



# *The San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club*

Volume 59 Number 6 June 2013

## **President's QRM**

As always Marty, N6VI, kept us glued to our seats as he crammed years of research into one evening's presentation. Thank you Marty for a very informative presentation and hats off to John, KI6ZS for arranging another great presentation.

CQ FD CQ FD de W6SD will soon be echoing throughout the West parking structure at Northridge Hospital. June 22-23rd is the date of field day, and on Friday the 21st is our regular meeting. You have most likely already figured out what that will be about.

This year we are doing something a little different, rather than devote the entire evening to "what and where" we will condense that segment, leaving time for a treat.

Did you ever wonder how those stations pull off a 38A? Well, we have a very well done video showing us exactly what they go through to accomplish it. The video was recommended to me by a very good source, I have watched it, and must say if you have ever been involved with setup and/or ops this is a must!

So far regarding our setup, we are at the parking structure again, running 3A with UHF/VHF as a 4th station. If you're curious as to the rigs, at the UHF/VHF we will be using our Icom 706. The HF rigs will be our FT-920, my TS-870 and HRO's TS-590. Running 100w, antennas to be used will be W6BUX's Windom, W9INN's 75m, Cushcraft's A3S with 40m add-on, along with a 4BTV and an R7.

I hope to see everyone at the meeting,  
73,  
Steve KN6Y

### **Next SFVARC Club Meeting**

Friday, June 21  
at 7:30pm  
Northridge Hospital  
Penthouse  
18300 Roscoe Blvd,  
Northridge, CA 91325

## **Northridge VE Schedule for 2013/2014**

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.

**8/3/13, 10/5/13, 12/7/13, 2/1/14, and 4/5/14.**

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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Ginger Wonderling, AB6YL  
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##### 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

The biggest VHF contest of the year takes place this coming weekend. The ARRL June VHF QSO Party runs from Saturday June 8 at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time (that's 1800 UTC) until 8:00 p.m. Sunday, June 9 (that's 0300 Monday June 10 UTC).

Why participate?

Many Emcomm operators tend to over-rely on repeaters, and many have never experienced the greater distances that can be worked on SSB. This contest is open to all license levels, since it involves bands from six meters on up. It provides an opportunity to test your station's reach on FM simplex or on SSB (or even CW, if you know how). You can try out a new antenna or a new location. You get practice listening for callsigns you may not hear every week on the nets and copying exchanges quickly and accurately. In short, regular contesting can make you a better operator. Besides that, it's E-skip season on six meters, and the high level of activity during the contest increases the chance that even a simple station will work surprising distances.

I can't be on all the time; what are the best times to make contacts?

The first eight hours of the contest are often the most productive, so concentrate your efforts then if you have to limit your time. You may also pick up some casual activity on Sunday morning. Listen and make calls on as many bands as you can. At a minimum, I suggest getting on for the first five minutes of every hour; if everyone does at least this much, the chance of finding one another and completing contacts is increased. After completing a contact, you can ask the other station what additional bands he or she has that you both might try.

What frequencies should I try?

On six meters, practically all the activity will be on SSB between 50.125 and 50.200, mostly toward the lower end of that range if e-skip is light or non-existent. Some stations will drop just below 50.100 for some cw if they suspect

some weak distant openings.

On two meter FM, listen / call on 146.550 and 146.580 simplex. The use of 146.520 (national calling frequency), repeaters and repeater frequencies are prohibited in this and most contests for both making and soliciting contacts.

On two meter SSB, most activity will be between 144.190 and 144.250, tending to cluster near 144.200.

On 222 MHz, nearly all the activity will be FM on 223.500 (it's ok to use this national calling frequency). The few stations with 222 SSB will be near 222.100.

On 70 cm FM, nearly all activity is on 446.000 simplex.

On 70cm SSB, the activity will concentrate between 432.100 and 432.120.

On 23cm FM, check the nation calling frequency of 1294.500, but listen for possible FM activity around 1296.100. (Don't call here unless you hear someone else calling or have made a schedule here. It's the weak-signal part of the band, but stations using transverters generally can't get down to 1294.5 unless they have a separate FM-only mobile rig, so someone you worked on a lower band may offer meet you above 1296 for a quick FM contact if that's all you have.)

For 23cm SSB, activity will be at and above 1296.100

Note: where there's one dominant FM simplex channel on a band, you'll have to share the frequency. Most stations calling regularly on such a frequency will pause to let you work the station they just worked, as long as it doesn't disrupt their string or "run" of contacts.. If they do, complete the contact quickly and thank the first station. Keep listening, because there may be another operator wanting to work you.

What antenna should I use?

Most SSB operators use horizontally polarized antennas (e.g., yagis, quads, dipoles). Most

FM-only stations use verticals. Rovers typically use mostly horizontal antennas regardless of mode. (You can fit only so many antennas on the roof of a car!) Use what you have, but if you can put up both orientations (such as a small beam and a mag-mount whip), you can switch to whatever works best for each contact.

How do I make contacts?

If you hear a station calling CQ (on SSB) or say they're looking for contacts (on FM), answer with your callsign given phonetically. If the other station calls you back, copy down the grid locator (e.g., DM04, DM13, etc.), then acknowledge and send yours. You can find your own grid square by entering your callsign on QRZ.COM and clicking on "Detail". There's no need for the last two letters in this event; just use the first four characters (DMxx). If a frequency is quiet, try calling CQ (SSB) or asking for contest contacts (FM) yourself. Keep a log with date, time, band, station worked and grid square received. Just as with Emcomm, accuracy is important.

Can I work someone more than once?

You may work another station only once on each band, regardless of mode, unless at least one of you moves to a different grid square. (Stations that do this are called rovers and will identify as such.) If you work a station on two-meter FM, you can't work it again on any other mode on two meters if neither of you has changed grid squares. When rovers are on the move, see if you can snag them again once they cross into a new grid square.

Do I have to send in a log or entry form?

No; you can get on just for fun and practice. If you do want to enter, check out the contest rules at <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf-qso-party>. If you submit a log, you must show times and dates in UTC even if you kept track of them in local time during the contest.

73,  
Marty N6VI

### Monthly Luncheon

Had a great picnic. Had Dennis hopping with the grills. We will be going to a new place called Presto Pasta, on Saturday, June 8th at 11:30am. 17923 Chatsworth Street, Granada Hills. 818-360-7737. It is in part of the old Bakers Square building at Chatsworth & Zelzah.

See you there. Elaine

### 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.



The July presentation by **Burt Weiner (K6OQK)** will be the history of the WA6TDD and K6MYK repeaters in Southern California. Art Gentry, W6MEP built the first truly automatic repeater, K6MYK, which operated from Mt. Lee (above the Hollywood sign) beginning back in the late 50's. Burt followed this repeater with the installation of WA6TDD on Mt. Wilson, back in the very early 60's. His intention is this to be a fun evening full of memories, with a lot of documentation, and pictures of both repeaters in a slide presentation. He will be open to questions after and maybe even during the presentation.

Burt has been involved in Amateur Radio since the early fifty's while in Jr. High School. He built and maintained the WA6TDD /WR6ABE repeater on Mt. Wilson, which went on the air in 1962.. His professional background is in broadcast engineering, antenna systems and measurement systems design.

John (KI6ZS)  
VP Program Planning SFVARC

### Look ahead to the ARRL Southwestern Division

#### Hamcon coming September 6 – 8, 2013

Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club is proud to announce the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention to be held at –  
The Marriott Santa Ynez Valley  
Hotel and Convention Center  
455 McMurray Road  
Buellton, CA 93427

Mark the date on your Calendar - September 6-8 2013  
More info available soon on the Convention website.

ARRL Convention Listing

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southwestern-division-convention-swhamcon>



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**

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



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



**Next Meeting: Friday, June 21, at 7:30pm at Penthouse, Northridge Hospital**

**W6SD.NET**

## 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](mailto:lionel.campeau@yahoo.com). Thank you.

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 Fax 818-703-8732

**Eric Christensen**  
 Manager - Burbank | K6EJC | [ws3bnk@hro.net](mailto:ws3bnk@hro.net)  
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