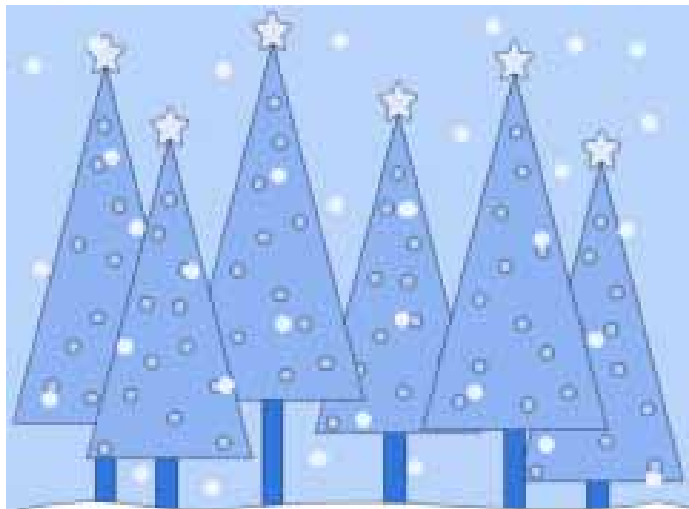


# *The Heterodyne*

*Newsletter of the West Valley Amateur Radio Association*



## **Holiday Party - Pot Luck**

**Wednesday December 14**

**Setup Begins at 6:00pm**

**Dinner at 7:00pm**

At Our Regular Meeting Location:

American Red Cross

Silicon Valley Chapter

2731 N. First Street at Plumeria Dr  
(southwest corner) in San Jose

Map at [www.wvara.org/meetings.html](http://www.wvara.org/meetings.html)

## **WVARA Repeaters (W6PIY)**

| Band        | Frequency   | PL       |
|-------------|-------------|----------|
| 6 Meters    | 52.580- MHz | 151.4 Hz |
| 2 Meters    | 147.39+ MHz | 151.4 Hz |
| 1.25 Meters | 223.96- MHz | 156.7 Hz |
| 0.70 Meter  | 441.35+ MHz | 88.5 Hz  |
| 0.23 Meter  | 1286.2- MHz | 100 Hz   |

## **Club Net**

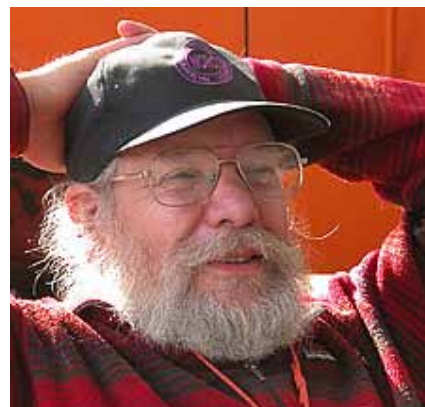
WVARA's club net is on the W6PIY repeaters each Tuesday at 8:30 pm. All repeaters are linked together during the net. The net script can be found at [www.wvara.org/net.html](http://www.wvara.org/net.html).

## **President's Letter**

### ***Thanks to our volunteers!***

This club depends on the efforts of many people. Dave, Kevin, Chuck, Svend, and probably a few others keep our repeaters running. Kevin runs our Tuesday evening net.

The Red Cross provides us with a meeting space, and George acts as our liaison with them. Kevin brings sodas to our meetings and Anita's wonderful chocolate chip cookies regularly appear, even when Phil can't bring them himself.



Jim leads our field day team, but there are many other volunteers to thank for this effort. We have experts who set up antennas. Our band captains and GOTA staff all deserve mention. Without our operators, some of whom are only seen at field day, there wouldn't be any contacts. And there are some wonderful volunteers who make food appear as if by magic. It is no accident that again this year we were number two in the nation, and set a new all-time record for the 12 Alpha Battery class.

Bobby lead our county expedition during the California QSO Party. This event is like a mini-field day, but is a longer journey from the bay area with fewer antennas and operators. It requires volunteers who make it happen and operators who can work at or below freezing.

Bobby has also lead several efforts in the VHF contests as we all learn about an entirely different type of operation.

The summer picnic had food, radios, antennas, and a contest to play in. My list of people who contributed includes: Jim, Kent, Kevin, Tom, Phil, Anita, and Bill Ashby. Volunteers made it happen.

Our officers and directors keep the nuts and bolts of the club working. We have a committee which helps identify speakers for our meetings, but Jim handled the details of contacting them and setting the schedule. Peri keeps the bills paid and the books in order, and Jon handles the secretary's duties. Thanks to Phil, this newsletter appears every month. Thanks to Larry, our web site stays up to date. All of these people make my job as president fun and easy.

I thank all the volunteers for helping make this a successful year for the club. We only succeed because individual members think of interesting things to do and make them happen. We are always interested in new ideas so please step forward and help us have fun.

73 Bill AE6JV

## **New Members**

*The following new members  
joined WVARA recently:*

**Jin Kim, AI6FN**

**Nate McCauley, KM6AZI**

**Trent Engler, N6CPR**

***Welcome!!!***

## **Future Events - FARS Annual Winter Banquet**

We have been invited to join the Foothill Amateur Radio Society (FARS) for their annual winter banquet on **Friday, January 20, 2017** at Michael's restaurant in Shoreline park. I had a lot of fun last year and intend to go again this year.

The speaker will be Dr. Robert Schmieder, KK6EK, who will talk about the VK0EK Heard Island DX-pedition. FARS Board approved \$1,500 of raffle prizes to be given away. The banquet is open to all hams and significant others.

The FARS web site has a banquet page at <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/banquet>. Signups can be either online, using Paypal/credit card, or by USPS mail.

73 Bill AE6JV

## WVARA Holiday Party



Our annual WVARA Holiday Party and Raffle is this Wednesday evening, December 14. Set-up will begin at 6:00pm, with dining at 7pm. This will be at our usual meeting place: the Red Cross Building on 2731 N. First Street in San Jose.

This is a pot-luck, so bring a main dish, side dish, salad, soft drinks, or dessert. (Feel free to post what menu-item you are bringing on the WVARA\_Chat Reflector.)

*Hope to see you there!*

*Jim Peterson, K6EI*

### **QRP in the ARRL 160 Contest by Jim Peterson, K6EI**

This year I participated in the ARRL 160 Contest running QRP (5 watts) with an Elecraft K3 from a cabin located at the end of a peninsula on Loon Lake (in EWA land north of Spokane.) Antennas included a 670ft Beverage 10ft up for receive (oriented for E/W reception) and a 160m dipole with its feedpoint up 60ft (on top of a 90ft hill surrounded by lake to the north, east, and south.)

The good news was that I could hear really, really well, which was a real pleasure. Band conditions this year were good, with a solar flux around 85, A index around 3 and K index of 1. Being out in the woods, there was no electrical noise at all. That was amazing. And the 160 dipole was every bit as good as the Beverage on receive 98% of the time. (The exception was for one weak JA signal that was stronger on the Beverage.)

The downside this year was that since I was running QRP, my transmit signal wasn't big — which meant that 90% of the folks that I could hear couldn't hear me. (When I operate from my home in Sunnyvale, the elevated noise floor covers up all the DX so I don't realize what I'm missing.) Even though the dipole at Loon Lake was physically high, on 160 meters it wasn't high enough to put out much power at low elevation angles. So working the East Coast this year was a challenge.

Next year I hope to either put up an inverted L with a good ground plane (similar to what I used in 2009, 2010, and 2011 in the hills at Morrison Canyon east of Fremont, CA) or else I'll "join the dark side" and start running 100w instead of 5w.

I got lucky regarding the weather. There was no snow on the ground while I was there, which meant installing the antennas on Thursday and taking them down on Sunday wasn't a problem.

Bottom line: I made 194 QSOs with 51 multipliers. Not bad for QRP on Top Band from the West Coast.



This was the view from my radio at Loon Lake, WA during the contest weekend

| <b>WVARA Net Check-Ins (W6PIY)</b> |             |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Tuesdays at 8:30 PM</b>         |             |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Call Sign</b>                   | <b>Name</b> | <b>11/08/16</b> | <b>11/15/16</b> | <b>11/22/16</b> | <b>11/29/16</b> | <b>12/06/16</b> |
| <b>Total</b>                       |             | <b>13</b>       | <b>17</b>       | <b>13</b>       | <b>14</b>       | <b>15</b>       |
| AB6XS                              | Kevin       |                 | X               |                 |                 |                 |
| AE6JV                              | Bill        | X               | X               |                 |                 | X               |
| AF6AE                              | Bill        | X               |                 | X               | X               |                 |
| AG6YO                              | Kevin       |                 |                 |                 | X               | X               |
| AI6FN                              | Jin         |                 | X               | X               | X               | X               |
| K6BIB                              | Bodan       |                 |                 | X               |                 |                 |
| K6BRF                              | Bert        | X               |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| K6KWW                              | Kent        | X               |                 |                 |                 | X               |
| K7RJV                              | Rex         |                 | X               |                 |                 | X               |
| KF6EMB                             | Svend       | X               | X               |                 | X               | X               |
| KI6SLX                             | Peri        | X               | X               |                 |                 | X               |
| KJ6ZZI                             | Michael     | X               | X               | X               | X               | X               |
| KK6VF                              | Kevin       | NET             | NET             | NET             | NET             | NET             |

|        |       |   |   |   |   |   |
|--------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|
| KK6WRP | James |   |   |   | X |   |
| KM6AMQ | Matt  | X | X | X | X | X |
| KM6FDD | Lloyd |   |   |   | X | X |
| KM6GVO | Eric  |   |   |   | X |   |
| KN6AZI | Nate  |   | X |   |   |   |
| KS6PD  | Steve |   |   | X |   |   |
| N6CPR  | Trent |   | X | X |   |   |
| N6GD   | Greg  |   | X | X |   |   |
| N9CU   | Andy  |   | X |   | X | X |
| NU6P   | John  | X | X | X | X |   |
| W6IA   | Mark  | X | X | X | X | X |
| W6PK   | Phil  |   |   | X |   |   |
| W9KKN  | Bill  | X | X | X |   | X |
| WB6KHP | Dave  | X | X |   | X | X |

### **Treasurer's Report - Oct & Nov 2016**

Here are Financial reports for the first 11 months of 2016. My apologies for the lack of financial reports in the November Heterodyne. As a consequence, the attached Activity Statement shows both October & November transactions. We have spent \$734 more this year than we taken in, primarily due to expenses involved with building a new tower trailer. I will include a more detailed analysis, and a budget comparison, in the year-end reports.

Recent financial activity has been very low key. October & November income consisted primarily of dues (for 2017). The major expense was the insurance policy.

Members are reminded that dues for 2017 are due by Jan. 1. You can use Paypal, or pay by cash or check at a meeting. See [www.wvara.org/membership.html](http://www.wvara.org/membership.html) for more information.

New members will be able to pick up their badges at the Holiday Party or the January meeting. If you want a replacement badge, or have other badge requests, please let me know.

At the January BOD Meeting we develop a 2017 budget. It is important that this budget be as complete as possible. At the 2016 budget meeting, the BOD agreed to rebuild the tower trailer, however for reasons that are unclear, this expense was not included in the budget. Nonetheless, a new Trailer was built, and is largely responsible for the current deficit. While we have sufficient resources to cover this deficit, we cannot engage in deficit spending indefinitely and need to start budgeting more accurately. If you are thinking about potential club activities that may require financial support, please let me know, so I can include them.

If you have questions about any of this, just let me know.

Peri Frantz, KI6SLX  
treasurer at wvara.org



|                               |  |  |                                      |           |          |           |         |         |          |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|---------|----------|
| WVARA                         |  |  |                                      |           |          |           |         |         |          |
| Statement of Activity         |  |  |                                      |           |          |           |         |         |          |
| January through November 2016 |  |  |                                      |           |          |           |         |         |          |
|                               |  |  |                                      | 1st Qtr   | 2nd QTR  | 3rd QTR   | Oct '16 | Nov '16 | Jan-Nov  |
| Income                        |  |  |                                      |           |          |           |         |         | Total    |
| 4100 — Program Income         |  |  |                                      |           |          |           |         |         |          |
| 4110 — Membership Dues        |  |  |                                      |           |          |           |         |         |          |
|                               |  |  | 4111 — Indiv. Assn. (\$15)           | 375.00    | 105.00   | 30.00     | 15.00   | 60.00   | 585.00   |
|                               |  |  | 4112 — Indiv. Repeater (12)          | 180.00    | 72.00    | 24.00     | 12.00   | 48.00   | 336.00   |
|                               |  |  | 4113 — Fam. Assn. (\$20)             | 140.00    | 20.00    | 0.00      | 40.00   | 0.00    | 200.00   |
|                               |  |  | 4114 — Fam. Repeater (\$18)          | 108.00    | 0.00     | 0.00      | 18.00   | 0.00    | 126.00   |
|                               |  |  | Total 4110 — Membership Dues         | 803.00    | 197.00   | 54.00     | 85.00   | 108.00  | 1,247.00 |
|                               |  |  | 4150 — Flea Market Reciepts          | 0.00      | 3,809.15 | 0.00      | 0.00    | 0.00    | 3,809.15 |
|                               |  |  | Total 4100 — Program Income          | 803.00    | 4,006.15 | 54.00     | 85.00   | 108.00  | 5,056.15 |
|                               |  |  | 4200 — Misc. Income                  | 0.12      | 0.12     | 0.12      | 0.04    | 0.04    | 0.44     |
|                               |  |  | 4800 — Donations                     | 210.00    | 3.00     | 0.00      | 0.00    | 0.00    | 213.00   |
|                               |  |  | Total Income                         | 1,013.12  | 4,009.27 | 54.12     | 85.04   | 108.04  | 5,269.59 |
| Expense                       |  |  |                                      | 0.00      | 0.00     | 0.00      |         |         | 0.00     |
|                               |  |  | 5300 — Flea Market Expenses          | 2,300.00  | 232.58   | 19.98     | 0.00    | 0.00    | 2,552.56 |
|                               |  |  | 5100 — Administrative Expenses       | 0.00      | 0.00     | 0.00      |         |         | 0.00     |
|                               |  |  | 5110 — Finance Fees Paid             | 18.18     | 7.02     | 2.16      | 3.36    | 4.32    | 35.04    |
|                               |  |  | 5120 — Insurance                     | 0.00      | 0.00     | 0.00      | 0.00    | 322.00  | 322.00   |
|                               |  |  | 5140 — Web Hosting Expense           | 59.40     | 0.00     | 0.00      | 0.00    | 0.00    | 59.40    |
|                               |  |  | 5150 — PO Box Rental                 | 0.00      | 0.00     | 70.00     | 0.00    | 0.00    | 70.00    |
|                               |  |  | 5160 — Officer Awards                | 0.00      | 29.33    | 0.00      | 0.00    | 0.00    | 29.33    |
|                               |  |  | Total 5100 — Administrative Expenses | 77.58     | 36.35    | 72.16     | 3.36    | 326.32  | 515.77   |
|                               |  |  | 5200 — Membership Expenses           | 0.00      | 0.00     | 0.00      |         |         | 0.00     |
|                               |  |  | 5210 — Badges                        | 16.00     | 0.00     | 0.00      | 0.00    | 72.00   | 88.00    |
|                               |  |  | 5240 — Summer Picnic                 | 0.00      | 85.00    | 0.00      | 0.00    | 0.00    | 85.00    |
|                               |  |  | Total 5200 — Membership Expenses     | 16.00     | 85.00    | 0.00      | 0.00    | 72.00   | 173.00   |
|                               |  |  | 5500 — Program Expenses              | 0.00      | 0.00     | 0.00      |         |         | 0.00     |
|                               |  |  | 5520 — Field Day Expenses            | 0.00      | 0.00     | 392.58    | 0.00    | 0.00    | 392.58   |
|                               |  |  | 5540 — Misc. Expenses                | 0.00      | 979.71   | 0.00      | 0.00    | 0.00    | 979.71   |
|                               |  |  | 6000 — Repeater Expenses             | 0.00      | 0.00     | 0.00      |         |         | 0.00     |
|                               |  |  | 6100 — Repeater Maintenance          | 0.00      | 243.21   | 0.00      | 0.00    | 0.00    | 243.21   |
|                               |  |  | 6999 — Repeater Misc.                | 0.00      | 0.00     | 1,150.00  | 0.00    | 0.00    | 1,150.00 |
|                               |  |  | Total 6000 — Repeater Expenses       | 0.00      | 243.21   | 1,150.00  | 0.00    | 0.00    | 1,393.21 |
|                               |  |  | Total 5500 — Program Expenses        | 0.00      | 1,222.92 | 1,542.58  | 0.00    | 0.00    | 2,765.50 |
|                               |  |  | Total Expense                        | 2,393.58  | 1,576.85 | 1,634.72  | 3.36    | 398.32  | 6,006.83 |
| Net Income                    |  |  |                                      | -1,380.46 | 2,432.42 | -1,580.60 | 81.68   | -290.28 | -737.24  |

