



The San Fernando Valley  
Amateur Radio Club

W6SD.NET

Volume 58 Number 9 September 2012

## President's QRM

We are honored to have Dr. Kate Hutton, K6HTN, as our speaker. Kate is widely known for her expertise in the science of earthquakes. Aside from her duties at Cal Tech, she is extremely active in many aspects of ham radio emergency preparedness. Kate's program will prove to be very interesting to all of us.

Our August meeting was conducted in a very solemn tone; our former president Ray Solis, KI6QME (SK), was warmly remembered by all of our members who were present.

The October 20, 2012 Club Picnic at Woodley Park is nearly upon us. Please be prepared to make your reservation at the September meeting, so that your Board can properly plan the affair. The cost per person is \$5.00.

The Club has reduced costs and labor caused by sending US Mail copies of the *Carrier* to Club members. Although the newsletter will remain available on the Internet, there will be no US Mail deliveries to members unless a request is made to the editor, Bernard, KG6FBM. Bernard can be contacted by email (kg6fbm at bflocks dot com) or by telephone (818) 794-9859.

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

available to check your precious cards.

As mentioned in last month's *Carrier*, we have many "members" who have neglected to pay 2012 dues. Please pay those dues. As an incentive to paying dues and attending meetings, the board has implemented a paid-members drawing at each meeting. Each paid-up member will have his or her name entered in a drawing. If that member's name is drawn, a \$25 HRO gift certificate will be awarded to that lucky person; but the winning member must be present to receive the prize. If the "winning" member is not present, then the prize will be increased by \$25 and will be available for drawing at the next meeting. If the prize reaches \$100, there will be no further increases. At the August meeting, the winning paid-up member was not present; so the prize will be \$75 at the September meeting. Does that motivate any of you to pay dues and attend the meetings? Another incentive is the promise of excellent raffle prizes at the August meeting general drawings.

Please consider attending the Pacificon convention in Santa Clara, California on October 12, 13 & 14, 2012 at the Marriott Santa Clara. This year is very special in that the ARRL National Convention will be conducted concurrently. Pacificon is always a first class event; ARRL's participation promises to make the convention even better. See the website: <http://pacificon.org/home.html>.

Meetings of the Board of Directors are open to all members. No longer will the meetings take place in the Garden Room, of Northridge Hospital, on the Thursday evening following the preceding week's meeting. The meetings will now take place prior to Club meetings on the meeting night. The place of the Board meetings is not firmly established; but the September meeting is scheduled to take place at 5:30 PM on the patio adjacent to the hospital cafeteria.

It is time to consider who will serve as club officers for year 2013. If you would like the honor of high office, please communicate that desire to any of the existing club officers. You will be properly vetted by the nominating committee and, if you're lucky, will be placed in nomination for the exalted post.

See you at the September meeting.

73,  
Mark, K6FG

### Next **SFVARC Club Meeting**

Friday, September 21  
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

President  
Mark Weiss, K6FG  
m.weiss at yahoo. com

Executive VP  
Gabe Calfas, K6AWB  
gabecal at earthlink. net

Membership Vice President  
Tom Peabody, K6TGP  
tpbdy at verizon. net

Planning Vice President  
Available

Technical Vice President  
Don Pettric, WG6H  
wg6h at arrl. net

Secretary  
Johnnie Spots, W6HTY  
n123js at yahoo.com

Treasurer  
Jack Eyster, KO6V  
mr.eyster at gmail. com

Station Trustee  
Bill Stein, KC6T  
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W6SD Carrier Editor/ Website Manager  
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kg6fbm at bflocks. com

ARES Liason / Delegate to LAACARC  
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kn6y at arrl. net

Awards Manager  
WAS & VUCC card checker for ARRL  
Arnold Schwartz, WB6PJC  
usarnie1 at sbcglobal.net  
(818) 222-7037

## 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: Are now being held prior to the club meetings at Northridge Hospital. Call or email for the exact location. These are open meetings and all members are welcome to attend!

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.

## Memories of Ray Solis, KI6QME/SK

The world lost a really good man Monday night, August 6, 2012. My friend, Ray Solis, lost his battle with heart disease while waiting for a heart transplant.

I met Ray through Amateur Radio and Emergency Preparedness. He was one of those rare people with whom you instantly feel a kinship. Ray had a smile you'd never forget and that smile was seemingly always there. Despite daunting medical problems, not the least of which was a heart that was failing so badly he was near the top of the transplant list, Ray always had a smile and a positive attitude.

You could even "hear" the smile when you talked to Ray on the radio. Ray was a dedicated amateur radio operator who was active with various organizations including The San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club and Amateur Radio Emergency Service. Ray would check in to the Lake Balboa Emergency Preparedness Net (sort of a meeting over amateur radio) most Sunday mornings. We never knew where Ray would be operating from, except it was almost guaranteed it would be far from the beaten path. You see, Ray liked to hike and run in the mountains. On Sunday mornings, Ray was up hours before the sun was. He'd pack 40+ pounds of ham radio equipment in his backpack and be off to explore the Angeles National Forest. Just before 9:00 AM he'd stop and set-up antennas and connect his radio and be ready to call in to our net. When I called for check-ins, I'd hear something like "KI6QME from 4000-feet above Sylmar."

Ray loved to experiment with different radios and antennas. That experimentation paid off big time a couple of years ago at the Angeles Crest 100, a grueling 100-mile running race through the mountains of the Angeles National Forest. Ray could easily have run the race, but instead he chose to volunteer his radio skills to keep the runners safe. When a female runner failed to check-in at her next check-point, Ray and others started searching. Ray applied his knowledge of the mountains and his radio skills and was able to locate the woman, who had become disoriented and lost her way. Ray was able to set-up his radio and call for timely aid for her. When Ray was praised for his actions, he shrugged off the attention with his usual smile and humble attitude.

I learned a lot from Ray, although he never intended to teach me anything. Ray taught by example. Despite overwhelming medical issues, Ray only talked about the good things in his life, his volunteer work, his hobbies, his friends, and mostly his family. Ray also spoke of his work at Cal State Northridge. He talked of the students and how he loved the interaction with them. I think they energized him, because Ray always seemed to have an abundance of energy. I heard that during a recent extended hospitalization, Ray, despite being really sick, insisted on walking the halls and greeting other patients. Of course, he had to have a nurse accompany him, and, I'm told, more than one nurse couldn't keep up with him.

I only knew Ray for about three years. In that time, though, he made a greater impression on me than have others I have known for much longer. Ray was a religious man, and although I'm not, I know that his faith and that of his family, carried him through his incredible battle and will carry his family as they try to move forward following this huge loss. I will truly miss Ray as will many, many others whose

lives were much the better for having known him!

I hope that everyone who reads this and everyone who knew Ray, will make sure they sign their donor cards so that the next "Ray" won't have to lose their battle. In California, you can register as a donor at Donate Life.

The traditional closing salutation in amateur radio is "73." So I'll close with this one last time, KI6QME, 73, KI6YOW clear.

Emergency Preparedness, Amateur Radio, and so very many of us, lost a dear, dear friend this week. Ray Solis was waiting for a heart transplant that didn't come through in time. Ray was part of our Lake Balboa EP Committee, and of our Sunday Morning Lake Balboa EP Amateur Radio Net, and filled in as Net Control just two weeks ago. Dan Tomlinson has written a lovely tribute to Ray, and it is on his website at [www.KI6YOW.com](http://www.KI6YOW.com). I hope you'll all take a few minutes to read it.

I'd like to add a personal note. Ray (together with Bill North), rescued me during a thunderstorm at Stoney Point in the north end of the San Fernando Valley after an EP class where we had been out locating and rescuing a mock 'victim', (manikin), in the deep brush, diagnosing his medical problems and treating him on site. But I turned out to be the true victim – got a severe charlie horse in a thigh muscle, and had to be almost carried back to the car in the pouring rain. If it hadn't been for Ray and Bill, I'd have been hours getting back, I'm sure!

Also, Ray was the kind of guy who, even though he wasn't part of our Neighborhood Council, nor part of an upcoming CERT class, showed up at 5:30 in the morning to help Rick Pederson and me set up 150 chairs for that CERT training, and then stayed around to help with refreshments and registration. And, he showed up on Sunday morning at 6:30 to see if we needed any more help!

As Dan said earlier, Ray had such a positive spirit, I think we all believed he'd make it through the transplant. His energy and spirit were boundless! He was one of the kindest people I have ever known, and we will miss him terribly.

73 to you, KI6QME. KI6RDR clear.  
Linda Pruett

Bernard:

Thanks for the relay help 2 weeks ago while I was driving through. I called Ray to get the repeater info, which was why he checked in that night. I think I might have woke him up and looking back now, he probably wasn't doing so well; but as always, he jumped right in there, and he & you did a good job relaying me in. Good times as I drove up to NorCal.

I consider Ray one of my Elmers... his enthusiasm and love for people and radio was joy to be around. he was one of the reasons for me to finally get my ticket (& advance to AE & VE). I'm so blessed to have worked with him at CSUN and doing CERT together; another area he got me re-involved in.

I hope you're doing OK and trying to stay cool; hot & humid, welcome to my world in GA/AL :->) I'm going to try to get back out there for the service on Mon (waiting for our mutual friend at CSUN to send me the details). Hang in there...

Warm regards,  
Robert - K6GIS  
Robert E. Thomas, GISP

It is with tears flowing that I write this.

I first met Ray at a CSUN preparedness event when he visited our ARES booth and expressed a strong interest in Amateur Radio. I was immediately taken by his enthusiasm and warmth, characteristics that we would come to know as his hallmarks. He got a license manual and signed up for the next available Technician class. I canned him several months later when I was planning a course at Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital. Despite the distance, he jumped at the chance to participate, and when he showed up on the first day of class with his license manual looking as though a truck had run over it, I know he had been devouring the material. Sure enough, on exam day he was the first to hand in his test and, naturally, he had aced it.

Soon thereafter, we started seeing Ray everywhere - ARES meetings, exercises, event support and upgrade classes. He quickly progressed to General and then to Extra. The story has been told many times about his going to find a lost runner during the Angeles Crest 100, a grueling race that he himself had completed twice in the 1990's. What you may not have heard was that Ray joined a weekly VHF simplex net each Sunday morning, checking in from one or another spot in the mountains where he hiked and ran. In true Ham fashion, Ray experimented with different antennas, radios and power levels during his morning excursions to find out what worked best under what conditions.

When the need for a heart transplant became apparent, Ray never looked for sympathy; in fact, on breaking the news to his ARES friends, he was the cheeriest person in the room. It is rare to find someone who invariably sees his glass as half full, even when only a few drops lie in the bottom of it. He took joy in the support of his family and friends and found the good side of life everywhere he looked. It was a great privilege for me to get to know Ray and to call him a friend and fellow Ham. I will - and we all will - miss him dearly.

Marty N6VI

Ray Solis, KI6QME, was an amazing and truly unforgettable human being. He so exuded positivism and cheerfulness, one wondered if he was for real. The more I got to know him, there was no doubt in my mind that he was the real deal! Just imagine being as physically fit as he was, constantly running up into Angeles Crest (often performing net control duties on the Monday night ARES net from some 4000 foot mountain top), and then being hospitalized with heart problems, and being told he had to have a heart transplant. He remained upbeat and positive and even checked in to the net from the hospital, and later at home. It was my great pleasure to have known him. Ray was an example to us all.

Chris WA6VHA

## Monthly Luncheon

Great time and food at Stonefire Grill, now we are on to our next food adventure! We are going to Emle's, [9250 Reseda Bl](#), Northridge on Sept. 8th, 11:30am. 818-772-2203.

See Ya!  
Elaine

## Simplex Net Reminder

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

## WAS & VUCC Award Card Checking

Please bring your QSL cards and completed applicable forms to the next meeting. Awards Manager Arnie, WB6PJC, will be available to check your cards.

## Visual Memories of Ray Solis, KI6QME/SK



## Northridge VE Schedule for 2012

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.

**10/6/12, 12/1/12, 2/2/13, 4/6/13, 6/1/13, and 8/3/13.**



## Uses and Capabilities of Amateur Radio Service Communications in Emergencies and Disaster Relief

### CONCLUSION

The amateur radio community and the emergency response and disaster communications communities all agree that amateur radio can be of great value in emergency response situations. Amateur radio carries with it a wide range of advantages that allow it to supplement other emergency communications activities during disasters. This has been demonstrated time and again in a wide variety of emergency and disaster situations. Amateur radio emergency communications require not only stations in a position to originate the emergency message, but also an alternative to the commercial communications infrastructure impacted by the emergency. This alternative infrastructure is the network of amateur radio operators and their stations that relay messages, build and maintain repeater stations and repeater networks, operate HF message networks to send messages greater distances than are practical with mobile or transportable transmitters, and develop new technologies to improve the reliability of these networks.

Read the whole transcript at:

[http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2012/db0820/DA-12-1342A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0820/DA-12-1342A1.pdf)

## Congratulations!!!

I just wanted to let you know that the 21st of July I passed my EXTRA Class Then I recieved my VE badge Aug 10th from The Greater Los Angeles Amateur Radio Group. and I applied for The VE from ARRL/VEC I should be getting that in a few weeks.

73,  
Bob KI6TLB

#### 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, September 21, 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**  
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 6 KHz (AM) filter  
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 Paid-up club members only  
 Contact: Bill Stein, KC6T  
 (818)360-4640



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

**Eric J. Christensen**  
**K6EJC**  
 Manager



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