

February
2010

NEWS FROM CVARC

President's Message Brad Ormsby, WA6GLE

Having missed my first meeting, I want to thank Rob Hanson, W6RH for taking charge of our January meeting. I hope everyone enjoyed Marty Woll, N6VI, presentation on emergency communications and an update on ARRL issues.

I have suggested to the Board that we have "Radio Shack Tours" this year. I am looking for some volunteers that would be willing to open their "Shacks" on a Saturday morning to show and explain the evolution of their radio rooms. I think this would be both interesting and educational to our members. Especially, to our new members who are just starting to set up their stations. Please contact one of our Board members if you are willing to participate in these tours. I would like to start this program on March 20th, which is the Saturday after our Club meeting. Please keep that date open.

Try to remember to wear your CVARC badges at our meetings. This will help everyone get to know one another. We need all the help we can get to remember each other's names and call signs. It is always nice to put the face to the call sign you talk to over the air. If you don't have a badge, please ask our Treasurer, Dave Morton, W7DMM (a new call sign for him!) and he will order one for you. Ask him what the DMM part stands for.

President's Message, continued on page 2

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February Club Meeting Local History of T-Hunting Robert Simmons, WB6EYV

Our speaker for February is Robert Simmons, the creator of the Pico-Dopp Doppler direction finding system. He will explain the various methods of radio direction finding, and give us a bit of local history of Transmitter Hunting in Southern California. Bob will bring a number of direction finding products,

Bob started in radio at age 10 with a foxhole radio. He earned his Novice Amateur license at 13, FCC Commercial license at 16, Technician Amateur license at 17 and was grandfathered to General in 2002

He served as a Naval reserve 4x10 radar technician 1971-77 with about 6 months total sea time, CIC duty

Bob has many years in nautical electronics, on commercial and recreational vessels, radars, loran, satnav, vhf/fm and hf/ssb Shop and field service mobiles, base, mountaintop work, shop and field work. Aviation electronics Gulfstream completion center in Long Beach, G-4 bizjets and Cessna Citation service center.

He moved to Santa Barbara 1992, and worked for Applied Magnetics maintaining 5KW 13.56 MHz industrial RF supplies for RF sputter machines

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...

Last year we started a Wednesday night net 7pm to 8pm on the N6JMI BOZO repeater, (147.885-127.3). If you have time, check in say Hi to anyone on frequency, introduce yourself and enjoy a chat. We picked this day and time as a starter, any day and/or time, unless a schedule net or drill is in process, are wide open to chat with your friends or anyone on frequency. Lets try to use and enjoy the area repeaters more often; it is a great way to keep in touch and make new friends. If anyone would like to host net, present questions or in anyway help with a net, please let me know, you're hired.

Don't forget, our next dinner on February 18th at 5:30 pm before our meeting at Outback Steakhouse, see details in this newsletter. This is a great way to meet and have an "EYEBALL" with our speakers and fellow members. If you have any restaurant suggestions, please contact our Social Chair, Phil Bartlett, K6UJO.

At the next meeting Greg Lane, K7SDW will provide our first RADIO MINUTE. His minutes will be spent on sharing what CVARC has done in prior years in the area of T- HUNTING. At one time, our Club was very active and had about 5 Teams of hunters, about 10 Amateurs as I recall. Greg will tell us all about the RABBIT, HUNTERS and equipment that was used. This should dovetail right into the program on T-Hunting.

Remember - "BE RADIO ACTIVE"
Brad, WA6GLE

Dinner with the Club Speaker Phil Bartlett, K6UJO

This month we have chosen something from "Down Under", The Outback Steakhouse. It is located at 137 East Thousand Oaks Blvd, just east of Moorpark Road. The Outback Steaks are there specialty, however they have soups and salads; pasta, Seafood and a list of "Aussie-Tizers that can be shared or enjoyed with a side salad or a cup of soup for a very satisfying light meal.

Join us at 5:30 pm before the meeting on Thursday, 18 February, for a taste of Australia and some fellowship. Our guest speaker will be there and share in the discussion. Invite your friends to join us. It is a great time to get to know the people in our community.

If you have any questions, e-mail or call, Phil at Peb@peb.net or 805.300.3045. Suggestions for future locations would be greatly appreciated.

TRW Swap Meet Neil Waybright, AF6CD

Eric Peterson, WB6PYK, Rob Hansen, W6RH, and I carpoled down to the LAX area for the monthly TRW swap meet. It is a fairly long, dull drive, and parking can be a pain, so carpooling with buddies is the best way of getting there.

Eric sent an email to the CVARCDiscussion list announcing his intention to go and asking for anyone who wanted to ride along. Rob and I both responded and we made our plans. We met at 6:15 at the Starbucks in Thousand Oaks near Janss and Moorpark Roads. By 6:30 we were on the 101 headed south.

We arrived at TRW just at 7:15, which is the perfect time to arrive. The organizers had just cleared the vendors out of that lot where they staged, and allowed them to head to their assigned stalls. There is no parking in that lot adjacent to the swap meet area prior to 7:15, so if you arrive earlier, you have to park a couple of blocks away and walk. At 7:15 there is plenty of parking available, and we ended up three slots away from the building in the second row. Half an hour later and the lot was pretty full.

I ended up getting an Alinco 30 amp DC power supply for \$65.00 (it works great), some beautiful German Wiha precision allen wrenches, and some very nice Python AV cables in the exact length I needed for my entertainment center.

There were older ham radios, general electronics, tools and other miscellaneous items of every kind. Something for everyone I would say (though my wife may never agree). The TRW swap meet is the last Saturday of every month,

so start your planning for next month, and arranging your car pool....

CVARC Receives Grants from Conejo Valley Cyclists (CVCBike.org) **Dave Morton W7DMM**

CVARC has received a donation from The Conejo Valley Cyclists Bike Club. The donation was delivered by Mike Bass, N7WLC, who coordinates the efforts of the ham radio groups supporting "Cruizin' the Conejo".

This is an unrestricted donation that we use to support multiple efforts throughout the year.

Thank you to the Conejo Valley Cyclists Bike Club and to Mike Bass.

Thousand Oaks Ham Helps in Riverside County Rescue

On the afternoon of Saturday, January 16, Christopher Walsh, KJ6BBS, of Irvine, California, was listening to radio traffic on 446.760 MHz, a channel used by the Los Angeles area-based Pocket Auto-Patch Association (PAPA) system -- an Amateur Radio network of 22 interlinked analog and digital D-STAR repeaters that provides extensive coverage of the Southern California region and beyond -- when he heard an emergency radio call break from Jose Hernandez, KI6PCK, of Thousand Oaks, California, reporting an injured male who had broken some ribs from an ATV-type accident.

According to Walsh, John Stevens, KI6FKP, of Topanga Canyon attempted to take the emergency call during the break, but he did not have the ability to access a phone to contact emergency services. "After hearing the emergency call and the nature of the emergency," Walsh said, "I decided that time was of the essence and so I broke in to radio traffic, asking Hernandez what assistance I could offer. I asked him what the nature of the emergency was and to provide me with as specific description as possible of his geographical location. He responded with a description -- on the Bradshaw Trail about 15 miles

northeast of Niland, California -- as well as the GPS coordinates of the injured party."

Walsh immediately contacted 911, "but since I live in Irvine, I was initially directed to the Orange County dispatcher," he explained. "The emergency call's origin was based in Riverside County, just over the border of Imperial County. I then got a hold of the Riverside office of the California Highway Patrol and gave them the description of injured party's location and GPS coordinates."

A few minutes later, Walsh received a call from Riverside County Sheriff's office, asking for the location information; during that call, he also received a call from Riverside County Fire Department. "Riverside County Fire had asked more direct question about the injured party, such as how old he was, whether or not there were any visible injuries and what the general description of the landscape was of the injured party's location," Walsh said. "These and many more questions from the various rescue agencies were then immediately relayed to Jose who provided detailed answers."

Over the course of a half an hour, Walsh relayed questions from both Hernandez to the rescuing agencies -- Riverside County Fire, Riverside County Sheriff, CHP and Imperial County Sheriff -- and vice versa. "During that time, Riverside Fire coordinated with me, gathering navigational information on how Jose and the injured party had entered Bradshaw Trail into the desert, so as to report to the land-based rescue units how to arrive to the scene. At this point I received a direct telephone call from a Riverside County firefighter. I passed him information from Jose about the physical description of their entrance to the trail -- 8 miles north of a campground near Niland, off of Hot Mineral Springs Road."

During this entire process, Walsh advised Hernandez not to move from his location, to stand by for more information regarding the rescue and to relay any updates they had. "Jose wanted to know when the rescuers would arrive, so I asked the first agency to call me back, which was Riverside Fire. They reported that CHP had a spotter plane about two minutes out from their location and that a rescue helicopter was about 20 minutes inbound. Jose then told me that the in-

jured party was experiencing very difficult breathing and that it was worsening. Imperial County Sheriff also reported that they had an inbound rescue helicopter with an ETA of 19 minutes."

Less than a half-hour later, Hernandez told Walsh that a red helicopter was directly approaching them and that the injured party was showing signs of relief. "There was a long pause between this and the closing communication when he reported that the injured party was airlifted to a nearby hospital and that the rescue effort was a success," Walsh said. "Thanks to the PAPA system, Jose Hernandez, KI6PCK, and all of the rescue agencies involved, a man was successfully rescued. Without ham radio and the PAPA system infrastructure, who knows what kind of suffering this individual would have to have experienced before he could arrive to the nearest hospital. I am so glad I was able to contribute to this effort, and would never hesitate to help another person or people in need of rescue. Amateur Radio saved the day!"

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter, January 21st, 2010, Reprinted by permission)

ARRL's January 2010 VHF Sweepstakes Contest

Pete Heins, N6ZE

Peter, N6ZE, assisted by Will, AE6JR, conducted a small Rover operation in grids DM04 & DM03 during the January 2010 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes Contest. An FT-100D was utilized for 6 & 2 meters, as well as 70 cm. For 223 MHz FM, a Kenwood TM-331A was used. Antennas were only vertical whips on a pickup truck: 1/4 wave on 6m; a 1/4 wave / 1/2 wave for 2m/70cm; & 3/4 wave for 223.5 MHz FM. This was Will's first experience as a rover operator/logger and one of his first times to operate during a contest, so this Rove served substantially as training for Will. Even though no mountain top stations were noted, activity levels quite low, and propagation at standard or below, we had fun in the contest. We had great mountain and ocean views from atop Pt. Dume, a chance to observe lots of takeoffs from LAX airport, and view the snow-capped Topa Topa Mountains in Northern Ventura Co. and the large mountains 60 miles east of Los Angeles. We made 55 contacts on the 50

MHz, 144MHz, 222MHz, & 70Cm bands and made contacts in 16 grids. Best DX on 6 meters was DN17: 3 stations in the Spokane, WA area made it into the log. Our final score was 1368 points.

Classified Ads

Classified ads are available to club members seeking to sell items of interest to other hams. Contact the newsletter editor if you have questions, or something you would like to post here.

Pete Heins, N6ZE, Appointed As An ARRL "WAS Worked All States Awards Manager"

Pete Heins, N6ZE

The Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club, is an ARRL Designated "Special Service Club" or "SSC".

The ARRL says, "The ARRL is especially proud of our affiliated clubs that excel in their activities. Clubs that go the extra mile to provide on-going training and support for the benefit of their community, fall into our **Special Service Club** category. These extraordinary groups actively pursue all aspects of Amateur Radio: New Ham Development and Training; Public Relations; Emergency Communications; School Club Support; Technical Advancement; Operating Activities; Annual Reports, *and more.*"

"*And more*" includes volunteer ARRL HF WAS Awards Manager and VUCC Awards Manager appointments.

Because Pete Heins, N6ZE, has been a (VHF/UHF Century Club) VUCC Awards Manager for many years and sometimes receives requests to concurrently certify Worked All States (WAS) while performing a VUCC Field Check, he requested that the CVARC Board to forward an endorsement/request to ARRL HQ to designate him as an ARRL HR WAS Awards Manager. Subsequently, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, Bill Moore, NC1L, approved N6ZE for this volunteer ARRL position on 23 November 2009. Over time, the ARRL envisions that certification for most ARRL awards will be possible through

Logbook of the World (LoTW), but for the present, volunteers still bear the responsibility for verifications for VUCC, WAS, & WAC. All Initial DXCC applicants must still apply directly to ARRL Hq, in Newington, CT and send legitimate QSL cards and completed paperwork for 100 different countries. Subsequent DXCC endorsements can be delegated to a volunteer Award Manager, BUT N6ZE DOES NOT HAVE authority to do any DXCC QSL card checking.

As an ARRL HF WAS Manager, Pete is able to certify any ARRL member who has successfully completed the requirements for a "Worked All States" award. He then submits the originals of all paperwork to the ARRL Awards Branch at ARRL HQ in Newington, CT and returns all QSL cards and copies of the paperwork to the applicant.

On January 30, 2010, Pete completed checking QSL cards and completed VUCC and WAS application forms for Ted Henderson, KI7BP of Caldwell, Idaho, (Grid DN-13) for a double ARRL Award! Ted supplied QSLs cards for an initial 6 meter VUCC Award of 125 grids confirmed as well as valid QSL cards for 6 meter contacts in all 50 states. Pete has previously certified about 50 applications for the treasured VHFer's award and this marks his first WAS verification. In the past, Pete, N6ZE, has signed off CVARC members Eddie, KQ6K, and Roy, KE6UMW, for 6 meter VUCC.

QSL cards must be properly filled out to be submitted for an award. WAC, ARRL's WAS, VUCC, DXCC, and other non-ARRL award programs all require certain information to be supplied on each QSL card. At the very least a QSL card must include: ALL required information shall be on 1 side of the card (although some is permitted to be written on the other side also!): this is a requirement so insure that photocopied information cannot be included on a non-valid QSL card. Pen or non-erasable marker must be utilized (no pencil!) Callsign, name, grid locator, address, state/country (possibly county), band, transmission mode (ssb/cw/psk,FM), date/time (Preferably in GMT/UTC/Zulu/CUT!) usually are the minimum required elements. Signal reports, equipment, etc. are nice to include also.

For further details on the ARRL Awards Programs, please refer to <http://www.arrl.org/awards/> for additional information.

Any ARRL member who meets the requirements for either WAS or VUCC can e-mail me, Pete Heins, at n6ze@arrl.net to make arrangements for completing the award certification.

Message from the Education Chairman

I'm going to sit in for Educational Chair, until I get a volunteer to assist. I have reserved the ECSS Community room from April 2nd to May 21 from 7pm until 9:30pm for classes. Please get the information out to all the community media so we can fill up the room and have a good Technician Class.

Thanks!

Greg, K7SDW

NCVEC Releases Second Technician Question Pool

(Feb 2, 2010) -- In January, the Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) released (<http://www.arrl.org/?artid=9368>) the 2010 Technician (Element 2) Question Pool. Upon further review of the pool, members of the QPC found and corrected more than 50 minor typographical errors and clarified the questions and answers, making them easier to understand. These adopted changes are now incorporated in a revised question pool. The errata list, as well as the revised Technician question pool (<http://www.ncvec.org/downloads/Revised%20Element%202.Pdf>), is available on the NCVEC Web site. The previously released pool dated January 4, 2010 is invalid for use. The newly revised Technician question pool will become effective for all examinations administered on or after July 1, 2010; it will remain valid until June 30, 2014. The current Technician question pool that became effective July 1, 2006 will expire June 30, 2010. The new Technician pool contains approximately 400 questions, from which

35 are selected for an Element 2 examination; it will contain graphics and diagrams, something new for this element. The current General class question pool was effective July 1, 2007 and is valid through June 30, 2011. The current Amateur Extra class pool was effective July 1, 2008 and is valid until June 30, 2012

[Editor's note: The FD package with the new rules is available from the ARRL web site at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/fd-2010-packet.pdf>]

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter of February 4th, 2010, Reprinted by permission)

FIELD DAY IN JUNE ARRIVES BEFORE YOU KNOW IT! Greg Lane, K7SDW

I hope you put June 25, 26, and 27th on your HAM things to do list; then you will get a reward! Please reserve these dates on your calendar and email me, k7sdw@verizon.net your FD support desires. If you like what we did last year, want something different, want to operate a station, put up a station, put up the tent, take down the tent, help in the visitor booth for setup and information, or help out in the food and refreshments I'm just an email or phone call away?

Please remember this is a CVARC "thing" we do, but if you want to join up with another group, then please let myself and the Board know so we can plan accordingly.

Thanks,

Greg, K7SDW, FD Chairman.

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.

2010 CVARC Officers

President.....	Brad Ormsby	WA6GLE.....	(818) 991-1130.....	bormsby@sbcglobal.net
Vice President.....	Rob Hanson	W6RH.....	(805) 376-9350.....	rob@w6rh.com
Secretary	Eric Peterson.....	WB6PYK.....	(805) 479-9953.....	expeterson@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dave Morton.....	W7DMM.....	(805) 495-3920.....	dmorton@rain.org
Public Relations	Mike D'Amore.....	N6MDA.....	(805) 496-1073.....	mike.damore@roadrunner.com
Technical	Bill Willcox	KF6JQO.....	(805) 657-0351.....	wlinport@pacbell.net
Operations	Greg Lane	K7SDW.....	(805) 498-0454.....	k7sdw@verizon.net
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Member at Large	Hugh Bosma.....	AE6YC.....	(805) 498-1987.....	hrbrcb@aol.com
Member at Large	Open.....	Open.....	Open.....	Open



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.