



The President's Message

Manuel AE6SG

I would like to thank all for your support, we had a great turnout last month its nice to see all of your faces. I must apologize for not getting to everyone it seems that my time is flying by me so forgive for that.

I would like to thank all those who have helped out in the Field Day event and hope to see lot of you participating in other club events.

We had some great suggestions for the coming year and along with that comes help from you to make it happen. A club picnic was proposed for some time in October, having an Elmer night was also suggested.

I am still trying to get the club to be 100 % ARRL member qualified, help me make that happen.

We had a sad event happen, we lost one of our members,(SK) KK6DOY, Bill Davis. He passed away June 25, 2014. He will be missed. God Bless.

We have no planned event for July, if you have something of interest please email Andy or myself.

Thank you all and 73's
Manuel - AE6SG
MARC President.

2014 CLUB OFFICERS

- **President** - Manuel Borges AE6SG
- **Vice President** - Ron Davis K7RBD
- **Secretary** - Andy Frees AI6AF
- **Treasurer** - Glenn Miller N6GIW
- **Public Information Officer** - Jake Hall W6JOD
- **Field Day Coordinator** - Chris Nichols WB6CDF

The Treasurer's Report

Glenn N6GIW

\$219.00 paid for repair to the repeater site due to an attempted break-in
\$250.00 paid advance to Chris for Field Day food.
\$81.00 paid annual insurance premium for the repeater site

Our checking account has about \$900.00.

License Test Session Results

Here is a report from our Field Day event.

Test session: 13 people tested. 9 passed.

New hams who passed the Tech class:

Bridget Smith, Robert Altendorf, Josiah Jackson, Nick Kursinskis and Judy Cloutier. (may have callsigns by end of week)

Upgrades:

Beau Sands KI6OWB from Tech to General.
Erick Baalrud KK6AVQ from Tech to General.
Nick Powell KK6MWV from Tech to General.
Jackie Balch KD6QBZ from General to Extra Class. Congratulations Jackie on being the only lady in the club with an Extra Class license!

73

Glenn N6GIW
MARC Treasurer/Volunteer Examiner Coordinator

July ARES Meeting Change

Due to unforeseen circumstances
(nobody had a key to the meeting hall),
the July A.R.E.S. meeting will be on

July 10, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

The location has not changed but hopefully,
the doors will be open this time.

William Andrew (Doy) Davis KK6DOY (SK)

It is with sadness that I have to note that one of our club members has become a Silent Key

Bill became a member shortly after getting his ticket and made a major contribution to the success of our 2013 Field Day. We're all going to miss him, and our prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

William Andrew (Doy) Davis KK6DOY (SK)

Bill Davis, beloved husband of Lynn, father to Andi, Cheryl, Bill, Ron and Charlsie; grandfather of 11 and great grandfather of three. He was brother to Bruce and Bessie, and preceded in death by his parents, Cecil & Bernita Davis (Yucca Valley Homesteaders), and 3 brothers. He was 80 years old.

He worked as a banker but his passion was his ministry, as a Chaplain for the Hi Desert Medical Center, a Deacon in the Lutheran church and Lay Minister in Bethany Lutheran Church in Hawthorne, NV. He enjoyed driving the Marines around the base in 29 Palms.

Bill received his ham ticket in March of 2013 after attending one of Gordo's last classes in Orange County. Services will be held on 12 July 2014 at Faith Lutheran Church, 6336 Hallee Road, Joshua Tree, CA.



General Meeting Minutes

19 June 2014

22 people were in attendance

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm. Manuel AE6SG opened the meeting by introducing the club officers who were present.

Announcements-

Glenn N6GIW gave a Treasurer's report. After all expenses for the month were paid, we have about \$900.00 in the checking account

Manuel AE6SG said that he has set a club goal of 100% ARRL membership. A show of hands indicated that we are almost 50% already. ARRL applications were passed out.

John AG6QM, demonstrated the J pole antenna that he built. He modified Matti WA6YKU's design from last month by constructing the main element in sections to allow for easier transport. He did a great job of explaining his design and answering any questions that came up.

Details about Field Day were discussed and a schedule of events was passed out to all members. Information about the license testing session was presented by Glenn N6GIW and Manuel AE6SG.

Jake W6JOD gave a report about the results of the Media releases and official invitations for Field Day

Manuel AE6SG asked for volunteers to give talks at future meetings and announced some upcoming events during the last half of 2014

Larry WA6FSJ reported about the planned T hunt at the Field Day site on Saturday and an off-site T hunt on Sunday.

Beau KI6OWB told everybody the details about the planned NWS weather spotter class on June 23, 2014.

Closing -

The meeting adjourned at 7:52pm

Andy AI6AF
MARC Secretary

OUR NEXT MEETING

WHEN:

Thursday, July 17, 2014 7:00pm

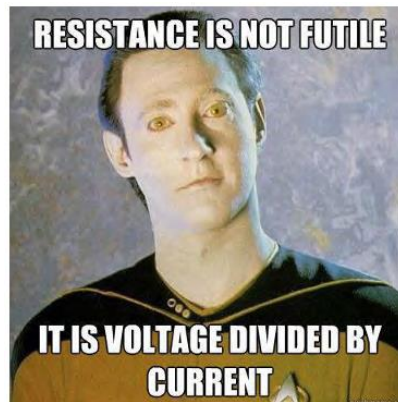
WHERE:

St. Christopher of the Desert Catholic Church
61261 Sunburst Dr. Joshua Tree, CA

HOW TO GET THERE:

Traveling EAST or WEST on Hwy. 62, turn SOUTH on Sunnyhill Road in Joshua Tree.

Go ½ mile SOUTH and turn EAST (left) on Sunburst Drive. The Church is located at the end of the block.



The Glass is Half Full:

The optimist says that the glass is half full,
The pessimist says that it is half empty,
The engineer says that the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

FCC Seeks to Raise Vanity Call Sign Fee to \$21.60

The FCC is requesting to raise the Amateur Service vanity call sign regulatory fee from its current \$16.10 to \$21.60 for the 10-year license term. The \$5.50 increase would be the largest vanity fee hike in many years. The proposal is contained in a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* ([NPRM](#)), "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2014; Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2013; and Procedures for Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees," which appeared in *The Federal Register* on July 3.

The FCC reported there were 11,500 "payment units" in FY 2014. The Commission said the vanity program generated \$230,000 in FY 2013 revenue, and it estimated that it would collect nearly \$248,000 in FY 2014.

Interested parties have 30 days to comment on the *NPRM*. Changes in the vanity call sign fee typically take effect in late August or early September.

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How to Lower a Tower

There aren't any final statistics about our Field Day to report yet. (Look for them in the next newsletter.) So, I hope you enjoy the following article about how Murphy's Law can impact the fine art of Ham Radio, it's one of my favorites. I'm glad that this guy wasn't around to help us take down our Field Day antennas.

***Credits:** This article was printed in the April 2012 edition of "SCCARA-GRAM" the newsletter for the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association and written by Goetz K. Brandt K6GKB. My thanks for their gracious permission to reprint it.*

How to lower a tower

A phone call from Clark (KE6KXO) informed me (K6GKB) that his three element beam had been savaged by the high winds associated with the recent storm. He wanted to know if there was a name for antenna polarization that was half way between horizontal and vertical. Well, you get the picture. Things had slipped and by the time I got there, things looked even worse. One of the boom clamp's u-bolts was shattered completely and the second one was about to go. Just a god awful sight, the Mosley TA34 beam about to fledge the nest! So we carefully collapsed the tubular tower sections and rotated the fragile beam to what looked like a good landing angle. All the time we were hiding beneath the eave of his house, a poor substitute for the safety helmets we were supposed to be wearing.

I digress when I explain that the last time I helped Clark with this tilt over tower, I got up to speed in a real hurry. There is an old saying that God gives the exam first and the lesson afterwards. Clark's entire tubular tower rotates and is attached to the bottom mounted rotor with some very serious hardware. The zero backlash axel, bearing and slip joint are all heavy gauge mil spec. What escaped my attention was the slip joint which allow the rotor to be detached from the tower allowing the tower freedom to tilt over. Talk about the immovable object and the irresistible force. With every degree of tower deflection from the vertical, the irresistible force gained strength. The immovable object, namely the connections to the rotor, began to strain under the load. Finally the tower saddle with its axel distorted like a pretzel and became the hinge necessary to bring the tower to the ground. Just amazing how Clark was able to control himself. My guess is he no longer believes I graduated with an engineering degree.

Back to now and the lowering of our current errant beam. The tower sits next to a concrete based gin pole. The gin pole has a boat trailer winch of its own and its cable has a u-bolt with a clevis pin which simply needs to be attached to the tilt over tower.

Looking back, neither Clark nor I can recall the reasoning behind our choice of a mild steel hook as the attach point instead of the welded thimble on the mast. This hook had something to do holding a flower pot, who knows. So, hiding beneath the eave of the porch we began to lower the tower. I can't really say which came first, the thud we felt in our feet or the sound of everything hitting the ground. One thing we could agree on, it didn't take many turns of the winch to get the job done. Clark's scar tissue from our previous collaboration seems to have tempered his expectations. He simply turned to me and said "It's down." I kept my distance when he inspected what used to be a hook but was now almost straight.

I'm writing this from the safety of my home. Can't say if I will ever hear from Clark again? The beam now has a lot of non-matching curved elements. The boom is broken in the middle. Whether electrons will ever wander through this wreckage again is hard to say.

As for myself, I can now confidently assert that I have worked out all the kinks associated with raising and lowering antenna towers and stand ready to assist anyone in need.

Goetz, K6GKB

CLUB REPEATERS

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club has 2 vhf repeaters:

- **Yucca Valley ***
W6BA 146.790 MHz
(- shift, 136.5 PL)
- **Twentynine Palms ***
W6IF 147.060 MHz
(+ shift, 136.5 PL)

* Linked Repeaters

These are open repeaters. You do not have to be a club member to use them.

A club net is held each Tuesday at 7PM on the W6BA repeater.

You do not have to be a club member to be a net member.

The local EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE (ECS) group conducts a net at **6:45 p.m.**, each **Monday** on the W6BA repeater.

The local ARES group also conducts their weekly net each **Monday** at **7:15 pm** on the W6BA repeater

MARC Membership Application

Please use this form.

Your membership is effective immediately and expires one year from the date you join.

Make your check payable to MARC and mail it to:

MARC
PO BOX 1995
YUCCA VALLEY, CA 92286.

Date _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Call Sign _____ License Class _____

Single \$15 _____

Family \$20 _____ Additional Name/s _____

1/10/2010

July 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		Club Net 7:00 pm			Independence Day	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	ECS Net 6:45pm ARES Net 7:15pm	Club Net 7:00 pm		ARES Meeting 7pm Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Yucca Valley		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	ECS Net 6:45pm ARES Net 7:15pm	Club Net 7:00 pm		Club Meeting 7:00 pm St. Christopher's Catholic Church Joshua Tree		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	ECS Net 6:45pm ARES Net 7:15pm	Club Net 7:00 pm				
27	28	29	30	31		
	ECS Net 6:45pm ARES Net 7:15pm	Club Net 7:00 pm				