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The CVARC club meeting is held at 7:30 PM on the third Thursday of the Month (except for December) at:
 The East County Sheriff Station
 2101 East Olsen Road
 Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

The East County Sheriff Station facility is just off the 23 freeway from the Olsen Road off-ramp, north, between Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley.

Trivia Corner
<p>For a ground mounted vertical antenna, how many ground radials are considered “ideal,” beyond which little or no gain will be had? Some university studies and ARRL books suggest it is 120 radials that are of maximum value for ground mounting.</p>

**President’s Message
 Zak Cohen, N6PK**

Over the year, we volunteer to help with various events such as the Crop Walk, Red Cross Drills and Cruzing the Conejo. We just completed the Crop Walk. We helped make the event a success by ensuring that all participants were kept safe and that the program ran smoothly.

Volunteering is always inconvenient; we may not have the time, energy or equipment - and in most cases we may not even get a thank you – but we know we helped and did good. We volunteer for events, CVARC and ACS positions.

We have gone though a year of turmoil, but have still answered the call when asked. Politics and disagreements need not define us. I have never been so proud as being part of this group who rose above those distractions and still continued to volunteer and “Elmer” when asked and where needed.

Hams are CERTS, Hams are DART, Hams are Red Cross, Hams are ARES, Hams are ACS, Hams are DCS, and Hams are Volunteers and first responders. Hams make a difference – hurricanes, earthquakes, fires, etc. ***That defines us.***

A new event has been proposed. It is a national charity bicycle tour to provide for the needs of disabled veterans. This event is near and dear to me as I am a disabled veteran myself. Many volunteers will be required to cover three local courses over Los Angeles and Ventura County.

“Honor Ride” will not be an ACS event so we turn our hats around and we act as ARES, or CVARC members, or hams, or friends who want to help to ensure participant safety, raise money, and raise community awareness. ***Again - It’s what we do; it’s what defines us.***



Conejo Valley ARC Meeting Speaker for March 21, 2013

Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, will speak on "Radio Astronomy and the Radio Amateur".

Radio astronomy is a field of astronomy that studies space objects at radio frequencies. Originating in the 1930s, when radiation coming from the Milky Way was observed. Subsequent observations have identified a number of different sources of radio emission.

Radio astronomy is conducted using large radio antennas referred to as radio telescopes that are either used singularly, or with multiple linked telescopes.

Dennis Kidder W6DQ was first licensed in 1969 as WN6NIA, soon after as WA6NIA, Dennis eventually traded in his call sign for that of one of his High School Elmers - W6DQ.

Dennis has just retired as a "Senior Principal Multi-discipline Engineer" from a large local defense contractor. Basically, that means he knows a little bit about a whole lot of different things and has worked on everything from battlefield communications systems to building airports to flying Satellites and even robots painting pickup trucks.

Before the meeting, join us at The Dish, located in the Janss Mall on the site of the former TGI Fridays at 5:30 P.M.

By Zak Cohen
N6PK

Join Us for Dinner at the Dish!

Come join us at a new restaurant for our pre-meeting dinner this month; **The Dish**, located in the Janss Mall at the site of the former TGI Fridays. Food and service have been very good when I've been there.

The wide American menu includes lots of different burgers as well as entrees and prices are reasonable. As our dinner groups can vary in size from month-to-month from as few as 8 to as many as 28, the restaurant has requested a general count so they can have the setups ready for us. Please RSVP to Diane @ kj6jej@yahoo.net or 805-241-6967 no later than Wednesday noon (3/20). If you don't RSVP and still want to come, by all means COME JOIN US!

Directions: Exit 101 at Moorpark Rd. Go north 2 blocks and you'll see the Janss Mall on the corner of Hillcrest and Moorpark. The restaurant is visible from the intersection. You can enter the shopping center from Hillcrest or Moorpark. Reservation is under CVARC/Diane for 5:30 pm. Call if you get lost: 805-630-7994. See you there!

The Newbie Net

NEWBIE NET Sundays, 7 pm, BOZO Repeater 147.885 neg. offset, PL127.3

Hello to all Elmers and Newbies! The Sunday evening Newbie Net continues to thrive and expand. Join us on Sunday evenings, 7:00 p.m. to 7:45 or 8:00, on the BOZO repeater, 147.885, negative offset, PL 127.3, for experience, advice, calendar of upcoming events, or any other topics of interest to newbies! Feel free to ask for a topic of interest to you!

We have an expanding group of net controls. Here's the line-up through April. Topics will be listed on the weekly CVARC Discussion group:

3/17 Diane KJ6JEJ Topic: Logging programs

3/24 Todd KD6RCM

SMRA George Krieder KN6LA
<http://smrvc.org> (emergency repeater network)

3/31 DARK -- NO NET -- SPRING HOLIDAYS

Condor Mark Gilmore WB6RHQ
www.condor-connection.org

4/7 Arie WA6RIE

4/14 Greg K7SDW

6 mtrs Eddie Pierce KQ6K
mysite.verizon.net/kn6la/6m.html

4/21 Avi K6AVI

4/28 Lior K6BWA

Winsystem:

88 de KJ6JEJ Diane

S.A.T.E.R.N. - Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network This is the Riverside Section www.satarn.net

Specialty Repeaters List

NTS National Traffic System LA Section: Kate
K6HTN@arrl.net

Hi guys--sorry it has taken me a bit to collect my info, but here's a list of repeater networks culled from the August 2010 CVARC meeting and the Torrance Hamvention. I haven't been to all the websites to get full info. I didn't list stand-alone repeaters in the area, since I think you all have those lists.

JUST FOR FUN Info. on International Space Station:
<http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/station/reference/radio/>

88 de Diane KJ6JEJ

Rabbit Radio Contact: Emmett Dunlap, WA6COT
<http://www.rabbitradio.org> (closed system--need to be nominated and pay a membership fee (\$120/yr)

CVARC VE Session

The next CVARC Volunteer Examiners (VE) session is scheduled for Sunday, April 14th. at 8:30 a.m. at the East Valley Sheriff Station. If you wish to become an amateur radio operator or upgrade your current license privileges, please attend the session.

Gronk Matt Lechliter W6KGB
<http://home.earthlink.net/~lechlit/gronk/>

CVARC VE sessions are sanctioned by the ARRL (Volunteer Examination Coordinator (VEC). Sessions are conducted by Jeff Reinhardt, AA7JR, Volunteer Exam Session Coordinator and a team of experienced Volunteer Examiners who give their time and talent to help others become part of Amateur Radio.

Papa System Brad Ormsby W6VO
www.papasys.org (\$120/yr; about 300 members)

Darn Mike D'amore N6DMA
www.darn.org (dues not required; donations accepted - stands for Disaster Amateur Radio Network - has modes for DX)

Raffle Prizes at the March 21st. General Meeting

CalNet Eddie Pierce KQ6K
www.cal-net.org
(Link system)

Possible Grand Prizes for the next CVARC General Meeting might be the popular Diamond Tri-Band Antenna for the Kenwood TH-F6A Handy Talkie... Maybe a pair of Motorola hand-held radios... How about "Low Power Communications", a text on Weak Signal DXing?

Vera Jim Fortney K6IYK
<http://K6iyk.net>
(purpose is to support hardware for emergency radio)

Bill Willcox, KF6JQO, has done some serious shopping for the miscellaneous "less spendy" treasures as well... flashlights,

multimeters, Anderson Power pieces, work gloves, cable snips and strippers... Etc., etc., etc.!!!

Submitted by Tim Wheeler, K6POI

Technician's Class Workshop

There will be a two day course to prepare you for the FCC Amateur Technician Class Operator's License.

The workshop will be conducted on March 30th. and April 6th. Both are Saturdays 9 am to 5 pm at The Oak Room in the Thousand Oaks City Hall.

THE COSTS

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

\$10
(Refundable when you pass the exam)

STUDY MANUAL

\$18
(Discounted price)

FCC EXAM FROM THE CVARC VE TEAM

April 14th
(Details in class)
\$15

To purchase your study manual
and to reserve your seat in the class

Contact - Tim Wheeler

k6poi@yahoo.com

(805) 222-0023

Get Ready for Field Day

Submitted by Adrian Jarrett, K6KY

The first Field Day committee meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Thursday, the 21st. of March, immediately before the monthly CVARC General Meeting. During this Field Day meeting, I would like to discuss the plan forward and receive nominations for band captains. All are welcome.

Discussions have been held with the Conejo Recreation and Parks Department (CRPD) and the Conejo Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) on possible sites. Both organizations have been very helpful and understanding.

It appears that the parks seem to be fully booked. The soccer fields are being refurbished and so the CRPD is finding it difficult accommodating us and our gear. A site immediately north of the soccer fields looks like a possibility and discussions continue with CVUSD as to how we may be able to use this area.

We will know more as events unfold.

By Adrian Jarrett, K6KY

CVARC VOLUNTEERS FOR RED CROSS WILDFIRE EXERCISE

By Tom Palmer, AG6NL

I had the recent pleasure to join the American Red Cross as a radio communication volunteer for their "Wildfire" emergency brushfire shelter practice exercise. Several CVARC members were also in attendance, and we were organized by Greg Lane, K7SDW.

We arrived early to set up communication stations on simplex throughout the area and digital mode to the Red Cross Headquarters from Camarillo High School.

I volunteered to be staged at the Ventura County Animal Regulation station, set up to handle the pets and farm animals that were to be sheltered during the emergency practice event. It was interesting to see the many families that brought their animals to the Animal Regulation Shelter. Pets may be housed at the temporary compound or claimed by their owners from evacuation efforts.

For practice, Animal Control Officers worked with stuffed animals that included dogs, cats, birds, snakes, and “Imaginary Horses”. I was surprised to witness a stuffed dog to be scanned by the micro-chip reader and have a “hit”. The stuffed dog had an actual micro-chip with owners’ information, name, address and phone number! The Veterinarians took the dog into the registered shelter and held it for the owner to claim.

Many of the other Red Cross Emergency Volunteers were acting as characters that needed services including a small child searching for her lost dog and an intoxicated man trying to claim a pet that he mistook for his own. Many situations for practice included animal health emergencies where first aid and CPR were required for stuffed animals. All but one dog managed to make it through the morning exercise as he did not respond to CPR and lifesaving efforts.

All kidding aside, the practice for the Red Cross and radio operators was to be as real as possible and treated in the most serious manner, but I had to laugh about the animals involved, both stuffed and imaginary.

If you want a little operating experience as a volunteer in emergency communications, there are many events throughout the year that call for participation. A chance to use your radio equipment in a practice situation, and get involved with the community is a rewarding experience that builds confidence in Ham radio operation. [Please see the CVARC Discussion Group on Yahoo for pictures that accompany this article – Ed.]

By Tom Palmer, AG6NL

Amateur Radio Exam and Study Guide Websites

<http://www.qrz.com>

On the right column under “Ham Study”, go to “Practice Tests”

<http://www.eham.net>

On the left column under “Resources”, go to “Ham Exams”

<http://www.KB0MGA.net>

Log in is required

<http://www.radioexam.org>

Practice Exams



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

Tax Deductible Donations to CVARC

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 and wish to donate to the club, please contact one of the board members and we will be happy to talk to you about the process. Many companies will either grant or match employee's gifts to non-profit organizations like CVARC.

Please determine if your company is among these and contact a board member so we may help fund and grow CVARC. 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).

Ventura County ACS/ARES Times and Frequencies:

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

Please note that the detailed list of ACS/ARES frequencies, repeaters, off-sets, etc. is available on the internet. The official frequency list was released last December and is available at: <http://vc-ares.org> per Jim Fortney, K6IYK.

For quick reference, you may wish to pick a local repeater, shown courtesy of Zak Cohen, with their offsets/PL from the abbreviated list below:

- 146.805 – 127.3 Simi Valley AD6SV
- 147.885 - 127.3 Thousand Oaks - BOZO N6JMI
- 147.915 - 127.3 Camarillo WB6ZTQ
- 146.970 - 127.3 Oxnard W66YQN
- 145.400 - NIL Ojai Valley N6FL
- 147.975 - 127.3 Ventura N6VUY
- 146.385 + 127.3 Santa Paula & County Wide SOUTH MOUNTAIN WB6ZSN
- 145.460 - 127.3 Moorpark K6ERN
- 146.880 - 127.3 Red Mt / County / SMRA County Wide WA6ZTT
- 146.850 - 94.8 Thousand Oaks - Grissom N6EVC
- 224.700 - 156.7 Thousand Oaks – Grissom K6HB
- 223.960 - 141.3 Thousand Oaks - Rasnow Peak N6CFC
- 445.580 - 100.0 Simi Valley K6ERN
- 449.440 - 131.8 Thousand Oaks (AMGEN) W6AMG
- 447.000 - 103.5 Camarillo Springs K6ERN
- 147.150+ 127.3 KOAKS

For questions concerning ACS/ARES, please call Zak Cohen or go to the ACS/ARES section of the CVARC website at <http://www.cvarc.org>.

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 7:00 p.m.

Visitors are welcome and have the opportunity to operate the station. Please contact Zak Cohen, whose info is listed below, to arrange it.

2012 CVARC Officers

President.....	Zak Cohen	N6PK	(818) 991-2913.....	zcohen@ieee.org
Vice President.....	(currently vacant)			
Secretary.....	Eric Peterson	WB6PYK	(805) 479-9953.....	erxpeter@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ken Segedie	WD9DPK	(818) 489-6990	ken806@earthlink.net
Public Relations	Dave Singer.....	KI6YVI	(805) 492-6667.....	singers3@verizon.net
Technical.....	Bill Willcox.....	KF6JQO.....	(805) 526-0351	kf6jqo@yahoo.com
Operations	Adrian Jarrett	K6KY	(805) 915-7562.....	g4frz@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Mike Slate.....	N6TEA	(805) 498-9590.....	n6tea@arrl.net
Education.....	Tim Wheeler	K6POI	(818) 541-0321.....	k6poi@arrl.net
Social.....	Diane Wainwood.....	KJ6JEJ	(805) 241-6967.....	kj6jej@yahoo.com
Member at Large	Todd Kleopfer.....	KD6RCM	(805) 844-8708.....	kd6rcm@arrl.net
Member at Large	Andy Ludlum	KI6NON	(818) 370-3402.....	ki6non@arrl.net
Member at Large.....	Charles Pember.....	KG6CLT.....	(805) 495-6701.....	crpember@aol.com



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 website at <http://www.cvarc.org>. In addition to visiting the website, 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.

“QUA 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 e-mailed to the Treasurer. Current annual rates are: Regular Membership \$25. Family Membership \$30. Special discounts are available for new members (licensed in the last 12 months) \$10. Full-time Students: \$10. Regular members renewing for multiple years: \$20/year. Family members renewing for multiple years \$25/year.