

The Heterodyne

Newsletter of the West Valley Amateur Radio Association

November Meeting

**The Mighty Transistor - What's
So Great About Transistors?
By Kristen McIntyre, K6WX**

**Wednesday November 11
Meeting Starts at 7pm**

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

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.

Visitors Are Welcome!

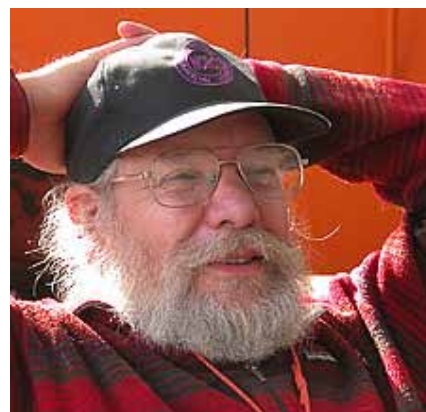
President's Letter

Some More Ways We Might Have Fun

We have been very successful with having fun with our club portable operations. Field Day has been a big success for many years, and the more recent forays into the California QSO Party and the VHF contest have been successful as well. To help us with our current portable operations, we are upgrading our tower trailer to replace the worn tower and make the trailer easier to store. Are there any other ways we can have fun?

One way to have fun is to do more of the same. In the contesting area, we can enter more contests. We can enter club competition, available in some contests, where each member operates separately, but their contacts add to the club's score. Anyone who wants to help organize these operations will be welcomed.

Another thing we might do is upgrade our repeaters. They currently work on 5 bands; 6 meters, 2 meters, 1.25 meters, 70 centimeters, and 23 centimeters. We could set up one or



more of these repeaters to use IRLP (Internet Relay Link Protocol) or Echolink. These facilities let a repeater user link two repeaters through the Internet. Input to any of the repeaters is repeated on both of them. I have heard people using the WA6BAI repeater in Kings Canyon National Park, which supports IRLP, talking with stations in Germany.

Adding either of these won't be simple. To upgrade our repeaters, we will need to upgrade our repeater controller, as it is currently out of hardware slots, and either option needs another slot. Another possibility is to set up a second repeater with IRLP or Echolink capability. If this facility interests you, let us know. We would love it if you wanted to take charge and make it happen.

We have had a fine group of speakers at our meetings. Should we look for speakers in other areas? If so, which areas? And do you know of any people who might like to speak? If so, please let Jim know.

We have supported the club financially with the Electronics Flea Market for many years. This year it provided about 2.5 times more money than the regular dues did. We do need more people to help with it. In 2016, our slot should be on June 11. Please try to help with this major fund raiser. You get to meet a lot of people, and it is fun.

Like life, 90% of having fun is just showing up.

73 Bill AE6JV

About the Meeting

The Mighty Transistor - What's so great about transistors?

By Kristen McIntyre, K6WX

There's a lot to learn about transistors, and now is your chance to pull it all together. Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, will be our guide as we explore some of the many cool details of the modern transistor at our next WVARA meeting.

Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, has been interested in radio since she was 5 years old. She started in Amateur Radio in 1979 getting her ticket while at MIT. She has worked in many diverse areas from analog circuit design to image processing to starting and running an ISP. She is currently working at Apple in Core OS and spent many years at Sun Microsystems Laboratories, where she was researching robustness and emergent properties of large distributed computer systems. She is a long time denizen of Silicon Valley and has worked at or consulted for many of the usual suspects. Kristen is an active ham and loves to chase DX on HF with her Elecraft K2, which she built while visiting her mother in Florida. She is an ARRL Technical Coordinator for the East Bay Section, president of the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association (PAARA), and is active in many local clubs.

Meeting Location: Silicon Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross, 2731 N. First Street at Plumeria Drive (southwest corner) in San Jose. Visitors are welcome!

If you haven't been to the Red Cross, "talk-in" is usually available on the Association's repeaters. Best choice would be 2m/220.

And for those who are hungry, several of us will be eating dinner at 6pm, just prior to the meeting, at The Habit Burger at 2000 El Camino Real at the corner of Scott Blvd in Santa Clara — a ten minute drive from the Red Cross building.

Map of restaurant: <https://goo.gl/maps/NipZ7c1jhUL2>

Menu: <https://www.habitburger.com/charburger/?MenuVersion=D®ion=bay-area®ionDisplay=Bay Area>

Club Web Page: www.wvara.org

Hope to see you there!

Jim Peterson, K6EI

WVARA's Field Day Soapbox

By Jim Peterson, K6EI

For anyone who's curious, photos and all the details of our Field Day operation are posted at:

<http://www.arrl.org/soapbox/view/9234>

From Jack Brindle, W6FB: And once again we are in the top tier! Take a look:

http://www.arrl.org/results-database?fd_category=&fd_power=&fd_sect=&ss_call=&sort0=&sort1=&sort2=&event_id=68929

#2 overall, second only to W3AO at 18A. Pretty cool! Way to go folks!

From Bill Frantz, AE6JV: Yippie! It looks like Bay Area clubs did fairly well. W3AO had 31452 points. We had 21400. Stanford was 7th with 17336. And Palo Alto was 11th with 15186.

Congratulations to all. 73

Bob Stone, N6RDG, SK

Some of you old timers remember Bob Stone, N6RDG, who lived in Cambrian Park and was a long-time member of WVARA. I received a phone call from his wife Pat N6TXP saying that Bob had died on October 7 due to complications of diabetes. Bob and Pat were Charter members 1 and 2.

Some will remember that Bob was the coordinator of West Valley's dog show efforts at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. We would help coordinate traffic and parking for various dog shows for a few years. I specifically remember that Bob would take his motor home to the fairgrounds and for reasons unknown (and surprising), the W6PIY repeater worked GREAT from that location, so members would come to the motor home to use the autopatch to call family members on the repeater.

I also remember taking my family motor home there a couple of times, and some of us would stay overnight so that we could be there early the next morning, instead of having to come and go. Bob knew everyone in the dog world and was able to convince almost all of them to follow the rules, although "the Cadillac lady" was a special case.

Pat advised that Bob did not want any services, so there were none.

Members of West Valley will be assisting Pat in removing Bob's tower and antennas.

I'm sorry to hear of Bob's passing; there's another of the good ones gone. - Dave, WB6KHP

Board of Directors Elections

Elections for the 2016 Board of Directors
will be held at the November 11 meeting.

Callsign Change

**Rex Vokey, formerly KK6VSI,
is now K7RJV**

WVARA Net Check-Ins (W6PIY)					
Every Tuesday at 8:30 PM					
Call Sign	Name	10/20/15	10/27/15	11/03/15	11/10/15
AA6RB	Roy	X			
AB6XS	Kevin	X			
AD6CL	Chuck		X		
K6BRF	Bert		X	X	
K7RJV	Rex	X		X	
KF6EMB	Svend	X	X	X	X
KJ6CQJ	Dean		X	X	
KJ6GMO	Sue		X	X	
KJ6ZZI	Michael	X	X	X	X
KK6EBL	Klouse				X
KK6VF	Kevin	NET	NET	NET	NET
KS6PD	Steve			X	
KX6B	Dick		X		
W6ESL	Tom	X			
W6HOC	Howard	X	X	X	
W6IA	Mark	X	X	X	
W6PK	Phil	X		X	
W7NFN	Jim	X	X		X
WB6KHP	Dave	X	X	X	X
TOTAL		12	12	12	6

2015 West Valley Amateur Radio Association Board

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