

Independent Radio Club

WA6IRC Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 4

Fall 2004

Presidents Corner

Comments from IRC President Leon KC6JAR

Well we had our second technician class and it was kind of a bust. Please tell people you know who might be interested in the hobby that we do a weekend technician class twice a year. In the future, we will schedule more VE testing sessions and try to arrange classes more often. Even though our technician class was kind of a bust, we did do our VE testing session and had some success. We had two people pass their technician test and they became new hams. One of them was Lowell's friend John, who is now known as KG6WNM. So it was not a total loss as we did generate two new hams. We would like to thank Lowell KG6AJF and Bill KG6GNC for helping us out being VEs at the session. In the future we would like to schedule classes more often more classes perhaps one class each quarter. We are also considering doing monthly VE testing. Stay tuned and we will let you know what's coming up next.

On the brighter side, our last few meetings have been

continued on page 2

Repeater Linking Project

Our repeater will soon be linked with the Antelope Valley

We have finalized our arrangements to link with the KD6PXZ repeater. Mark's (KD6PXZ) repeater covers most of the Antelope Valley and much of the Highway 14 corridor. His repeater is located on Hauser Peak and operates at 446.400 MHz minus split with a CTCSS tone of 100.0 Hz. When the link becomes active, our repeater system will cover most of Los Angeles into the high desert.

The technical aspects of the link have been worked out and we are in the process of installing the link radios. We expect the link to go active around the middle of November give or take work and family obligations.

In addition to the increased coverage when the link becomes active, we will have many new users on our system. Please encourage them to use the system and take some time to get acquainted with them.

We are also working on a 900 MHz system to link our repeater into the Eagle Rock/San Gabriel Valley area. This will give our system better coverage in the LA area, help promote use of the 33cm band, and give us new opportunities to have fun. 900 MHz is becoming more interesting as there is a lot of inexpensive commercial 900 MHz radios coming into the surplus market from public safety systems going digital. When we get the system together, we will offer you a chance to get on 33cm cheaply by having the club obtain some of the vast quantity of surplus gear. Stay tuned!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** President's Corner
- 1** Repeater Linking Set to Go
- 2** Echolink System Now Online
- 3** Club Event Plans for 2005
- 4** Congratulations

really good. Brian W2BRI did a very good job demonstrating Echolink operations at the last meeting. A lot of people were very interested in using the club Echolink system and we encourage anyone who is interested to give it a whirl.

Another topic discussed at the meeting was where 2005 Field Day was going to be held. If the general consensus holds up, we will most likely do Field day at the beach again this year. We also discussed what kind of activities you would like us to do as a club. Please send us your ideas of the kind of events you would like to see our club do in the future. You can e-mail us or tell us on the air. We appreciate everyone's comments.

Our nets have been doing better lately which is a plus. One other thing I would like to stress is to remember that we constantly have new members using our system. Please encourage new people to use our machine because that's what we're here for. Above all be polite, try to keep a positive attitude and treat people the way you would want to be treated. We have a great group. I haven't heard of any problems but I would like to keep it that way. So if you hear someone new out there, talk to them and encourage them. Hope to see you at the holiday party. 73 de Leon KC6JAR

Weekly net needs you!

Show your support for the club

Our weekly evening net is held every Tuesday night at 6:00pm. The net starts at 6:00pm with Newslines followed by check ins hosted by our charming suave net controller Lowell KG6AJF. IRC members and all interested amateurs are encouraged to check in.

Checking in on the net helps you show support for the club, keep up what's happening in amateur radio, and let you hear what is going on with the club and our members. We would love to hear what you've been doing in radio or life in general. If you have an item to sell the net is a good way to mention it to your friends on the radio.

Club Echolink System

The club Echolink system is now online

Our club Echolink system is now operational. Echolink is a system to link repeaters, radios or computers together using the internet. With this new system you will be able to contact ham radio repeaters around the world using your everyday two meter and 70 cm gear.

Our Echolink system operates as a crossband repeater. The input frequency for the system is 146.460 with a PL of 141.3. The output of the system is 449.460 with a PL of 141.3. You need to set up your dual band radio for crossband split to use the system.

The system is located at Brian's (W2BRI) house located near Coldwater Canyon and Magnolia in Valley Village. You should get good handheld coverage for a radius of 3 to 5 miles, good mobile coverage throughout most of the San Fernando Valley, and base station coverage significantly beyond.

The Echolink system can be controlled by transmitting DTMF tones into the machine. The Echolink system can be commanded to connect to other Echolink "nodes". A node can be a repeater, link, or individual station anywhere in the world.

You can connect to them by entering the DTMF tone A and then the node number. You disconnect the system using the # tone. There is some operating protocol you need to know. Brian is our sysop and repeater trustee. To get more information about using the system and to get a set of operating instructions, e-mail Ken at w6cpa@arrl.net or call Brian W2BRI at (818) 505-0222.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS

EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL
2035 COLORADO BLVD.
EAGLE ROCK, CA
SATURDAY OCTOBER 9 & SUNDAY OCTOBER 10

OCTOBER CLUB MEETING

LAMPLIGHTER RESTAURANT
6261 LAUREL CANYON BLVD.
NORTH HOLLYWOOD
FRIDAY OCTOBER 29 AT 7:00 PM

NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING

LAMPLIGHTER RESTAURANT
6261 LAUREL CANYON BLVD.
NORTH HOLLYWOOD
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 19 AT 7:00 PM

DECEMBER CLUB MEETING – HOLIDAY PARTY

EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL
2035 COLORADO BLVD.
EAGLE ROCK
SATURDAY DECEMBER 11 AT 7:00 PM

Club Event Plans for 2005

What do you want to do in 2005?

We have a lot of activities planned for 2005. We are always interested in your ideas of things you would like the club to do. This upcoming year we plan to do a beach campout, a day hike, our regular monthly meetings, our summer picnic and of course Field Day.

We have received several suggestions about new activities you would like to see the club do. The suggestions include, running a club station for a contest, assist communications at public events, technical meetings where we have a speaker and discuss some facet of radio in addition to our social meetings, meetings where we build things such as kits or antennas, a club barbecue, or a club backpack/QRP trip. These are great suggestions and we are very interested in hearing more suggestions.

Whether or not we implement these and other suggestions depends on the interest of our members and our ability to recruit volunteers to run new events. Please send your suggestions for new activities (or changes you would like to see in our existing activities) to Leon or Ken. We will bring up your suggestions at the meeting for the members to comment and consider.

We are also looking for volunteers to run events. We specifically need some one to run Field Day, organize our summer beach trip and to organize our summer picnic and day hike. If you can help, please contact Leon or Ken via e-mail or at a club meeting. Leon and Ken's e-mail addresses are located on page 4 or on the web site. Working together we can improve our club and increase our radio fun!

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Independent Radio Club, Inc.
Statement of Income and Expenses
January 1, 2004 through September 30, 2004

Income:

Autopatch Memberships	660
Membership Dues	150
Net Class Fees	21
January Donations	70
February Donations	80
March Donations	70
April Donations	80
May Donations	60
June Donations	60
July Donations	83
August Donations	30
September Donations	92

Total Income 1,456

Expenses:

Bank Charges	68
Site Rent	675
Telephone	293

Total Expenses 1,036

Excess of Income over Expenses 420
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Independent Radio Club, Inc.
Balance Sheet
September 30, 2004

Operating Funds	1,530
Books	242

Total Cash	1,772

Total Assets	1,772
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Unrestricted Fund Balance	1,772

Fund Balance	1,772

Liabilities and Fund Balance	1,772
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Congratulations!

Here's some of our members recent radio achievements

KG6WNM – John Valles

John passed his Technician license exam at our October testing session. We hope to hear you on the air soon!

KF6MFW – David Chafin

David recently upgraded to General. Congratulations!

Club Repeater

KC6JAR/R repeater

445.340 MHz minus CTCSS 103.5

Contractors Point

Club Contacts

www.ircradio.org

Information:

Leon (KC6JAR) kc6jar@juno.com

Ken (W6CPA) w6cpa@arri.net

Webmaster:

Jenn (KF6RSG) kf6rsg@arri.net

Net Control:

Lowell (KG6AJF) kg6ajf@juno.com