



The San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club

Volume 58 Number 5 May 2012

President's QRM

Although the April meeting had a little lower attendance (due to conflicts with the Visalia DX Convention and the Baker to Vegas Run), Tom, K6TGP, did a great job conducting the meeting. The DXpedition video was very well received by all.

The April meeting conflicts will not be as severe next year. We have been informed that The Baker to Vegas Run will take place a few weeks earlier in 2013. My guess is that the desert heat was too much for some of the participants. At the May meeting, there will be a brief discussion on the subject of future April Club meetings. Should we move the April meeting to another Friday in April? Should we simply not have a Friday meeting? Please be prepared to voice your opinion on May 18th.

The Board has rescheduled the W6SD picnic. It will take place on October 20, 2012 at Woodley Park. Details will be shared later. At the May 18, 2012 meeting, the Board will solicit input from the members on the subject of charging members and guests for the picnic. It has been proposed that the Club will not charge for the event, but those who attend the picnic will be requested to bring a side dish, dessert or other goodies.

We are honored to have Jim Lux, W6RMK, as our May speaker. Jim has been associated with JPL for many years and possesses a wealth of information about our space program. Jim is currently co-principal investigator for SDR experiments on the International Space Station. He has experience at JPL with deep space transponder designs, landing radar, self-calibrating phase arrays, and many other specialties. Jim has served as an author and reviewer for the ARRL Handbook. His topic for the meeting will be "Talking to the Stars: Deep Space Communications."

Beginning this month, the Club will resume its "meet the expert" sessions. At 7:00 PM (½ hour prior to the scheduled meeting time), one of our resident experts will meet with everyone who has radio-related questions. The focus of the sessions is to provide answers to questions from new hams, soon-to-be hams and hams who have forgotten the answers. Plan to meet the expert in the lobby of Northridge Hospital east building (the building in which Club meetings are conducted).

At the May meeting, there will be a membership vote on adoption of the Club's proposed new bylaws. Only paid-up members will be eligible to vote.

Do you have QSL cards that will entitle you to WAS or VUCC awards? If so, please bring the cards to the next meeting. Arnie, WB6PJC, our awards manager and resident card checker will be available to check your precious cards.

Our Club roster is ready for distribution to the members. If you wish to have your name and/or other information withheld from the roster, please advise our Membership VP, Tom Peabody, K6TGP, by email or in person at the meeting.

Plans for Field Day are progressing. The event will take place June 23 and 24, 2012, at Granada Hills Charter High School. Further details will be presented at the May meeting. Please contact Don, WG6H, if you would like to serve on the planning committee. Don will welcome the help.

The Club plans to reduce cost and labor caused by mailing copies the *Carrier* to Club members. Although the newsletter will remain available on the Internet, effective July 1, 2012, there will be no US Mail deliveries to members unless a request is made to the editor, Bernard, KG6FBM. Bernard can be contacted by telephone (818) 794-9859.

The Club is implementing its mentor program for our new or potential members. If you would like to participate in the program, please send an email to me (k6fg at arrl dot net). In the email please provide your contact information.

See you at the meeting.
73,
Mark, K6FG

Next SFVARC Club Meeting

Friday, May 18
at 7:30pm

Northridge Hospital
Penthouse

18300 Roscoe Blvd,
Northridge, CA 91325

San Fernando Valley
Amateur Radio Club
ARRL Affiliated Club #1684

W6SD

ARRL Special Service Club
P.O. Box 280517
Northridge, CA 91328

The San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc (SFVARC) is an organization interested in Amateur Radio as a hobby. The SFVARC is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League and the Los Angeles Council of Amateur Radio Clubs, Inc. Members of the Club conduct licensing classes on a continuing basis. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is invited to attend our monthly meetings.

Club Officers

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m.weiss at yahoo. com

Executive VP
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gabecal at earthlink. net

Membership Vice President
Tom Peabody, K6TGP
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POSTINGS AND NOTICES

Monthly Meetings: Third Friday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at Northridge Hospital (18300 Roscoe Blvd, Northridge). Most Club activities take place at the Fifth Floor Penthouse, **but we may be assigned other rooms from time to time.**

Signs will be posted at the Penthouse elevator if there is such a change.

Board Meetings: The 4th Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., Northridge Hospital, Garden Room. These are open meetings and all members are welcome to attend!
Club Station W6SD: Located at Northridge Hospital. Available to members Wednesdays, 7-10 p.m. Contact Ray Solis, KI6QME, raymond.solis @ csun. edu for details.
World Wide Web Site: <http://www.w6sd.net>

Club Nets:

- 2 meter simplex: Tuesdays, 8 p.m. on 145.570 MHz.

Net Control: The Net Control Operators are Jim Sullivan WB6TNF, Phil Reiber KJ6ZI, John Campeau AD6KT, and Johnnie Spotts W6HTY.

Net Control: Varies

- 10 meter: Wednesdays, 8 p.m. on 28.310 MHz +/- QRM in the Upper Side Band Mode

- 2 meter repeater: Thursdays, 8 p.m., on the Magic Mountain Repeater (147.735 MHz - PL100) or Duck Mountain (147.24 + MHz) if Magic is unavailable.

Net Control: The Net Control Operators are Phil Reiber, KJ6ZI, and Ted Mattock, KE6EIT.

6th District DX QSL Bureau: The 6th District DX QSL Bureau is now in Fairfax, CA. The Bureau prefers that you purchase envelopes from them (\$.64 each, including postage) Contact the Bureau at PO Box 970, Fairfax, CA 94978-0970 or visit their web page at <http://www.qslbureau.org/>

You can now follow them on Twitter.com! You will find us at @ARRL_6_Bureau .

Ham Exams: Held at the Northridge Hospital, on the first Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December. **Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and doors close at 9:00 a.m. Testing begins after registration is complete.** You do not have to be a Club member to take an examination. There is a \$4 examination fee. Also, if you are upgrading your license, please bring your original license, a copy of your license, and originals and copies of any "Certificates of Completion". For more information, call Jim Sullivan (WB6TNF) 818-348-4155. In all other months, exams are conducted by the Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club; contact Ron Klein, K6VPV at 661-259-0948

Newsletter Contributions: Please contact Bernard Falkin, KG6FBM [kg6fbm at bflocks dot com](mailto:kg6fbm@bflocks.com) if you have anything for the newsletter.

The opinions expressed in the W6SD Carrier are solely those of the editor or other contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either the Board of Directors or membership of the SFVARC.

KØNR: Radio Enthusiast:

<http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/2011/04/the-incomplete-list-of-ham-radio-iphone-apps/>

The Incomplete List of Ham Radio iPhone Apps

It was time to upgrade my Verizon Wireless phone, so I decided to move to a smartphone. After pondering whether to go with Android or Apple, I finally settled on the iPhone 4. I still miss the The Real Keyboard on my old LG EnV3, as it is nearly impossible to type on a shrunken touchscreen. But then there's those apps...

I have been trying out some of the ham radio related applications on the iPhone, so I thought I'd report out what I have found.

Here are a few utilities that I found. These apps doing something relatively simple:

CallBook (Author: Dog Park Software, Cost: \$1.99) Simple ham radio callbook lookup that accesses the WM7D database (or QRZ and Ham Call databases if you are a subscriber).

Maidenhead Converter (Author: Donald Hays, Cost: Free) Handy app that displays your grid locator, uses maps and does lat/lon to grid locator conversions.

Q Codes Reference (Author: fiddlemeragged, Cost: Free) This app displays the definition of the common Q Signals (QRZ, QSL, QTH, ...)

UTC Time (Author: Michael Wells, Cost: Free) A simple app that displays UTC time and local time.

Sunspot (Author: Jeff Smith, Cost: Free) A simple app that

displays solar data from WWV.

Ham I Am (Author: Storke Brothers, Cost: Free) A handy app that covers some basic amateur radio reference material (Phonetic alphabet, Q Signals, Ham Jargon, Morse Code, RST System, etc.) Although I find the name to be silly, I like the app!

There are a few repeater directory apps out there:

QSL.FM Mobile (Author: Robert Abraham, Cost: \$2.99) Geolocation repeater directory and call sign lookup.

iHAM Repeater Database (Author: Garry Gerossie, Cost: \$4.99) Geolocation repeater directory. This seems to work a lot better than the QSL.FM app.

If you are an EchoLink user, then you'll want this app:

EchoLink (Author: Synergenics, Cost: Free) The EchoLink app for the iPhone.

There are quite a few APRS apps out there. I have tried these:

iBCNU (Author: Luceon, Cost: \$1.99) The first APRS app I was able to get running. It just turned on and worked. It integrates the aprs.fi mapping into the app, so it is easy to use. I recommend this one for most casual APRS users.

OpenAPRS (Author: Gregory Carter, Cost: \$3.99) This APRS app integrates into the

openaprs.net server. A bit more complicated to set up but looks to be more flexible, too. You might want to check out openaprs.net before buying this app.

PocketPacket (Author: Koomasi, Cost: \$4.99) another APRS app. Seems to work fine but I find the previous 2 apps more useful. Note: This app can function as a packet modem connected to a transceiver (no internet required).

Ham Tracker (Author: Kram, Cost: \$2.99) APRS app, works OK, uses external maps such as Google and aprs.fi. "Share" feature allows you to send an SMS or email with your location information.

Satellite tracking is another useful app for a smartphone:

ISS Lite (Author: Craig Vosburgh, Cost: Free) A free satellite tracking app for just the International Space Station

ProSat Satellite Tracker (Author: Craig Vosburgh, Cost: \$9.99) This app is by the same author as ISS Lite, but is the full-featured "pro" version. Although it is a pricey compared to other apps, I recommend it.

Well, that's what I have found so far. Any other suggestions?

- 73, Bob KØNR

Monthly Luncheon

We will be doing a luncheon for May, since the picnic has been postponed to October. We had a very nice lunch at Applebee's in April and we will be going to the Bear Pit on Sat., May 12th, at 11:30am. The address is 10825 Sepulveda Bl, Mission Hills. 818-365-2509.
Elaine

Simplex Net Reminder

Two meter simplex:
Tuesdays, 8 p.m.
on
145.570 MHz,
Jim, WB6TNF

Fenway Parks Morse code answer

Thomas A. Yawkey and Jean R. Yawkey bought the Red Sox and Fenway Park in 1933 and revitalized a losing team. The Yawkey's held on to the team until 1992, but their names will live on forever within the ballpark.

The Yawkey's loved the Red Sox so much that they decided to inscribe their initials on the Green Monster. If you look at the vertical white stripe between the "E" and the "P" and the parallel one directly underneath the "N" in "American League" you'll see a series of broken lines.

This is Morse code, and it spells out "TAY" and "JRY."



Granada Hills (again) wins Academic Decathlon

http://www.dailynews.com/ci_20503758/granada-hills-again-wins-academic-decathlon?source=most_viewed

Granada Hills Charter High School has repeated as champion of the **national Academic Decathlon**, scoring the highest point tally in the competition's history.

The reigning champ beat out teams from 30 other states and one from London in the Albuquerque, N.M. finals.

"This is phenomenal," Los Angeles Unified's Acadeca coordinator Cliff Ker said. "This is by far the highest score any team has ever gotten in the history of Academic Decathlon."

That score - 54,081 points out of a possible 60,000 - broke the previous record of 53,119 set by Moorpark High School in 2008.

Editors Note- This is the school where we had Field Day last year and again in June this year. We congratulate all the students on their National Academic success.

Northridge VE Schedule for 2011

The test session registration is from 8:00 am until 9:00 am. Anyone arriving after 9:00 will be turned away. Time limit to take a test is 90 minutes. Exams will be held in the fifth floor Penthouse of the north building (Carol Pump building) of the Northridge Hospital. Signs will be posted if the room is changed.

6/2/12, 8/4/12, 10/6/12, 12/1/12, 2/2/13 and 4/6/13.

US Amateur Radio Bands

US AMATEUR POWER LIMITS

FCC 97.313 An amateur station must use the minimum transmitter power necessary to carry out the desired communications. (b) No station may transmit with a transmitter power exceeding 1.5 kW PEP.

Effective Date
March 5, 2012

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AMATEUR RADIO
www.arrl.org
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KEY

Note:
CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands.
MCW is authorized above 50.1 MHz, except for 219-220 MHz.
Test transmissions are authorized above 51 MHz, except for 219-220 MHz.

- █ = RTTY and data
- █ = phone and image
- █ = CW only
- █ = SSB phone
- █ = USB phone, CW, RTTY, and data
- █ = Fixed digital message forwarding systems only

E = Amateur Extra
A = Advanced
G = General
T = Technician
N = Novice

See ARRLWeb at www.arrl.org for detailed band plans.

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email: nevham@arrl.org

Exams: 860-594-0300 email: vec@arrl.org

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APPLICATION FOR SFVARC MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL

Please Note: In order to receive your newsletter, we must have a **valid email address**.

If you prefer to receive your newsletter through United States mail, please provide a correct zip code with the 4-digit extension.

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____

Street _____ Tel# () _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ (+4 digit Extension) _____

<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if ARRL member	<input type="checkbox"/> Exclude from Member Roster
	Full Year (January 1 - December 31)	April-July	August-December
Regular Member	\$18.00	\$12.00	\$6.00
Family or Junior Members (Under 18 years of age)	\$6.00	\$4.00	\$2.00

Please print clearly or type, then mail this form with your check to:
SAN FERNANDO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC., P.O. Box 280517, Northridge, CA 91328-0517



San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 280517-0517
Northridge, CA 91328-0517



Next Meeting: Friday, May 18, at 7:30pm at Penthouse, Northridge Hospital

Communications Service Company
Antenna Specialist
TV-ham-Shortwave-Satellite TV
MATV-Residential and
Commercial
Audio-Video-CCTV Cameras
Expert Tower Installations
HAROLD "SKIP" BOLNICK
KJ6Y
22712 Califa St.
Woodland Hills, CA 91367-4418



SFVARC Members,
Thanks for letting HRO meet
your Amateur Radio needs.

Eric J. Christensen

K6EJC

Manager



1525 W Magnolia Blvd, Burbank, CA 91506
(Between Sparks and Beachwood)

Burbank, CA 91506

Open 10:00 to 5:30

Closed Sundays

Ham Radio Outlet

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