears, the biggest problem is HF single sideband listening. I don't have data modes such as packet, WinLink, APRS or PSK31 at my home station, though I have used them a bit. Data operations are the one part of amateur radio that can be done with no auditory input at all.

If you have hearing issues, I encourage you to seek the advice of doctors and audiologists. I'll be glad to discuss this subject with anybody reading, especially as it relates to our radio hobby.

Tom Stough, W0UFC



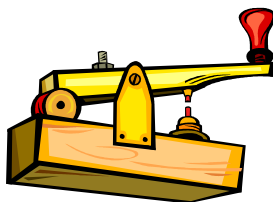
Above: The MFJ-616 allows audio profile to be tailored to compensate for an individual's hearing loss
(Photo: mfjenterprises.com)

Right: An Induction Neck Loop is a audio accessory that allows telecoil-equipped hearing aids to directly receive a signal from any device with a headphone socket. The fabric loop has a coil of wire embedded in it and is worn around the neck.

(Photo: hagger.co.uk)



No Code - Three Years On



The international requirement for Morse Code testing for access to the HF amateur bands was dropped in July 2003. Some countries changed their licensing requirements immediately, and others did so within just a few months.

This means that we, in the US, can get an interesting perspective on our recent licensing requirements change by talking to amateurs overseas. Many of our fellow hams have experienced over three years without code testing. I asked some friends from other countries for their perspective.

Steve Champion AE6NX

AUSTRALIA

There has been concern in Australia for many years regarding the decline of amateur radio operators and a decline in the membership of the WIA (Wireless Institute of Australia) The WIA was not the first national body to address these problems, others, especially the English, have been working on these issues for many years and it was possible for the WIA to observe the results that they achieved. Clearly something had to be done to attract more amateur radio operators and the most obvious way was to reduce the level of requirements for the entry into the hobby.

In Australia the requirement for Morse code was dropped in January 2004. Those people that choose to use this method of communication can still be heard on the airways and contests are still held. In the past, amateurs that studied Morse code just so they could gain an Amateur License, and who had no real interest in that aspect of the hobby, rarely used it anyway. It is interesting to note that now amateurs are no longer forced to learn Morse, there is a slight upsurge in interest amongst old amateurs to brush up on their code, and for some new amateurs to learn. Whether this trend will continue is too early to tell even after 3 years. However, the change in the requirement for Morse code didn't seem to have much effect on the airways. Things have changed since the introduction of the Foundation License and the changes in the Novice License which allows them greater access to frequencies

The new Foundation License came into force on 19 October 2005 Foundation Licensees must only use radios which have been manufactured commercially, can only use voice on either SSB, AM, FM or mores on a manually operated Morse key and not more than 10watts output power on SSB or 3 watts output power on AM FM or CW. The Foundation licensing option allows restriction operation on 3.5, 7, 21, 28,144 and 430MHz.

The new Standard Licence replaced the Novice and Novice Limited Licences and allows restricted operation on the 3.5, 7, 14, 21, 28, 52, 144, 430, 1240, 2400 and 5650MHz amateur bands, with no change to the output power of 100 watts and 30 watts.

The new Advanced Licence replaced the Unrestricted, Limited and Intermediate Licences, and allows operation on all bands allocated to amateurs in Australia with no change in output power of 400 and 120 watts. Under the new licensing arrangements, amateurs holding an Advanced Licence may apply for a call sign previously only available to a full call. However the ACMA has announced that because of the anticipated high demand for 2 letter call signs, they are not issuing these call signs until a more equitable arrangement for their allocation can be put in place.

To gain a Foundation License, applicants must attend a 2 day workshop which is run by the clubs, and concentrates on how to use a radio, regulations, radio etiquette, and a bit on antennas. It is hoped that through association with the clubs that these people are encouraged to do further studies and gain more advanced licences. There has been a flood of new licensees since the introduction of the Foundation License and many amateurs feared this would result in crowded airways and changing Amateur radio into what CB radio can sometimes be. In fact neither has happened, there have been no complaints of bad behaviour and the frequencies don't appear to be congested. However I have heard some amateurs complaining that sometimes these new licensees do not use the proper procedures, but it is surely up to the old amateurs to take responsibility and to correct them. Generally speaking these new amateurs are welcomed on the airways and most people see this new licensing system as a way to revitalize amateur radio and to ensure its success into the future.

Jenny Kerkvliet, VK4YL

GERMANY

Let me start with a bit of history. The international requirement of knowledge of Morse Code for amateur radio operators was codified in article 25 of the ITU's RR (Radio Regulations). On 5th July, 2003 the World Radio Conference 2003 changed this to read:

"25.5. Administrations shall determine whether or not a person seeking a licence to operate an amateur station shall demonstrate the ability to send and receive texts in Morse Code signals. (WRC-03)"

At that point Germany had a 3 class license system. Class 1 did still require a mandatory 25 characters per minute Morse test for full privileges. The Class 2 test was identical except it didn't require any knowledge of Morse Code for full privileges above 30MHz only and Class 3 was Germany's novice license. Effective 15th August 2003 RegTP (then the FCC's equivalent) changed the privileges to give Class 2 licensees almost full privileges. The two small things that were excluded were the use of Class 1 club station call signs on shortwave and the supervising of license students who don't have their own shortwave privileges while operating on shortwave.

When I took my own Class 1 license test on 28th March 2003, I was congratulated by old timers for taking the Morse test anyway and looked at like a madman by many of my generation because I earned hardly any extra privileges for the extra learning. On 18th February, 2005 RegTP combined the two classes 1 and 2 into the new Class A, so the little extra privileges ceased to exist. All that's left is the "DL" prefix which under consideration of my license issue date identifies me as somebody who knows Morse.

Changes don't happen overnight; each of these changes was preceded by months, if not years, of lobbying. Loud voices (primarily of old timers) were predicting doom after the end of the CW test and easier access to shortwave. More progressive hams were predicting a new age for amateur radio, especially more activity on the bands. By my observation the optimists were slightly more right than the pessimists. More hams are now active on shortwave in all modes, including CW. Clearly many were fairly insecure doing their first steps on shortwave, the equipment didn't work first time... but what did not happen was shortwave turning into CB. The number of new licenses has picked up slightly which also is a good sign for the future of amateur radio.

As for my personal opinion, as proud as I am on having passed the Morse test, I'm certain that continuing the Morse Code requirement would have been a nail in the coffin for amateur radio. Times have changed, Morse code has degraded, from the backbone of modern communication, to hardly more than a hobbyist mode. These changes made it extremely hard to justify the need for months of study for newcomers.

Ralf Baechle, DL5RB

GREAT BRITAIN

Dear Steve,

I'm not sure that you can disentangle the dropping of CW from the impact of our new three-tier Foundation / Intermediate / Full licence structure which was introduced at about the same time. Here at the University we have more interested undergraduates now than at any time in the last 25 years - and I believe that some, maybe a lot, of the improvement is due to the fact that they don't have to do CW. We had 9 undergrads doing the Full exam last year (not quite so good this year but we'll see) - and I've never known more than 2 or 3 do the exams in earlier years. We've even started a CW class so that those interested in contests can give it a go.

I should add that one of our most enthusiastic members, and the guy running the CW classes, is a G7 (in other words, originally licensed for VHF only) who came back into amateur radio a year or two after graduating because he found he could now use the HF bands. Since then he has learnt CW and can now run pile-ups. So I would say that the effect has been very positive.

Martin Atherton, G3ZAY
President, Cambridge University Wireless Society

AUSTRALIA

G'day, mates:

Given that you have just followed Australia down the "no code" route, your editor thought you might be interested in the view from our upside down vantage point three years after the last amateur Morse exam was administered down under. Actually, two potentially cataclysmic events occurred in such close proximity that it is impossible to study their impact independently:

- 1) On January 1, 2004, Australia became code free.
- 2) In October 2005, a "Foundation" class licence was introduced. Based on the British licence of the same name, it features pretty limited privileges and a fairly realistic expectation that one could walk out of a 1-weekend course with a ticket in your hand.

As you might imagine, the arrival of both was greeted by the old guard hams with much weeping, wailing and dire predictions of chaos on our bands. What in fact happened was a fairly orderly transition. HF nets noticed an upswing in check-ins. It suddenly became just a bit easier to fill the roster of operators for car rally communications. Some even volunteered (fools!) for club executive positions.

So what happened to the CW end of the bands? Nothing! More amateurs seem to be taking up the key than before. You can hear them laboriously grinding away at 8 to 10 WPM with hand-sent Morse (a unique condition of licence here in Oz). Greybeards on the finger-talker mode report regrettably having to turn down sked requests from those wanting to learn the mode. It

takes a long time to have a decent chat at 8 WPM, and there are only so many hours in a day. Human nature being what it is, it seems that we rebel at that which is forced upon us, and find pleasure in those things we do "just because". Membership in FISTS CW Club stands at an all-time high. Used bugs, keyers and paddles are snapped up as soon as they appear at hamfests, E-Bay or elsewhere.

A couple of factors are at work here that may not be the case where you live:

- 1) Strangely, a good percentage of the no-coders already know CW! Morse landlines were only abandoned in Oz in the 1970's, leaving behind a cadre of talented operators who are only just now retiring, and looking to rediscover their roots. Ditto shipboard operators.
- 2) In Australia, the local CB club, and ham radio club are often one and the same. We help them build 470 MHz repeaters, and they help us fill foundation licence classrooms. Beginners are transitioned smoothly into ham radio with no chance that they will be made to feel inferior by the unspoken caste system that is amateur radio.

But are they good operators? You decide! I've heard W6's working our distinctive VK four-letter F calls (get your mind out of the gutter!), particularly during 10 metre contests and on Echolink/IRLP. Yes, we get the odd new ham using our repeater's input as a simplex frequency, or transmitting on a band he or she has no privileges for, but by and large, the transition has given the hobby down here a much-needed shot in the arm. Note well, Chicken Little, that the skyhooks seem to be holding!

*John Kirk VK4TJ/VE6XT
Newsletter Editor, Darling Downs Radio Club,
Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia*

Einstein on Radio

Albert Einstein, when asked to describe radio, replied: "You see, wire telegraph is a kind of a very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New York and his head is meowing in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? And radio operates exactly the same way: you send signals here, they receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat."

Updated Results from the February 11, 2007 CVARC VE Session

Name	Callsign	New Class
Shea Gasbarri	KI6IAF	Technician
Edward L. Barry Jr.....	KI6IAG.....	Technician
Jack M. Thompson	KI6IAH.....	Technician
Diane K. Starzak.....	KI6IAI.....	Technician
Roger A. Beard.....	KI6IAL.....	Technician
Dennis J. Kent	KI6IAJ (Appl: W6CAK)	General
David J. Frederick.....	N5PPW	General
Joseph S. Biniskiewicz ..	KD6ECF	General
Mark E. Mountain	KI6HBA ..	Element 3 Credit*
Jack Caldwell.....	KI6BCS ..	Element 3 Credit*
Paula Larson.....	KG6FUM ..	Element 3 Credit*

* Subsequently upgraded to General, Feb 24th

Results from the February 24, 2007 CVARC Special VE Session

Name	Callsign	New Class
Jeffrey L. Rothman	KC6VAV	General
Biagio A. Spinelli.....	KI6DJV	General
Paddy Ordway	KE6FGW	General
Brian R. Webb	KD6NRP	General
Jack F. Caldwell	KI6BCS	General
Mark E. Mountain	KI6HBA	General
David T. Chandler.....	KI6HAV	General
Paula A. Larson	KG6FUM	General
John J. Love	K6ARA	General
Vern Potter.....	W6NCT	General
Amy E. Snyder.....	KG6YKY	Extra
Joshua N. Jenner	KI6HDW.....	General
Stanley Nackdymon.....	KI6HQB	Extra
Jack M. Thompson	KI6IAH.....	General
Seth Asuncion	KI6IHA.....	Technician
Robert N. Waybright	KG6QEL	General
Steven M. Minichiello.....	KE7KCC	Extra
Christopher Somers.....	KI6IGZ.....	Technician
Michael J, McAllister.....	KE6QEF	General
Michael L. Pershing	KD6IJF.....	General
Michael B. Peddicord.....	KE6OTM	Extra
Nelson E. Somers Jr.	KI6IGY.....	Technician
Leo Bowman.....	KG6JHH	General
Richard H. Lamb.....	W3TOY	General
Matthew E. Layden.....	Pending	General

The special February 24 session served 29 candidates and oversaw the administration of 50 test elements. Special thanks go to the VEs, without their help the program would be impossible. VE sessions are part of what makes CVARC an ARRL Special Service Club.

The next CVARC VE session is scheduled for April 15th. Please note that this date is a week later than the usual schedule due to the Easter holiday.

Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR

Ventura County ARES/RACES Times & Frequencies

Area 2 ARES/RACES 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	7:00-7:30pm	Voice	147.930	–	127.3	AD6SV
Area 2	7:00-7:30pm	Voice	146.850	–	94.8	K6AER Grissom
Area 2	7:10-7:30pm	Voice	51.940	–	82.5	WB6RHQ
Area 2	7:10-7:30pm	Voice	224.700	–	156.7	K6HB
Area 2	7:10-7:30pm	Voice	449.440	–	131.8	KE6SWS Amgen
Area 2	(Simplex)	Voice	147.555		None	Simplex
Area 2	(Backup Repeater)	Voice	147.885	–	127.3	N6JMI Bozo
Area 3	7:15-7:30pm	Voice	147.915	–	127.3	WB6ZTQ
Area 4	7:15-7:30pm	Voice	146.970	–	127.3	WB6YQN
Area 5	7:00-7:30pm	Voice	145.400	–	None	N6FL
Area 6	7:00-7:30pm	Voice	147.765	–	127.3	None
Area 7	7:00-7:30pm	Voice	146.985	–	127.3	WB6ZTX
Area 8	7:00-7:30pm	Voice	146.535		None	Simplex
County	7:30-8:00pm	Voice	146.880	–	127.3	WA6ZTT
County	6:45-7:00pm	Voice	52.980	–	82.5	K6SMR
County	7:30-8:00pm	Voice	224.020	–	127.3	WB6ZTR
County	Before 6:30pm	Packet	145.710		None	Hospital Net
County	(RACES Simplex)	Voice	147.570		None	Simplex

Net Control operations for the weekly ARES/RACES Area 2 check-in are run from the ARES/RACES 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 the Assistant Emergency Coordinator, Jerry Goldman, KC6JSO at (805) 241-9187 if you would like to attend.

RACES members should remember that their RACES 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 ARES/RACES, please call the Area 2 Emergency Coordinator, Ken Larson, KJ6RZ at (805) 495-9435 or go to the ARES/RACES section of the CVARC website at <http://www.cvarc.org>.

2007 CVARC Officers

President.....	Neil Waybright.....	KG6QEL.....	(805) 517-2962.....	kg6qel@yahoo.com
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Social.....	Mary Ho.....	KI6COG.....	(805) 494-9241.....	abele7213@mypacks.net
Member at Large.....	Jonathan Fox.....	KT6LA.....	(818) 889-1156.....	kt6la@arrl.net
Member at Large.....	Rick Barrett.....	KE6DKF.....	n/a.....	ke6dkf@verizon.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

NEWS FLASH

The pre-meeting technical and social session now begins at 6:30. Please come early to the club meeting to socialize and to operate the ARES/RACES HF and VHF/UHF radios.

– 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 callsign and/or email address, if you have one, on the memo line of your check. Name, Callsign, 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.