



The San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club

Volume 59 Number 7 July 2013

President's QRM

Well, I just finished up with all of the field day documents, tallied up the score, and submitted it all to ARRL. During that weekend, we had a ton of visitors and quite a few who joined the club. Conditions were interesting, seemed to be a 24 hour period of band shifting.

However, I am quite sure we all had a good time. I especially, being able to spend so much time with visitors, a few of which I knew such as Dick Norton, N6AA, the Southwestern Director for ARRL. However, the majority of our visitors I had never met. I also heard that David, N6HD, the ARRL LAX Section Manager stopped by to check us out.

One person I saw tirelessly trying over and over to work is that satellite flying over and explaining a lot to his audience each pass was Johnnie, W6HTY. He finally worked a station up in SJV thru AO-50 with 17 minutes left! Well done Johnnie!

Kudos to Dennis, KD6PLU, Richard, WA6KYR, and Danny, W6SO, for holding down the fort all night!

Up front, about a week before field day, Jamie, AA6TH, sent press releases along with invitations to elected officials. Come Friday the 21st at our "Field Day meeting" Mr. Negrete an aide to Senator Padilla, showed up at about 8pm, and presented to us a "Certificate of Appreciation ." Very nice, and a shout out to Jamie! Then, we roll around to Dennis, who grabs us those first five QSOs via FM on solar, another 100 points. As every year thanks to Dennis, KD6PLU!

We had Lynn, KG6DNY, manning the VHF station, a bunch of folks working SSB & CW. The entire operation this year was one vertical & 2 wires. One of the wires donated to us from Gurbux, W6BUX, was a 3 legged Windom. Months prior to the event, we were talking about what to use for the CW station, Gurbux jumped in and said "Hey, we could use my Windom". I asked him "well how long is it?" he said "136" I said "that would fit" BUT June 22, 2013 during setup I see Gurbux rolling out the antenna, and it looked a little bigger than 136 feet. Sure enough it is 136, at least on one of the 3 legs. We mad it fit, and seemed to be working very well.

Thanks to Don, WG6H, and our FD committee I had fun and everyone else did too!

73.

Steve KN6Y

Next **SFVARC Club Meeting**

Friday, July 19
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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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 \$5.00 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.

Welcome to the Chatsworth Peak 900 MHz repeater (927.8375- PL162.2)



For many years I have been interested in repeaters and learning about how they worked. The first thing that grabbed my attention was learning how a repeater could use one antenna for receive while

also transmitting on the same antenna at the same time. The more I learned, the more I was hooked and wanting to learn more.

I was reading a lot about how repeaters were built, reading about other people's repeaters, then finally joining the Yahoo User Group "Repeater Builder." I now was at the point of wanting to build my own repeater.

Rule #1 in repeater building is to choose the band that your repeater will be on. Being able to get a frequency pair in Southern California on the 440 band or lower is almost impossible unless you are willing to get on a very long waiting list. It can be done, but very difficult. I decided for now to look at the higher bands, perhaps 900 MHz or the 1200 MHz amateur bands.

The thing about 900 MHz was, that was another challenge all together. There were no amateur equipment commercially available (until recently with the Alinco DJ-G29 HT), so the band had very limited

amateur use. Really, the only way to get on the amateur 900 MHz band was to hack the programming software and sometimes doing a little modification in the



circuitry to the 900 MHz commercial radios. I found this to be an interesting challenge and wanted to get on the 900 band regardless.

So the 900 band it was. I first acquired the radios. A Motorola Maxtrac 800 for receive and a Maxtrac 900 for transmit (modded and already to go).

I acquired a power amplifier with appropriate power supply and a Wacom Duplexer which I recabled. All that was left to acquire was a rack, antenna, controller and a rack mount 12 volt power supply.

I contacted SCRRBA (Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Assoc.) and let them know my plans and to find out what I should do on my end to get proper coordination. At this point I received an offer to take over an existing 900 MHz repeater on Chatsworth Peak from Harvey Laidman – W8DX.

All I had to do was to transfer ownership, coordination, and all the responsibilities of

owning a repeater. Harvey has been a great asset for me. He has helped me a lot with his experience with repeaters as well as the 900 MHz band (Thank you Harvey). My future plans for the repeater are upgrading the antenna system and adding a power amplifier. I would also like to add a 1,200 MHz repeater in the same rack (which means I need a taller rack – if anyone knows where there is one available). As far as the other 900 MHz repeater that I was starting to build, perhaps I will get that one completed and on another repeater site where I can link the 2 of them together.

Current coverage on the repeater for a HT is Simi and San Fernando Valleys. Mobile / Base coverage is: Ventura, Oxnard, Westlake Village, Simi and San Fernando Valleys, Los Angeles and Orange



Counties. Anybody interested in getting on the 900 MHz band, get ahold of me and I would be happy to help. I hope to hear some new voices on the repeater.

73
Jim – WB6TNF

Monthly Luncheon

Well, the lunch at Presto Pasta was enjoyed, even if it was a small group. We will be going to Stonefire Grill on Saturday, July 13 at 11:30. 9229 Winnetka, Chatsworth. 818-534-3364. See you there.

Remember we need some to take this over. Not Hard to do, just make ask if they take separate checks and make the reservation for 12.

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 & € \$4

August – Dec \$6 & € \$2

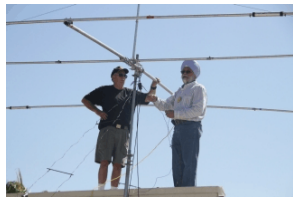
Family membership: each additional family member
is charged the under 18 age rate

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

2013 ARRL Field Day Excitement!





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. Thank you.

Huge collection of QST's, and other ham radio magazines. Dates are ranging from the 1940's to 2000, with many still in their brown paper wrapper. All are boxed with the majority being in smaller, lighter boxes. This will fill the back of a small pickup truck. You must take ALL. I will deliver anywhere in the SF valley, but you must take all.

Contact Jack Eyster KO6V
 818.270.3384 Cell

Communications Service Company, Antenna Specialist, TV-ham-Shortwave-Satellite TV, MATV-Residential and Commercial, Audio-Video-CCTV Cameras, Expert Tower Installations
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