



ARRL Los Angeles Section-Wide Newsletter

Volume 2 No. 5 February 2010

Rebooting Ham Radio



Richard Parker KF6FSQ

*Richard is a newly minted member of the **Pasadena Radio Club (PRC)** and involved in the **ARES-LAX Northeast District**. His wife is also a licensed Ham, (**KF6FSR**), as well as his 13-year old son, Aiden. They have a nine-year old daughter who is not quite ready to be interested in Ham radio yet, but they're working on it!*

I love gadgets. So when my cousin showed me his HT back in 1996 (a Yaesu FT-50R) and demonstrated how he could hit repeaters miles away and autopatch into the phone system, I knew I had to have one. It was local repeaters and autopatch that hooked my wife as well. Cellular service was still rather expensive back then and our first child was on his way into the world. **Amateur Radio** represented a cool way of keeping in touch with each other during the day.

And so my wife and a friend of ours got together for a weekend and crammed for the Technician exam. The studying came easy for my friend and I (we were both avid electronics tinkerers) but was more of a struggle for my wife. Having the three of us work together to learn the material really helped a lot. That week we all took the exam and passed! We were hams.

We became pretty active on 2m and 70cm for about two years. We experimented with various repeaters systems, joined **SCARA**, and did some basic simplex propagation experiments. But that was all we understood ham radio to be useful for. So the rise of the cell phone translated into the dormancy of **Amateur Radio** for us. We did dutifully renew our licenses in 2006—primarily

driven by a desire to not have to take the test again. But **Amateur Radio** was not a part of our lives anymore. We had entered the iPhone age.

The gadgeteer in me periodically checked in with the various HT manufacturers to see what the latest developments were. I upgraded my aging FT-50R to a brand new VX-5R when it came out. The new toy caused me to monitor various repeaters for a few weeks while I played with its features. But once the radio was mastered, my listening stopped. And then this past year the VX-8R was released.

What's all this? APRS? GPS? Holy cow! I started reading about position reporting, mountain activating, geocaching, packet radio, digital communications, Echolink, and D-Star. I watched YouTube videos of **HAMs** talking via satellites using HT's. And my research led me to the Holy Grail of **Amateur Radio: DX**. The idea that a single person with a 100W transceiver, decent antenna, and the right conditions can communicate with someone else on the other side of the planet is mind-boggling. I started studying for my General license immediately.

There is another primary aspect of **Amateur Radio** that intrigued me: emergency communications. The idea of using my skills and gear to help the community is really appealing. It also seemed like a great father-son activity, and something that could provide community service experience for him as he moves into high school and then college. And finally, the monthly meetings have been a great way to connect with other **HAMs** in my area.

I am proud to now be an **ARES** member and **DARN** repeater system supporter. And my son is now studying with me for his Technician license.

Factoids about Baker to Vegas 2010!

Jennifer O'Connell KI6OIL

The next **Baker to Vegas Challenge Relay** will be the weekend of **April 17-18, 2010**. Here are a few facts from Joy's presentation on what to expect and the resources required to mount such an event.



The six international teams are:

- 231 RCMP Women
- 247 RCMP
- 83 Hamburg, Germany
- 251 South Wales Police
- 185 Calgary PS
- 198 Calgary Women PS

Joy is equipped with what she calls "The Tower of Babel" (pictured): a self-designed portable system for transporting all the radios she needs for Operations (as well as a replacements for any of the teams).



Race Operations Radio Usage:

- 10 repeater / crossband sites
- 16 stage frequencies
- 16 operations frequencies
- 4 motor team frequencies
- 10 digital frequencies for ham radios
- 3 FRS channels
- 2 CB channels

Joy has been the Communications Director for 10 years, and knows that incorporating Hams is critical to the Race's success. Here are the facts and figures on why Ham support is crucial to the race's operation:



Ham Radio Facts and Figures

- 647 Radio Support Personnel
- 357 Hams Supporting Teams
- 47 Ham Official Frequencies
- 139 Requested Team Ham Freqs.
- Estimated APRS Equipment Cost: \$45,521.58
- Estimated Cost of Repeaters: \$47,446.82
- Estimated Cost of Ham Radios on Racecourse: \$348,841.53

(Compiled using **ARRL** event formula)

If you are interested in joining the **Baker to Vegas** team, you can contact Joy at rbvcom1@b2v.org. She will also be speaking at various **Amateur Radio** events and Radio Club meetings across Los Angeles over the next month. See **Affiliated Club News and Upcoming Events** for more details.

Upcoming Communication Events

The Los Angeles Marathon

March 21, 2010. Radio operators are needed at the L.A. Marathon to provide emergency communications throughout the course. This year, the new route will go from Dodger Stadium to the Santa Monica Pier, and will include Beverly Hills, Hollywood, and major studios. Volunteer registration is online at: http://www.doitsports.com/volunteer/info.tcl?job_id=488. If you have trouble accessing the above link, see www.lamarathon.com and follow these links: Event; Volunteer; Individual; Radio Operator.

The Baker to Vegas Relay

April 17-18, 2010. See www.b2v.org for more details and to volunteer.

18th Annual Leona Divide 50-Mile Run

The **Leona Divide Fifty Miler** and is one of the premiere Ultra Marathons in California. As a non-profit event, it is supported by generous sponsors and many volunteers.

This year's race will be held on April 17, 2010 at 6:00 A.M. in Lake Hughes, CA. Trail work, race organization, aid stations, radio communication, and finish line are all done by volunteers. For 18 years many of the same people have given their time to help make the Leona Divide what it is today.

If you have any interest in helping with **Amateur Radio** communications on race day or volunteering at an aid station, please contact the race director: Keria Henninger at (949) 322-2048 or at keirahenninger@mac.com.

Additional information can be found at www.leonadivide.com.

ARRL Southwestern Division Convention

The **2010 ARRL Southwestern Division Amateur Radio Convention** will be held **September 17, 18 and 19, 2010** at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in San Diego. See <http://www.sandarc.net/Convention2010.htm> for further details.

ARRL Technical Specialist

For a section team to be effective in one of the most important arenas in Amateur Radio, technology, there must be a cadre of qualified, competent **Technical Specialists**. "Advancement of the radio art" is a profound obligation we incur under the rules of the **FCC**. **Technical Specialists** help meet this obligation.

Appointment by the **Section Manager** or **Technical Coordinator** under delegated authority from the **Section Manager**, the **Technical Specialist** supports the Technical Coordinator in two main areas of responsibility: Radio Frequency Interference, and Technical Information. Technical Specialists can specialize in certain specific technical areas, or can be generalists. Here is a list of specific job duties:

Serve as a technical advisor to local hams and clubs. Correspond by telephone and letter on tech topics. Refer correspondents to other sources if specific topic is outside Technical Specialist's knowledge.

Serve as advisor in radio frequency interference issues. RFI can drive a wedge in neighbor and city relations. It will be the **Technical Specialist** with a cool head who will resolve problems. Local hams will come to you for guidance in dealing with interference problems.

Speak at local clubs on popular tech topics. Let local clubs know you're available and willing.

Represent **ARRL** at technical symposiums in industry; serve on CATV advisory committees; advise municipal governments on technical matters.

Work with other ARRL officials and appointees when called upon for technical advice, especially in emergency communications situations where technical prowess can mean the difference in getting a communications system up and running, the difference between life and death.

Handle other miscellaneous technically-related tasks assigned by the **Technical Coordinator**.

Recruitment of new hams and League members is an integral part of the job of every League appointee. Appointees should take advantage of every opportunity to recruit a new ham or member to foster growth of Field Organization programs, and our abilities to serve the public.

Technical Specialists must hold Novice or higher class license; **ARRL** membership required.

ARRL Field Organizations:

Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) To become a part of ARES, use this [ARES link](#).

National Traffic System (NTS) For information on training, or to volunteer to be an **NTS** Net control station, please send an e-mail to **Chester Brown K6CRB**, NTS Net Manager, expressing your interest to K6CRB@arrl.net.

Official Observer Program (OO) To apply to become an Official Observer, use this [OO link](#).

Special Service Clubs. To designate your Amateur Radio club for Special Service status, use this [SSC link](#).

Technical Specialist. To apply to become a Technical Specialist, use this [TS link](#).



NTS News and Nets

National Traffic System—Volunteers Needed

New Los Angeles Section National Traffic System Net

ARRL's Los Angeles Section is looking for operators interested in becoming **National Traffic System (NTS)** Net control stations. The Net begins in November, and there will be a training session starting shortly. The new **NTS** Net will be a Section-wide VHF/UHF phone Net for the purpose of exchanging radiogram traffic. As an **NTS** operator, you will learn efficient Net operations and proper traffic handling techniques. This is an opportunity to increase your **HAM** radio skills. No prior experience is required, and you do not have to be an **ARES** member. However, many of the **ARES-LAX**'s current and previous Net control stations would make excellent **NTS** operators.

For **CW** operators, **Southern California Net (SCN)** serves the purpose of a local **NTS CW** Net. **SCN** is a training Net and meets weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 P.M. PDST, on 3.575 MHz.

In the future, the **LAX**'s local **NTS** is anticipated to expand to HF phone, PACTOR and Winlink service.

ARES maintains a relationship with the **National Traffic System (NTS)**. **NTS** supports **ARES**' disaster missions by providing "beyond the disaster area" communications.

To volunteer to be an **NTS** Net control station and not miss this opportunity, please send me an e-mail expressing your interest to N6HD@arrl.org.

73,

David Greenhut N6HD, Section Manager, ARRL Los Angeles Section

National Traffic System - Schedule

Name	Time (Local)	Time (UTC)	Day	Mode	Frequency
<u>Local - National Traffic Nets - LAX Section</u>					
Los Angeles Net (LAN/V)	21:00 PST	5:00 UTC	T & Th	FM	445.28 MHz/100.0
Southern California Net (SCN)	19:00 PST	3:00 UTC	T & Th	CW	3.575 MHz
Southern California Net (SCN/V)	20:00 PST	4:00 UTC	M,W & F	FM	146.385 MHz/+146.2
<u>Regional - National Traffic Nets - LAX Section</u>					
Region Six (RN6/1)	19:45 PST	3:45 UTC	Daily	CW	3.575 MHz
Region Six (RN6/2)	21:30 PST	5:30 UTC	Daily	CW	3.575 MHz
National Traffic Syst. (NTSD)	24 Hour/7 Days			Pactor	
<u>Area - National Traffic Nets - LAX Section</u>					
PAN	20:30 PST	4:30 UTC	Daily	CW	3.552 MHz *
*or depending on propagation 7.052 MHz					
<u>Other - National Traffic Nets</u>					
Northern California Net (NCN/1)	19:00 PST	3:00 UTC	Daily	CW	3.533 MHz
Northern California Net (NCN/2)	21:00 PST	5:00 UTC	Daily	CW	3.533 MHz

ARES-LAX News and Nets**Northwest District**

ARES Northwest District holds monthly meetings the first Saturday of the month from 8:00 A.M.—10:00 A.M. at Valley Presbyterian Medical Center (Education Center) located at 15107 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91405.

ARES also conducts Weekly Nets on the **DARN** system:

Northwest District Weekly Net	Monday at 9:00 P.M.
Southwest District Weekly Net	Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.
Northeast District Weekly Net	Thursday 7:00 P.M.

DARN Repeater Network Frequencies:

Palos Verdes	446.740	PL 100.0
Mt. Disappointment	446.240	PL 100.0
Mt Wilson	446.940	PL 100.0
Verdugo Peak	445.280	PL 100.0
Mt. Disappointment	1283.25	PL 114.8
Mt Disappointment, Mt Wilson, and Verdugo	147.36+	PL 103.5
Echolink	Node 8722	(K6VGP-R)

Northeast District

The **ARES** Northeast District holds monthly meetings the fourth Saturday of the month from 9:00 A.M.—11:00 A.M. at Huntington Memorial Hospital (Wingate Building/East Conference Room), 100 W. California Boulevard, Pasadena, CA. Parking in the East lot is free for the meeting. Remember to bring a friend, or two, or three...

We had a very special guest speaker for the January meeting, **Marty Woll, N6VI**, Vice Director for **ARRL** Southwestern Division, giving an awesome talk on "Choosing the Right Coax." Our upcoming speakers are just as exciting. For February, we have **Curt Kaplan**, of the **National Weather Service** speaking on **Skywarn** and weather spotting—this is also an opportunity for you to become an official **ARES Skywarn Weather Spotter!** In March, we will have **Joy Matlack KD6FJV**, bringing us information on the **Baker to Vegas (B2V) Challenge Cup Relay** and how we can participate.

Remember, meetings are on the second Saturday of the month. Bring a friend or two, or even your whole radio club. Guests are always welcome at the meetings.

Russ Keating KI6WIR, DEC-Northeast District, ARES-LAX ki6wir@arrl.net.

The Northeast District conducts a Net every Thursday at 7:00 P.M. on the **DARN** repeater system. Dennis Oszuscik **KI6UNC** acts as Net control. **ARES** members and visitors are invited to check-in.

Southwest District

The **ARES** Southwest District holds monthly meetings the third Saturday of the month at from 9:00 A.M.—11:00 A.M. at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center in San Pedro, 1300 W. 7th Street, San Pedro, CA. The meetings are held in the DeMucci Education Center on the first floor, inside the hospital. Call (310) 832-3311 for additional information and directions.

Southeast District

The **Southeast District** conducts FCC license testing by the **Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach W6RO (ARALB)**, every third Saturday of the month at 9:00 A.M. at the California State University Long Beach Police Station. All license elements are offered for a fee of \$4.00 for each test.

Directions: Go to the South side of the campus, to Parking Lot 11, off of Palo Verde Avenue at Atherton Street, South of the 405 Freeway. Free parking on testing mornings is in Lot #9, at Palo Verde Avenue and Anaheim Road. Enter Lot 9 off Palo Verde Avenue, and it is a short walk to Lot #11. Free handicap parking is available in Lot #11.

Talk-in from 0800 to 0900 hours is available using the 449.780/MHz **K6CHE** Repeater. PL tone is 131.8/Hz.

To pre-register, contact Louise Chapman N6ELK at (562) 429-1355.

High Desert

The **ARES** High Desert conducts Weekly Nets on Wednesday evening at 7:00 P.M. The Net is structured to be informative as well as a venue to experiment with equipment and/or location(s) where the ARES High Desert group could possibly be involved in service.

The Net begins on the Hauser repeater frequency of 146.730/MHz with a minus offset and PL tone of 100. (Those listening using a scanner need only be concerned with the frequency.). After initial check-ins and announcements or net business the frequency is changed to simplex of 147.555/MHz, where participants check in a second time, and give a report on the signal strength of the Net control station. In addition, Net control makes note of their signal strength and records this data each week. The Net then returns to the Hauser repeater to conclude.

ARES District Websites:

Northwest District: www.areslax.org

Northeast District: www.lax-arrl.org

High Desert: www.avarc.av.org

Long Beach Radio Club: www.aralb.org

Southeast: www.aralb.org/ares_races

FCC Licensing and Upgrades

ARES-LAX/Southeast District

The **Southeast District** conducts FCC license testing by the **Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach W6RO (ARALB)**, every third Saturday of the month at 9:00 A.M. at the California State University Long Beach Police Station. All license elements are offered for a fee of \$4.00 for each test.

Directions: Go to the South side of the campus, to Parking Lot 11, off of Palo Verde Avenue at Atherton Street, South of the 405 Freeway. Free parking on testing mornings is in Lot #9, at Palo Verde Avenue and Anaheim Road. Enter Lot 9 off Palo Verde Avenue, and it is a short walk to Lot #11. Free handicap parking is available in Lot #11.

Talk-in from 0800 to 0900 hours is available using the 449.780/MHz **K6CHE** Repeater. PL tone is 131.8/Hz.

To pre-register, contact Louise Chapman N6ELK at (562) 429-1355.

Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club (AVARC)

AVARC conducts monthly **ARRL** VE testing sessions. For February sessions, check out the **AVARC** website at www.avarc.av.org.

The new location for the examinations is the **First Christian Church of the Antelope Valley**, 1702 East Ave. J., Lancaster, CA (Across the street from the Eastside Wall Mart).

Please enter parking lot off the end of the cul-de-sac 17th Street East, enter the classroom annex, and look for the "FCC Exams" sign outside the correct classroom. Monday Nights: Please do not disturb the A.A. group or other groups that may be using the facilities.

Dates/times may be subject to change.

***** PLEASE CHECK THE AVARC WEBSITE (www.avarc.av.org) THE DAY OF THE TEST, OR CALL ADRIENNE SHERWOOD WA6YEO PRIOR TO DRIVING ANY DISTANCE TO TAKE AN EXAM *****

Prices are \$15.00 for the **ARRL**, and \$4.00 for the **GLAARG** session. Administrative submission, (no test), fee is \$2.00 for **GLAARG** sessions only.

K6YH Crescent Bay VE Club

K6YH Crescent Bay VE Club conducts licensing exams at the **W6TRW Amateur Radio Association SWAPMEET** from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. on the last Saturday of every month, for all Amateur elements.

Testing is conducted at One Space Park Drive, Redondo Beach, CA, in the Building S-Cafeteria at the Northrop Grumman campus. Enter the Cafeteria on the north side, proceed down the stairs and enter the building.

Bring a Photo ID, original and photocopy of Amateur license and/or CSCE, if any. Test fee is \$14.00 CASH ONLY.

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club (PVARC)

PVARC holds licensing classes at **Hesse Park**, 29301 Hawthorne Boulevard in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. Dates and times are below:

February 6, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M. (Tech Class)

February 6, 2010 from 2:15 P.M.—5:00 P.M. (General Class)

February 13, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M. FCC Exam (Tech & General)

Students of High School age and below who successfully complete the Technician Course and obtain a Technician Class Radio License will be reimbursed by the **PVARC** for the cost of their license fee and study materials.

For more information contact **Walt Ordway K1DFO** at (310) 541-4007 or walt.ordway@juno.com.

PAPA System

PAPA combines its license testing with breakfast! All test sessions are at 7:00 A.M., except where noted, and precede the 8:00 A.M. breakfast meetings. All elements are offered, except as noted.

This month's breakfast will be held on **Saturday, February 13, 2010** at Carrows Restaurant, 18355 Ventura Blvd, Tarzana, CA.

Pre-registration is required, due to limited space and the possibility of changes.

Visit the **PAPA** website www.papasys.net, for registration information and direction to the restaurant.

San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club (SFVARC)

The **SFVARC** will hold Technician classes at the Northridge Hospital Medical Center, Class Rooms 1 and 2—In the basement, West Side.

Classes start on **Thursday, February 11, 2010** from 7:30 P.M.—9:00 P.M. Classes will be held every Thursday thereafter for 7-10 class sessions.

The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual is the required text.

Classes are FREE, but a minimum of five students is required to hold the class.

For more information, contact **Bill Miller K6NEQ** at (818) 368-4438.

Licensing exams are held at the **Northridge Hospital**, on the first Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December. Registration starts at 8:00 A.M., and testing starts at 9:00 A.M.

There is a \$4.00 examination fee. You do not have to be a club member to take an examination. 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 **Bill Miller K6NEQ** at (818) 368-4438. In all other months, exams are conducted by the **Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club** (see below).

Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club (SCARC)

SCARC conducts licensing exams on the third Saturday of every odd month of the year (January, March, May, July, September, and November) at 8:00 A.M., at the **Santa Clarita City Hall** in the Council Chambers.

If you wish to take a test, please contact **Ron Klein K6VPV**, at rbklein@earthlink.net or at 661-259-0948, at least five days before the testing session. This is so that we can have the necessary forms and testing materials ready for you and so that you can be informed on what you need to bring with you.

Tri-County Amateur Radio Association K6AGF

TCARA offers testing for Technician through Extra Class, and it is held on the **last Saturday of every month** (except December) at 1:00 P.M. in the **Pilot's Lounge at Brackett Field Airport**. The location is the same place where **TCARA** has their Club meetings (see below). The fee is \$15.00.

Contact **Frank Westphal, K6FW** at (909) 628-8661 for reservations. Leave on the answering machine the class of the test you want to take, your name, address, and telephone number. Bring your current original license and a copy; any CSCEs with copies of same, and a picture ID.

United Radio Amateur Club (URAC)

URAC conducts licensing exams for both Amateur and Commercial licenses on the second and fourth Sunday

of the month, at 1:30 P.M. **Reservations are required.** Contact **Bill Carter W6AJ** at w6aj@arrl.net, **Doug Dowds W6HB** at w6hb@arrl.net or the Club email at k6aa@arrl.net. **W6AJ** is the VE in charge of exams.

See the website www.k6aa.org for more details.

Southern California Amateur Transmitting Society (SCATS)

On **February 27, 2010, SCATS** will hold a "Get Your Ham License in A Day!" course at the Community Presbyterian Church, 540 E Vine Avenue, in West Covina (use Walnut St. entrance; 2nd classroom).

Study Session will be 9:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.

Exam Session will be from 1:00 P.M.—2:00 P.M.

The cost is \$25.00 (Cash only). \$4.00 goes toward the FCC License Exam - \$21.00 is donated to **SCATS** and includes a one-year membership in **SCATS**.

Reservations are required. No walk-ins. Space is limited.

You must go to the **SCATS** website www.SCATS.org to sign up:

Click the "Contact Us" tab on our HOME PAGE;

Fill out your contact information, then scroll down to "Technician License – 1 Day Study Session" and submit your registration.

You will receive a confirmation email and program materials from a **SCATS** volunteer.



Affiliated Club News and Upcoming Events

220 MHZ Spectrum Management Association

The **220SMA** is a NOT FOR PROFIT Association of Amateur Radio operators dedicated to education about, and technical and operational management of, the Amateur Radio 220 MHz. Bands. The Association represents all modes of operation and develops Band Plans intended to facilitate the maximum practicable use of the spectrum. Membership in the Association is open to individual Amateur Radio Operators in an effort to allow for maximum representation from all interest segments, and minimize the influence of any one special

interest area. A Coordination Board operates within the Association to perform the formal coordination activities associated with the 219 MHz. Digital Linking and 222 MHz. Repeater Coordination activities.

General meetings are held quarterly, on the third Saturday of each month. See the website for location details.

Website: www.220sma.org.

Nets: See website for details.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: None listed.

Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club K6OX

The **Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club (AVARC)** is part of the High Desert District. AVARC holds monthly meetings on the last Thursday of the month at 7:30 P.M., at the **Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Lancaster City Hall**, 44933 N. Fern Avenue, Lancaster, CA.

AVARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2010.

Website: www.avarc.av.org.

Nets: **AVARC** conducts a weekly Net on Wednesdays at 8:00 P.M. on 146.73MHz (-) PL 100.0.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Arcadia Red Cross Amateur Radio Public Safety Corps KI6UJB

The **Arcadia Red Cross Amateur Radio Public Safety Corps (ARCARPSC)** is part of the Northeast District. They exist to support the community in emergency preparedness, and support the Amateur community with licensing classes and mentoring.

For more information, email scfm44o@aol.com.

Websites: None listed.

Nets: None listed.

Education: Email for details.

HAM Exams: Email for details.

Associated Radio Amateurs Of Long Beach W6RO

The **Associated Radio Amateurs Of Long Beach (ARALB)** is part of the Southeast District. **ARALB** meets the first Friday of every month at 7:00 P.M. At this time, their meeting location has been changed from one in the prior year. Be sure to visit their website: www.aralb.org for up-to-date details on meeting locations and times.

ARALB's next meeting will be held on Friday, February 5, 2010 at The Signal Hill Community Center. 1780 Hill Street, Signal Hill, CA. Their guest speaker will be **Joy Matlack KF6FGV**.

ARALB also manages the **W6RO Club Station** aboard the **Ocean Liner Queen Mary** in the Wireless room, located on the Sport Deck, Queensway Bay, Long Beach Harbor, Long Beach, California.

The Wireless Room features a Ten Position Radio Station. Volunteers operate **W6RO** during three 4 hour " shifts " daily and establish communication all around the world.

We try to be there from: 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M., and 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

ARALB hosts a weekly Club Breakfast at 8:00 A.M. every Wednesday at Spires Restaurant, 1935 E. Del Amo Boulevard in Long Beach, at the corner of Cherry Avenue and Del Amo Boulevard.

Website: www.aralb.org.

Nets: **ARALB** conducts a weekly Net on Fridays (except meeting nights) at 7:00 P.M. on 146.145 + PL 156.7.

ARALB conducts a weekly Slow CW Net on Fridays (except meeting nights) at 7:30 P.M. at 28.130 MHz.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Baldwin Hills Amateur Radio Club N6EW

The **Baldwin Hills Amateur Radio Club (BARC)** is part of the Southwest District. **BARC** meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. at Round Table Pizza, 4330 Redondo Beach Boulevard, Torrance CA.

BARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 3, 2010.

BARC members meet informally for dinner on Saturday evenings around 6:00 P.M. Currently, members are meeting at various locations throughout Los Angeles.

To attend the informal dinners, please contact **Ed Walker WA6MDJ** at (323) 295-4817.

BARC holds monthly Club dinners on the **second Saturday of every month** at **The Grinder** in Westchester or at alternate locations. Listen to the Tuesday night Nets for further information.

Southern California Monitoring Association (SCMA) meets the second Wednesday of every month for dinner at The Grinder in Westchester, CA.

BARC has a table at the TRW SwapMeet held on the last Saturday of every month. The Club tables are located in row J-12, J-14 & J-16.

Website: www.barc.us.

Nets: **BARC** hosts a Net on Tuesdays at 7:30 P.M. on the BARC 2 meter repeater (146.925- & 224.68-).

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: **BARC** holds amateur radio license testing every other meeting.

Crescenta Valley Radio Club WB6ZTY

The Crescenta Valley Amateur Radio Club (CVARC) is part of the Northeast District. **CVARC** meets the second Thursday of the month (excluding August) at 7:30 P.M. at **Verdugo Hills Hospital**, Council Room D 1812 Verdugo Boulevard, Glendale, CA.

CVARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, February 11, 2010.

CVARC holds a monthly breakfast the first Saturday of each month. This month's breakfast will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 7:30 A.M. at Conrad's Restaurant in La Canada.

Website: www.qsl.net/cvrc.

Nets: **CVARC** conducts a weekly 2-Meter repeater "Transponder Net" between club members and members of the Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society of Surrey, England at 9:15 A.M.

CVARC conducts a weekly Net on Sundays at 8:00 P.M. on 146.025, PL +136.5

CVARC conducts G.E.A.R.S. check-ins on Mondays (except DCS Holidays) at 7:00 P.M. on the K6CCC Repeater 445.380 PL Minus 100.

CVARC conducts P.E.R.C.S. Simplex check-ins on Thursdays at 8:00 P.M. on 144.465.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Downey Amateur Radio Club, Inc. W6TOI

The Downey Amateur Radio Club (DARC) is part of the Southeast District. **DARC** meets the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 P.M. at the **First Baptist Church of Downey**, Room 120, 8348 E Third Street (meeting location is on the 2nd street side of the church).

DARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, February 4, 2010.

Website: www.downeyarc.org.

Nets: **DARC** conducts a weekly 440-Net on Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. on the Club 440 repeater at 445.640 (-) PL 156.7 Hz for the repeater located in Altadena. Use a PL of 88.5 for our Palos Verde repeater.

DARC conducts a weekly 2-meter simplex Net on Thursdays at 7:30 P.M. on 145.595.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Hollywood Hills QRP Contest Club

For information on this Club, contact **Robert E. Griffin K6YRE** at k6yr@arrl.org.

Hughes Amateur Radio Club W6HA

The Hughes Amateur Radio Club (HARC) is part of the Southwest District. **HARC** meets the third Tuesday of every month at 12:00 P.M. at the Hacienda Hotel Coffee Shop, 525 N. Sepulveda Boulevard, El Segundo, CA. Guests are always welcome.

Contact **Barry Colston KG6NWJ** at bmcolston@raytheon.com for further details.

Independent Radio Club (the Mountain Repeater Association) WA6IRC

The Independent Radio Club (IRC) joined forces with the **Mountain Repeater Association K6VE** in 2006, bringing 440 MHz and 902 MHz repeaters to the existing wide area 220 MHz repeater system.

Now known as **The Independent Radio Club**, our repeater system provides access on three amateur bands, 222 MHz, 440 MHz and 902 MHz. Votter receivers and links between sites provide wide area coverage to Southern California, Arizona and Nevada. Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) and EchoLink

nodes further extend system coverage literally worldwide.

IRC and the **MRA** hold combined club meetings on the last Friday of the month (except November and December) at 7:00 P.M., at the **Lamplighter Restaurant**, 5043 Van Nuys Boulevard, Van Nuys, CA.

IRC's next monthly meeting will be held on Friday, February 26, 2010.

Websites: www.mrarradio.org and <http://www.ircradio.org>.

Nets: **IRC** conducts weekly Nets on Tuesdays at 6:00 P.M. and Thursdays at 8:00 P.M., and all are welcome! The frequencies are listed below:

Los Angeles (Contractor's Point)	445.3400 103.5 PL & 927.425 82.5 PL	1282.850 minus split PL 123.0.
Los Angeles & Las Vegas	224.4800 110.9 PL	
Blueridge	224.020 PL 110.9 & 446.860 82.5 PL	(Blue Ridge Link Code 747* for 446.860)
City Terrace	224.720 PL 110.9	927.9625 100.0 PL
D-STAR- Contractor's Point, WA6IRC	145.605, 447.040, 1282.650, 1299.700	
D-STAR- Blue Ridge, WB6IRC	145.585 & 446.880	
IRLP Contractor's Point	445.340 & 224.480 Node: 3030	
IRLP Pasadena (Simplex)	927.600 Node: 3040	
IRLP Palm Springs	224.480 Node: 3053	
EchoLink Las Vegas	224.480 Node: 187724	

Education: See website for details.

Website: www.ircradio.org.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Kennedy High School KF6KIJ

The **Kennedy High School Amateur Radio Club** is part of the Northwest District. This club is for John F. Kennedy High School Students and interested faculty.

Contact: **Robert C Hazard N6NBF** at (818) 271-2900 ext. 253 or at rhazard@lausd.net.

Ladies ARA of Orange County

For information on this Club, contact **Edna A. Toll KC6TXB** at apolyglot@mindspring.com.

Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Club (Club Council)

The **Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs (LAACARC)**, is composed of delegates from its more than 30 member clubs and a set of officers elected by and from the delegates. **LAACARC** holds meetings on the first Tuesday of every other month at 7:30 P.M. If the meeting date falls on a Holiday, it is moved up one week.

See the website for additional meeting information.

Website: www.qsl.net/laacarc.

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club K6PV

The **Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club (PVARC)** is part of the Southwest District. **PVARC** meets the third Wednesday of every month at 7:30 P.M., at the **Hesse Park Community Room**, 29301 Hawthorne Boulevard, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA.

PVARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2010.

See the **PVARC** website for more details.

Website: www.palosverdes.com/pvarc.

Nets: **PVARC** conducts a weekly Net on Tuesdays at 7:30 P.M. on the K6PV repeater 447.120 (-) PL 100.0.

Education: Licensing classes are held at **Hesse Park**, 29301 Hawthorne Boulevard in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. Dates and times are below:

February 6, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M. (Tech Class)

February 6, 2010 from 2:15 P.M.—5:00 P.M. (General Class)

February 13, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M. FCC Exam (Tech & General)

Students of High School age and below who successfully complete the Technician Course and obtain a Technician Class Radio License will be reimbursed by the **PVARC** for the cost of their license fee and study materials.

For more information contact Walt Ordway K1DFO at (310) 541-4007 or walt.ordway@juno.com.

HAM Exams: **PVARC** will conduct a VE examination session on February 13, 2010 from 10:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M. FCC Exam (Tech & General).

Pasadena Radio Club W6KA

The **Pasadena Radio Club (PRC)** is part of the Northeast District. The **PRC** meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month, except in December, at 7:00 P.M. at Kaiser Permanente, Walnut Center, 393 E. Walnut Street.

PRC's next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2010. **Michael Scofield N6OKG** will talk about "Life Without Full Duplex." This talk focuses upon the semantics of emergency communication rather than the technology. The message is more important than the medium.

Michael Scofield N6OKG is a former Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Orange County Hospital Disaster Communication (**ARES**). He is active in the City of Loma Linda **RACES**. He is an Assistant Professor of Health Information Management at Loma Linda University. He has lectured in his primary discipline of information management to audiences all over the U.S., in the U.K. and Australia. He has spoken to over 20 amateur radio audiences on this topic as well as frequency re-use and propagation.

Website: www.qsl.net/w6ka

Nets: The **PRC** conducts a weekly Net on Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. Except on the fourth Tuesday of January through November (Club meeting night)

The 2-meter Net is conducted on the Telephone Company repeater. We use the following repeaters with the kind permission of their respective owners:

Telephone Company ARC	W6MPH	145.180 (-)	PL 156.7
JPL ARC	WR6JPL	147.150 (+)	PL 103.5
JPL ARC	WR6JPL	224.080 (-)	PL 156.7
JPL ARC	WR6JPL	445.20 (-)	PL 103.5
Mountain Repeater Assn.	K6VE	224.480 (-)	PL 110.9
Club Packet mailbox	W6KA-10	145.630	Node=MIRDOR
w/crosslink to 2M	W6KA-10	223.600	

Education: Classes are offered once yearly. For dates and times, contact **Mark Seigel W6MES** at (818) 951-6369 or email him at ad6kp@arrl.net.

HAM Exams: Examination sessions are held at the end of each class sequence, and at other times during the year as needed.

Radio Baker Vegas Club (Regional/National) W7RBV

The **Radio Baker Vegas Club** is part of the Southeast District, and provides all of the official coordination for the annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay. This is a communications site, and the annual meeting is the actual Relay race.

We are gearing up for the **Baker to Vegas Relay on April 17-18, 2010**. See the website for more details or to sign up!

Website: www.b2v.org.

Rio Hondo Amateur Radio Club W6GNS

Rio Hondo Amateur Radio Club (RHARC) is part of the Southeast District. RHARC meets the second Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at the **Community Center at Parnell Park**, 15390 Lambert Road, Whittier, CA.

RHARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, February 8, 2010.

Website: www.rharc.org.

Nets: **RHARC** conducts a weekly 2-meter Net on Wednesdays at 8:00 P.M. on 146.175 MHz (+) PL 156.7 Hz or on 440 repeater at 445.560 MHz (-) PL 100 Hz.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

The San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club W6SD

The **San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club (SFVARC)** is part of the Northwest District. **SFVARC** meets the third Friday of every month (excluding December) at 7:30 P.M., at **Northridge Hospital**, 18300 Roscoe Boulevard, on the Fifth Floor Penthouse. However, the club may be assigned to other rooms from time to time. Signs are generally posted at the Penthouse elevator if there is such a change.

SFVARC's next monthly meeting will be on Friday, February 20, 2010.

SFVARC will host its monthly luncheon on Saturday, February 13, 2010 at 11:30 A.M. See their website for further details.

Website: <http://www.w6sd.net>

Nets: **SFVARC** conducts a weekly 2-meter simplex Net on Tuesdays at 8:00 P.M. on 145.570 MHz.

SFVARC conducts a weekly 10-meter Net on Wednesdays at 8:00 P.M. on 28.310 MHz +/- QRM in the Upper Side Band Mode.

SFVARC conducts a weekly 2-meter repeater Net on Thursdays at 8:00 P.M. on the Magic Mountain Repeater 147.735 - MHz or Duck Mountain, 147.24 - MHz, if Magic is unavailable.

Education: The **SFVARC** will hold Technician classes at the Northridge Hospital Medical Center, Class Rooms 1 and 2—In the basement, West Side.

Classes start on **Thursday, February 11, 2010** from 7:30 P.M.—9:00 P.M. Classes will be held every Thursday thereafter for 7-10 class sessions.

The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual is the required text.

Classes are FREE, but a minimum of five students is required to hold the class.

For more information, contact **Bill Miller K6NEQ** at (818) 368-4438.

HAM Exams: Are held at the Northridge Hospital, on the first Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December. Registration starts at 8:00 A.M., and testing starts at 9:00 A.M.

There is a \$4.00 examination fee. You do not have to be a club member to take an examination. 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 **Bill Miller K6NEQ** at (818) 368-4438. In all other months, exams are conducted by the **Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club** (see below).

Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club W6JW

The **Santa Clarita Amateur Radio Club (SCARC)** is part of the High Desert District. **SCARC** holds its meetings every third Wednesday of the month at the **Santa Clarita City Hall Senior Center**, 22900 Market Street, Santa Clarita, CA.

SCARC's next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, February 17, 2010 at 7:30 P.M.

Website: www.w6jw.org.

Nets: The **Santa Clarita Emergency Communications Team** conducts a weekly Net on Mondays at 7:30 P.M.

SCARC conducts a weekly Net on Mondays at 8:00 P.M. Designated repeaters are listed below:

146.790	- 600 KHz	123.0	W6JW	Mad Mountain	Linked
51.860	- 500 KHz	82.5	N6KNW	Mad Mountain	Linked
445.300	- 5 MHz	100.0	KC6WGR	Mad Mountain	Linked
146.970	- 600 KHz	123.0	W6JW	Castaic Lake Water District	Alternate Club Repeater HQ

HAM Exams: **SCARC** conducts licensing exams on the third Saturday of every odd month of the year (January, March, May, July, September, and November) at 8:00 A.M., at the **Santa Clarita City Hall** in the Council Chambers.

If you wish to take a test, please contact **Ron Klein K6VPV**, at rbklein@earthlink.net or at 661-259-0948, at least five days before the testing session. This is so that we can have the necessary forms and testing materials ready for you and so that you can be informed on what you need to bring with you.

Southern California Contest Club

See the website for details: <http://sccc.contesting.com>.

South Bay Amateur Radio Club W6SBA

The **South Bay Amateur Radio Club (SBARC)** is part of the Southwest District. **SBARC** meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 P.M. at the **Torrance Memorial Medical Center (TMMC)**, 3330 Lomita Boulevard, Torrance, CA.

SBARC's next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, February 18, 2010.

SBARC will host its second Saturday Social Event on February 13, 2010, at 12:00 P.M. at **Billy's Deli**, 5160 W. 190th Street, Torrance CA.

Website: www.w6sba.org.

Nets: **SBARC** conducts a weekly Net on Thursdays at 7:30 P.M. (except club meetings nights) on 224.38 MHz -PL - 192.8 Hz Offset -1.6 MHz.

The **Palos Verdes Unified School District** conducts an Emergency Net the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 A.M. 224.38 MHz -PL - 192.8 Hz Offset -1.6 MHz.

HAM Exams: See website for details.

Southern California Amateur Transmitting Society WB6LRU

Southern California Amateur Transmitting Society (SCATS) is part of the Southeast District. **SCATS** meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at the **VFW Post 8620**, 2328 W Merced Avenue, West Covina, CA.

SCATS next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, February 17, 2010, where **Joe Vega NE6V** will present "The Wonders of Digital Communication I."

SCATS will host its monthly Ham 'N Eggz Breakfast on, Saturday, February 27, 2010 at 10:00 A.M. at Hometown Buffet, 1318 N. Azusa Avenue, Covina, CA 91723.

Website: www.SCATS.org.

Nets: **SCATS** conducts a weekly Net on Sundays at 7:00 P.M. on 147.765 minus PL Tone: 131.8.

Education: On **February 27, 2010**, **SCATS** will hold a "Get Your Ham License in A Day!" course at the Community Presbyterian Church, 540 E Vine Avenue, in West Covina (use Walnut St. entrance; 2nd classroom).

Study Session will be 9:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.

Exam Session will be from 1:00 P.M.—2:00 P.M.

The cost is \$25.00 (Cash only). \$4.00 goes toward the FCC License Exam - \$21.00 is donated to **SCATS** and includes a one-year membership in **SCATS**.

Reservations are required. No walk-ins. Space is limited.

You must go to the **SCATS** website www.SCATS.org to sign up:

Click the "Contact Us" tab on our HOME PAGE;

Fill out your contact information, then scroll down to "Technician License – 1 Day Study Session" and submit your registration.

You will receive a confirmation email and program materials from a **SCATS** volunteer.

HAM Exams: See the website for details.

SS Lane Victory Amateur Radio Club W6LV

See website for details: www.lanevictory.org.

Tri-County Amateur Radio Association K6AGF

The **Tri-County Amateur Radio Association (TCARA)** is part of the **Northeast District**. **TCARA** meets the second Wednesday of every month at Brackett Field Airport in the Administration building-Pilots Lounge, 1615 McKinley Avenue, La Verne, CA.

TCARA's next meeting is on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. President **Bob Mueller K6ASK** presents "HF is FUN!" Bob is an Extra Class amateur radio operator and has held an amateur radio license for over 55 years. He very much enjoys talking about many aspects of ham radio and in particular, DXing on the HF (high frequency) amateur bands.

He has earned the coveted DXCC award (304 mixed) offered by the ARRL (American Radio Relay League and several other amateur radio operating awards.

He has also worked as an Adult Scout Leader and Trainer for many years with the Boy Scouts of America.

Website: www.tcara.org.

Nets: **TCARA** conducts a weekly 2-meter Net on Sundays at 7:00 P.M. on 145.440 MHz FM, PL 136.5 Hz.

Education: See website for details.

HAM Exams: Testing for Technician through Extra Class is held on the last Saturday of every month (except December) at 1:00 P.M. in the Pilot's Lounge at Brackett Field Airport. The location is the same place where **TCARA** has their Club meetings.

The fee is \$15.00.

Contact **Frank Westphal K6FW** at (909) 628-8661 for reservations. Leave on the answering machine the class of the test you want to take, your name, address, and telephone number. Bring your current original license and a copy; any CSCEs with copies of same, and a picture ID.

Valley Good Guys K6VGG

The **Valley Good Guys (K6VGG)** is part of the Northwest District. **K6VGG** holds its monthly meetings on the second Friday of every Month from 6:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M., at the **Round Table Pizza** on Saticoy and Louise in the San Fernando Valley.

K6VGG's next monthly meeting will be held on Friday, February 12 2010 at 6:00 P.M.

Website: www.geocities.com/vggarc.

United Radio Amateur Club K6AA

The **United Radio Amateur Club (URAC)** is part of the Southeast District. The **URAC** meets the third Friday of every month (excluding August and December) at 7:00 P.M. at the **Los Angeles Maritime Museum**, 600 Sampson Way, San Pedro, CA.

URAC's next monthly meeting will be held on February 20, 2010 at 7:00 P.M.

URAC holds a No-host Breakfast on the first Saturday of every month at 8:00 A.M. at the **Think Café**, 302 W. 5th Street, San Pedro, CA. The next Club breakfast will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2010.

Website: www.k6aa.org.

Nets: **URAC** conducts a weekly Net on Thursdays at 8:00 P.M. on 145.380; -600; PL 100. If the repeater is unavailable, our Net will automatically be convened on 145.52 MHz simplex.

Education: See link under **Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club**.

HAM Exams: **URAC** conducts licensing exams for both Amateur and Commercial licenses on the second and fourth Sunday of the month, at 1:30 P.M. **Reservations are required.** Contact **Bill Carter W6AJ** at w6aj@arrl.net, **Doug Dowds W6HB** at w6hb@arrl.net or the Club email at k6aa@arrl.net. **W6AJ** is the VE in charge of exams.

Other Upcoming Events

Visit the **ARRL-LAX** Section website www.arrlax.org for up-to-the minute events for the month of February.

The **ARRL Los Angeles Section-Wide Newsletter** is published monthly by **ARRL Los Angeles Section**. The deadline for submission of articles, events and district information is the 20th of the month prior to publication in the following month's newsletter. Deadline for submissions for the **March 2010** issue will be February 20.

Please submit any questions, comments or submissions to the Los Angeles Section Manager or to the Newsletter Editor, Jennifer O'Connell at ki6oil@gmail.com.

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