

Independent Radio Club WA6IRC Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 4

Fall 2005

Presidents Corner

Comments from IRC President Leon KC6JAR

As you may know, we have installed the new controller for the 220 machine. The 220 link is active and we encourage you to use either machine. We are still working on getting the IRLP to work correctly and get the link into Vegas reestablished. These things will come with time. We are at the bottom of the learning curve of the new controller and we've had some minor bugs but things will be back to normal soon. We are also still working on improving the 900 MHz machine in South Pasadena. As Mr. Lowell always says, we're working on it! That's definitely our new motto. Please bear with us as it takes time to get all of this done. We have a few other projects planned so you will want to stay tuned.

Our technician class turned out great. We ended up with 14 new hams out of it. We had a couple of people come up just to take the test and most of them passed. Ed's young kids and James son took the class

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October Tech Class

Great turnout and great results...

The October Technician class was held October 8th and 9th at Eagle Rock City Hall. We had a great turnout and excellent results. We had fifteen students and of the fifteen, eleven students passed their technician exam on Sunday. The new technicians are:

KI6BDN	Alfredo	KI6BDB	Pablo
KI6BDE	Andrew	KI6BDI	Ralph
KI6BDL	Bob	KI6BDG	Russell
KI6BDC	Jim	KI6BDF	Sharon
KI6BDM	Loran	KI6BDJ	Travis
KI6BDA	Omar		

We also had four people come just for the test. Of those four, three people passed their technician test. As a result, we turned out fourteen new hams that Sunday.

I would like to thank our team of VEs who were faced with a much busier session than usual. Thanks to Lowell KG6AJF, Bill KG6GNC, Steve WB2KXC and Leon KC6JAR for making our VE test session possible.

You can help us out with the next VE session. If you are a general licensee or higher sign up to be a VE. It's rewarding and fun. To become a VE, download the VE manual from the ARRL web site and fill out the attached open book test. Send in the test and after they check you out, you will be a VE in good standing.

If you hear any of the new guys out there, make sure you say hello.

and came within spitting distance of passing the test. They were all excited and very interested in radio. I know we will be talking to them on the air soon. Ken did a great job teaching the class and I pitched in as well. We thank Bill, Steve and Lowell for helping us out as VEs and James and Ed for helping us out with crowd control. The session went much smoother because we had more VEs and additional people to help out. This made our job easier, more efficient and the examinees didn't have to wait as long as they have in the past. Thanks again for coming and helping us out.

I also attended the annual SCRRBA meeting. SCRRBA is the coordinating entity for 440 and some other bands. Things are status quo on 440 although they commented about the increased activity on the 900 MHz band which jibes with my observations. Please have patience and bear with us as we put all of this together. We are a great group and we have a lot of fun together as well as promoting our hobby. I hope to see you at the next meeting or the holiday party!

73 de Leon KC6JAR

Echolink System Status

Better coverage coming soon

The W2BRI Echolink system is still up and running. Echolink is a system that links repeaters or simplex radios around the world using the internet. The system is a cross band repeater, which has the input frequency on 2 meters and the output frequency on 70 cm. To access the repeater, you need a radio capable of doing crossband **split** or use two separate radios. You transmit on 146.460 with a PL of 141.3 and listen on 449.460. To use the Echolink you will need the Echolink codes which can be obtained by calling the trustee Brian at (818) 505-0222 or by e-mailing Ken w6cpa@ircradio.org.

The system is currently located at Brian's house in Valley Village so coverage is limited to the San Fernando Valley. We have plans to put it up at Contractors Point, which will expand coverage dramatically. Give it a try. It's a lot of fun to talk around the world on your handie talkie.

December Holiday Party

It's time for the annual IRC Holiday Party

The 2005 IRC Holiday Party will be held at Eagle Rock City Hall Saturday December 10 at 7:00pm. Eagle Rock City Hall is located at 2035 Colorado Blvd, Eagle Rock, CA. Our web master Larry KG6EJT has a map on the web site for directions.

We will be having fun, playing games and having a desert contest. The best desert wins a prize. Dinner is on the club, but we ask you to bring an unwrapped toy (or two) for the Toys For Tots program. The Marine Corps will be sending a representative to pick up the toys.

Please let us know you're coming so we can plan properly. To tell us you're coming e-mail Ken at w6cpa@ircradio.org or call Lowell KG6AJF at (818) 243-8672. See you at the party!

IRC - MRA Weekly Nets

Now you have two nets to check into.

The Since we have linked the MRA system with the IRC system there are now two weekly nets on the combined system. The first net is held every Tuesday night at 6:00 pm. The Tuesday night IRC net starts with Newsline and ends with check ins hosted by Lowell KG6AJF.

The second net is held every Thursday night at 8:00 pm. The Thursday night MRA net is hosted by Ed KB6THO and is followed by an eyeball at the Capri Italian Restaurant in Eagle Rock immediately following the net. All IRC and MRA members (for that matter any interested amateur) are invited to check in to both nets. Non members and third party traffic are particularly invited to check in.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS

EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL
2035 COLORADO BLVD.
EAGLE ROCK, CA
SATURDAY OCTOBER 8 & SUNDAY OCTOBER 9 AT 9:00 AM

VE TESTING SESSION

EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL
2035 COLORADO BLVD.
EAGLE ROCK, CA
SUNDAY OCTOBER 9 AT 3:00 PM

OCTOBER CLUB MEETING

LAMPLIGHTER RESTAURANT
6261 LAUREL CANYON BLVD.
NORTH HOLLYWOOD
FRIDAY OCTOBER 28 AT 7:00 PM

NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING

LAMPLIGHTER RESTAURANT
6261 LAUREL CANYON BLVD.
NORTH HOLLYWOOD
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 18 AT 7:00 PM

DECEMBER CLUB MEETING /HOLIDAY PARTY

EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL
2035 COLORADO BLVD.
EAGLE ROCK, CA
Saturday December 10 at 7:00 pm

Bring an unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots drive!

MRA Spotlight

More information about our sister club

As most of you know, we have made an agreement with the Mountain Repeater Association to share club resources. As a result any IRC member is welcome to use any of the MRA system resources and visa versa.

The MRA system is a group of linked 220 MHz repeaters which reach from Los Angeles to Las Vegas. The flagship repeater is located on Contractors Point and operates at 224.480 minus with a PL of 110.9. Our repeater is linked directly to this machine. This repeater also has a receiver voting system with remote receivers located in Glassell Park and at UCI in Irvine.

The 220 machine on Contractors is linked via radio to a repeater on Blueridge which is located in the Angeles Mountains near Wrightwood. This repeater operates at 224.480 minus with a PL of 100.0. The coverage of this repeater is somewhat limited.

The 220 machine on Blueridge is linked via radio to a repeater on Mt. Potosi in Las Vegas. This repeater operates at 224.480 minus with a PL of 110.9. When you are in Las Vegas and you have a 220 handheld you can keep in touch with the rest of us back home by pressing the PTT. This system is completely connected via radio links so it should be very robust in case of emergency.

The MRA also operates IRLP node 3030 from the Contractors Point repeater. The IRLP is a system of linking repeaters or simplex radios around the world via the internet. Incoming calls on the IRLP are handled like just another user of the machine. If you want to connect with another repeater you simply to enter the proper code on the 220 repeater. Any IRC member who wants to give the IRLP node a try, email Ken w6cpa@ircradio.org and he will send you the codes.

The MRA currently has a low level repeater located in the Palm Springs area which is planned to be moved to the top of the PS tramway. This machine will be linked into the rest of the system. Stay tuned for the latest developments in Palm Springs.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Independent Radio Club, Inc.
Statement of Income and Expenses
January 1, 2005 through September 30, 2005

Income:		
January Donations	40	
February Donations	38	
March Donations	35	
April Donations	65	
May Donations	40	
June Donations	45	
July Donations	13	
August Donations	50	
September Donations	90	
Membership Dues	390	
Class Income	228	

Total Income		1,034
Expenses:		
Bank Charges	67	
Site Rent	675	
Telephone	289	

Total Expenses		1,031

Excess of Income over Expenses		3
		===

Independent Radio Club, Inc. Balance Sheet September 30, 2005

Operating Funds	1,197	

Total Cash		1,197
Other Assets:		
Books	436	

Total Other Assets		436

Total Assets		1,633
		=====
Test Fees Payable	84	

Total Liabilities		84
Unrestricted Fund Balance	1,549	

Fund Balance		1,549

Liabilities and Fund Balance		1,633
		=====

Lou KG6VFP SK

Sad news about Lou

We have just been informed that Lou KG6VFP has passed away. Lou was an active member of the club and a joy to speak with on the air. He participated in Field Day and was at most of our meetings. Most of you have spoke to Lou on the air as he was out there a lot. He will be missed.

Our condolences go out to his wife Beverly and his son and daughter.

Club Repeaters

**KC6JAR/R repeater
445.340 MHz minus CTCSS 103.5
Contractors Point**

**W6DMV/R repeater
927.9625 MHz minus CTCSS 100.0
South Pasadena**

Club Contacts

www.ircradio.org

Information:

Leon (KC6JAR) kc6jar@ircradio.org

Ken (W6CPA) w6cpa@ircradio.org

Webmaster:

Larry (KG6EJT) kg6ejt@ircradio.org

Net Control:

Lowell (KG6AJF) kg6ajf@ircradio.org

Echolink System info:

Brian (W2BRI) (818) 505-0222