



*The San Fernando Valley
Amateur Radio Club*

Volume 59 Number 4 April 2013

President's QRM

Well, we had a very interactive "ARRL forum" during the last half of Dick Norton, N6AA, The Director of the ARRL Southwestern division, during his talk at the March meeting. As always a very good talk.

Coming up in April is Dennis, W6DQ who has a very good talk ready for us, if you're in town, you do not want to miss this one, Dennis is a great speaker with a great topic. (Bio on page 3.)

The first of many 2013 Planning meetings for Field Day came off without a glitch. Ten of us got together for lunch over at Lulu's on March 16. We hashed out a lot, it was a fun working lunch meeting, in fact my wife even popped over, but only for the food! The next meeting is Saturday, April 20th, at noon, in the backroom at Lulu's. Field Day is right around the corner, come on over on the 20th for the second meeting, worst case you're going to just have a good lunch.

As I write this column, I am also jotting down a list of what I need to be packing and setting up for the 3 week out Baker2Vegas foot race. Really looking forward to the event, as I have said many a time "it is simply addictive." San Fernando Valley ARC will be manning Stage 13 outside of Pahrump. I am bouncing over to Visalia from there.

May 18th the club will be over at Woodley Park for our annual picnic. Elaine Nolan and Frances Embry, KE6RVE, are the dynamic duo in charge of the event.

Coming up in June, Ginger, AB6YL, and myself will be attending our next HAMCON meeting regarding the upcoming 2015 ARRL Southwestern Convention.

After field day we will start talking about October 5th back in Woodley Park for the California QSO Party.

See Steve, W6OFV, Membership VP if you're interested in joining the San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club or simply forgot to renew lookup Steve, W6OFV, on page 2 or fill out and mail in the renewal form found in the Carrier.

73,
Steve, KN6Y

Next **SFVARC Club Meeting**

Friday, April 19
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
Steve Wardlaw, KN6Y
kn6y @ social.rr. com

Executive VP
Tom Peabody, K6TGP
tpbdy @ verizon. net

Membership Vice President
Steve Rudolph, W6OFV
steve-w6ofv @ lycos. com

Planning Vice President
John Van Egmond, K16ZS
jve @ earthlink. net

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

Secretary
Johnnie Spots, W6HTY
n123js @ yahoo. com

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

Station Trustee
Bill Stein, KC6T
bill_91326 @ verizon. net

W6SD Carrier Editor/ Website Manager
Bernard Falkin, KG6FBM
kg6fbm @ bflocks. com

ARES Liason
Jack Eyster, KO6V
mr.eyster @ gmail. Com

LAACARC delegate
Steve Wardlaw , KN6Y
KN6Y @ ARRL .NET

HAMCON delegates
Steve Wardlaw , KN6Y
KN6Y @ ARRL .NET
Ginger Wonderling, AB6YL
AB6YL @ earthlink .net

Awards Manager
WAS & VUCC card checker for ARRL
Arnold Schwartz, WB6PJC
usarnie1 @ 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: 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!

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.

Construction of the New International Airport Hong Kong

Dennis Kidder W6DQDennis has been in engineering for nearly 40 years and one of the most interesting opportunities was to work as the Chief Telecommunications Engineer for the construction of the New International Airport, Hong Kong. Dennis participated from some of the early days of construction right through the opening and first year of operation of the airport. At that time the airport was considered the largest civil engineering project ever undertaken. Dennis was first licensed as a Novice in 1969 as WN6NIA, but quickly moved up through the ranks to Advanced and eventually Amateur Extra. Engineering was his destiny, thanks in part to ham radio and the knowledge and guidance of his Elmers, Harrison Faulkner W6PM (SK), Bill Dickman W6DR(SK) and Chek Titcomb W6DQ(SK). Dennis was able to receive the grant of Chek's callsign, W6DQ, as an honor to his legacy and the influence these folks had on his career. Dennis has now retired from nearly 30 years with Hughes Aircraft Company and Raytheon. During his career as an engineer, he wore many hats and explored many different opportunities; from sound engineering to publishing newspapers, from launching satellites to building airports and finally, developing communications systems that keep our troops safer and more lethal on the battlefield.

Yaesu FT-60R for sale

I would like to place the following ad in the next current "Carrier". For sale - a Yaesu FT-60R Dual Band FM Transceiver. Brand new, in-the-box, never been used or battery been charged. I won this as a gift at the W6SD Holiday Banquet in December and need another handheld like I need another hole-in-the-head. This transceiver retails for \$149.99, plus tax. I'll make a one-time-good-deal with any newly licensed ham or ARES member that can use a simple to use handheld transceiver for \$125.00 cash. Contact me by phone at (818) 345-7790, or email at, lionel.campeau@yahoo.com. Thank you.

<http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?386865-RepeaterBook-com-announces-a-new-Repeater-Directory-app-for-the-iPhone>

The World's Free Repeater Apps now available for iPhone and AndroidThe Free Repeater Directory App for USA, Canada, and Mexico.

RepeaterBook enables you to easily find repeaters across the USA, Canada, and Mexico for free, and without a network connection.

RepeaterBook mobile apps are powered by the popular community database of RepeaterBook.com and software of ZBM2.com.

Just search for RepeaterBook in the Apple App Store or Google Play

More than 16,000 repeaters listed

No network connection required

Use network, GPS or a grid square to find Repeater

Displays your grid

Comprehensive selection and sorting options
Displays distance, heading and full repeater details

Fast and flexible, designed to help you use the repeater network

Easily submit updates and additions from within the app

Support for English, French Canadian and Spanish (Android version)

Supports BlueCAT - FT-857 / FT-817 Bluetooth CAT interface?- Touch a repeater to instantly set your radio. (Android version)

For our friends outside North America we have our other popular directory apps:

Repeater Locator - for iPhone, iPad, and iPod

Repeater - for Android

Our Repeater apps will always be free.

Garrett KD6KPC and Nicolas M1HOG

www.repeaterbook.com and www.zbm2.com

Monthly Luncheon

We had a nice lunch in March at Macaroni Grill. There are two new restaurants at the mall. We are going to the Elephant Bar, on April 13th at 11:30am.

9301 Tampa Ave, Northridge.

818-534-3785.

Elaine

New to the hobby and stuck? Maybe it has been a few too many years since you were active and need to talk to someone for simple advice on:

- HF
 - VHF/UHF
 - rigs
 - Discussion on different modes
 - An antenna
 - Contesting
 - Dxing
 - Rag-chewing.
 - public service activity
- Ask an Elmer at our next meeting.

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.

2013 W6SD PICNIC

SATURDAY, MAY 18TH

**FOOD CATEGORIES : SALADS(POTATO, GREEN, PASTA), BEANS,
CHIPS & DIPS, APPETIZERS, DESSERTS
NAME FOOD ITEM**

Contact Elaine Nolan at 818/891-8875 or 818/439-3897 and kd6plu@verizon.net or Frances Embry (she will have hard copy to sign up at club meetings.

Northridge VE Schedule for 2013

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.

4/6/13, 6/1/13, 8/3/13, 10/5/13, and 12/7/13.

Editor's Note- I was asked to print this exactly as it was given to me. No formatting changes.

Application For SFVARC Membership/Renewal

Date _____

Name _____ Call _____ License
Class _____

Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email

ARRL member? _____

New member ? _____ Renewal ? _____

Exclude your info from printed club membership roster? Yes _____ No _____

Dues information:

Full year \$18 or if under age 18 - \$6

April – Dec \$12 &œ \$4

August – Dec \$6 &œ \$2

Family membership: each additional family member
is charged the under 18 age rate

Please make checks payable to SFVARC

If mailing, address to: SanFernandoValleyARC, P.O. Box 280517, Northridge, Ca.
91328-0517

Thank you for your interest and participation in the SFVARC

Crimping a power connector for an old radio

So I went to the TRW swapmeet one Saturday, and bought an old 2m mobile radio for \$40. It is an Icom IC-27H. Of course the first thing you'd want to do is hook it up, and see if it works. It had the original power connector on it, but I didn't know what the connector was called. HRO doesn't stock power cables with that kind of connector on it, since the radio is so old (1980s). It looks like the connector at <http://www.pololu.com/catalog/product/1932>. I went to a local hobby store that carries radio control planes/cars, they had the connector, it's usually called a Tamiya connector.

The connectors with pig tails on it had 16 AWG wire, but I wanted to use 12 AWG automotive zip cord with it, so I bought the bare connectors, with tax it was less than two dollars. Now I have to attach the connector to my power cord (I put Anderson Power Poles on the other end). The first question is, do I crimp the connector pins to the wire, or just solder them, or do both crimping and soldering the connector to the wires? In the aircraft industry, they only crimp wires, but do not solder them. In the radio control industry, they seem to solder or crimp and solder them. I decided to crimp only, so I bought a ratcheting

crimper that crimps un-insulated connectors. If you look at the above web site, you can see that there is one crimp that grabs the insulation for strain relief, and one crimp that grabs the wire itself. My crimps didn't look so great, I must have used the wrong die. I found a great article at <http://www.pinrepair.com/connector/> regarding crimping. I wasn't sure of the polarity of the pins, because the red wire on the power cord coming from the radio went to the square connector, but a diagram on the radio noted that the square connector was for ground. I asked some knowledgeable people what the polarity is, but they didn't know. So I went with the color coding on the wires, and plugged the radio into a power supply, and turned it on. The radio didn't turn on, but there was no smoke. I thought I toasted my radio (but wasn't sure if the radio worked before I bought it) due to inverting the polarity of the power pins. Tip #1: If you set your multimeter to continuity mode (where it beeps when you have continuity through a circuit through the test leads), you can touch one probe to the radio chassis (something metal that is not painted), and touch the other probe to both connectors on the power connector - the ground pin will have continuity to the chassis ground. So I found out the square connector is ground. Incidentally, radio control batteries are wired with the

square connector as ground. Now I have to extract the pins from the connector, but I don't have a pin extractor. The pin extractor folds the locking tangs back, so you can extract the pins from the connector. I didn't want to spend lots of money on a pin extractor, and I didn't know what size extractor to get. Tip #2: Go to a hobby shop, and look at their brass tubing. I took my connector there, and they found the right size tubing that goes over the pins - 5/32 x .014 (3.97 mm x .355 mm), and they extracted the pins for me. I bought the brass tube, with tax it was less than \$2. The hobby shop is Smith Brothers Hobby Center, 8941 Reseda Blvd, Northridge, south of Nordhoff, not too far from our meeting place. The tip regarding using tubing to extract pins was from the forums at <http://www.eham.net/>. which is a great place to read articles. I corrected the polarity of the pins, plugged in the power cable to the radio, and turned the radio on - it worked! So Steve KN6Y wanted me to write up my findings for the newsletter, since I described these events in email, when asking people for help. Steve wants to see club members writing articles for the Carrier, so please contribute! The model Steve found is the Pasadena Radio club newsletter, see <http://www.pasadenaradioclub.org/>.

Yoshio ke6ach



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



Next Meeting: Friday, April 19, at 7:30pm at Penthouse, Northridge Hospital

W6SD.NET

For Sale

IC 765 with matching speaker and microphone. Original owner. Mint condition and just back from an overhaul at Turner Electronics. 250 hz CW filter.

\$1,100. Roger W6LAX 818-455-5038, w6lax @ arrl .net

Yaesu FT-1000MP Mark V. 500 hz and 250 hz CW filters. Original owner. Low hours and flawless condition. \$1,200. Roger W6LAX 818-455-5038, w6lax @ arrl .net

Ameritron HF Amp AL-1200\$1,500. Roger W6LAX

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
 Phone 818-887-3569
 Fax 818-703-8732

Eric Christensen
 Manager – Burbank | K6EJC | ws3bnk@hro.net
 TF: 877-892-1748 P: 818-842-1786 F: 818-842-5283
 1525 W Magnolia Blvd, Burbank, CA 91506

Download the App at Google Play | Download the App at the Apple App Store
Worldwide Distribution
 SALES SUPPORT SERVICE
 Anaheim, CA | Atlanta, GA | Burbank, CA | Denver, CO | New Castle, DE | Oakland, CA
 Phoenix, AZ | Portland, OR | Salem, NH | San Diego, CA | Sunnyvale, CA | Woodbridge, VA
 www.hamradio.com