

# Independent Radio Club WA6IRC Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 1

Winter 2006

## Presidents Corner

*Comments from IRC President Leon KC6JAR*

We had a great Holiday party this year. Everything went well with the exception of Ken W6CPA who came down with the flu just before the party. Fortunately, the rest of his family made it. We had a lot of new people there and we all had a great time playing gifts and games. Our Toys for Tots drive worked out very well. The Marine Corp sent a representative to come by and pickup the toys. We sent him home with a whole carload of toys thanks to Mr. Lowell KG6AJF and all of you folks. Thanks again Mr. Lowell for setting up the Toys for Tots drive.

We had a VE session for the Boy Scouts in December that went really well. We gave more tests at this session than we have at any other. It was a great thing to get a few new hams in the world. Congratulations to Ed KB6THO who upgraded to Extra, thanks to James N6XKU for helping us by being a VE who we kind of

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## Field Day is coming soon

*It's time to start thinking about Field Day*

The year may have just started, but Field Day will be here before we know it. Field Day is June 24 & 25. We alternate our Field Day site between the beach and mountains each year and this year we are going to the mountains. We decided this year to conduct Field Day at Table Mountain campground. Table Mountain campground is located in the Angeles National Forest about five miles from the town of Wrightwood.

Table Mountain is located at an elevation of 7,200 feet. It overlooks the Los Angeles area and the Antelope Valley. It has many tall trees and is very shaded. It's a relaxing place to camp and it's a great place for radio. The town of Wrightwood is a 10 minute drive from the campground. Wrightwood has restaurants and motels if you don't want to camp. The campground has running water, vault toilets, fire pits, and paved spurs. Reservations can be made in advance through Reservations America. We will probably get a bunch of single sites next to each other as the group sites at the campground are not as nice as some of the single camp areas. We will let you know about two months before Field Day which area we are going to use and the procedures for making reservations.

We plan to operate on all bands from 160 meters to 23 centimeters. Table Mountain has enough space to run pretty much any antennas we want. We plan to run a 3A battery station which will have 3 HF transmitters and a VHF/UHF weak signal station. We will be running 2 HF phone stations and 1 HF digital station. We will be operating SSB, FM, PSK-31, SSTV, RTTY and maybe fast scan TV if we can get Bob into it. Mark your calendars and dust off your equipment.

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dropped into this all of a sudden and Mr. Lowell who is always there helping make each VE session work. I was there but you know what kind of help that is...

As far as the system goes, the 900 MHz repeater is still down. It has been put back together and is ready to go. We should have it operational soon. The Blueridge part of the Las Vegas link is still down. Snow conditions are preventing us from getting up there, but we will get it fixed as soon as we can. The system is otherwise working pretty well except for some audio problems we have been delayed fixing due to the holidays.

Thank you all for your participation. We appreciate all those who became VEs as well as our new members who've offered to help. We have a great system out here. Come by, have a good time with us, and help us grow. If anyone has any ideas about a place to put a repeater site, has an in to a site, or an idea for expanding our system please contact Ken or myself. Our next monthly get together is January 27 at the Lamplighter Inn at 7:00 Laurel Canyon and Victory. Hope to see you there!

73 de Leon KC6JAR

## Volunteer Examiner

*Help the club and the hobby*

Our club has been involved with sponsoring VE testing sessions over the past couple of years. Last year we put on six VE sessions. We put on sessions for the license classes we hold, at Field Day and for special requests from organizations.

We have received many requests to hold VE testing session more often. There is no regular testing in the San Fernando Valley at the current time. We would like to set up a monthly test session somewhere in the San Fernando Valley, Glendale or Burbank.

You can help our club and the hobby at the same time. If you know a location where we can hold regular sessions let us know. You can also help by signing up to be a VE. If you hold a general class or higher license you can go to [www.arrl.org/arrlvec](http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec). Download the VE manual, take the open book test, and you are a VE. Help us keep the hobby growing.

## The Lamplighter is history

*Our meeting place closes*

We have been meeting at the Lamplight restaurant in North Hollywood for three years. They have been very good to us, allowing us to use their meeting room at no charge. Unfortunately, our last club meeting on January 27 was their last day in business. The restaurant is being closed and demolished to build a new shopping mall. When we left the meeting they locked the door behind us for good.

The management has agreed to allow us to use their meeting room at their other Lamplighter restaurant in Sherman Oaks. The address of the new meeting place is 5043 Van Nuys Blvd., just north of the Ventura freeway. Listen to the net for more details as they become available.

## Volunteers Needed

*Baker to Vegas Race Needs Help*

The Baker to Vegas Race is a footrace open to law enforcement personnel. It is a 120 mile race run from Baker, CA to Las Vegas, NV. The race will be run on April 1 and 2 this year.

Cell phone communications are nonexistent so the race officials are counting on amateur radio to make the race happen. You can help make it happen. The race communications coordinator is looking for hams of all abilities to help out with the race. They need hams for emergency communications, early warning, and time keeping. You don't even need to have a radio. If you'd like to help contact Joy Matlack KD6FJV at the communication coordinator's website at [www.b2v.org](http://www.b2v.org).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JANUARY CLUB MEETING

LAMPLIGHTER RESTAURANT  
6261 LAUREL CANYON BLVD.  
NORTH HOLLYWOOD  
FRIDAY JANUARY 27 AT 7:00 PM

### FEBRUARY CLUB MEETING

LAMPLIGHTER RESTAURANT  
5043 VAN NUYS BLVD.  
SHERMAN OAKS  
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24 AT 7:00 PM

### MARCH CLUB MEETING

EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL  
5043 VAN NUYS BLVD.  
SHERMAN OAKS  
FRIDAY MARCH 31 AT 7:00 PM

### TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS & VE TESTING SESSION

EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL  
2035 COLORADO BLVD.  
EAGLE ROCK, CA  
SATURDAY MAY 20 & SUNDAY MAY 21 AT 9:00 AM  
VE TEST SESSION SUNDAY MAY 21 AT 3:00 PM

### FIELD DAY

### TABLE MOUNTAIN NEAR WRIGHTWOOD

SETUP FRIDAY JUNE 23 11:00 AM  
SATURDAY JUNE 24 & SUNDAY JUNE 25 AT 11:00 AM

## Technician License Class

*Our next Technician license class is in May*

Our next technician license class will be held on Saturday May 20 and Sunday May 21 at Eagle Rock City Hall. Eagle Rock City Hall is located at 2035 Colorado Blvd in Eagle Rock. The class will go all day Saturday and part of the day on Sunday. On Sunday afternoon after the end of the class, we will sponsor a VE testing session. The VE session will be open to the public so we encourage you to come by if you want to upgrade. We have found that a weekend class with a test session directly after the class is the most effective way to get a license.

The cost of the class is \$50 which includes the study book and the testing fee. If you know of anyone who is interested in getting a ham ticket, please let them know about our class.

In July we will be holding a weekend general license class with a VE testing session directly after. By then we should know what the FCC intends to do about the code requirements. Start thinking about upgrading!

## 900 MHz Repeater Fun

*Come play with us on 33 centimeters*

To extend our coverage into the San Gabriel Valley, we have installed a 900 MHz repeater at Juan's (W6DMV) house in South Pasadena. It's running on 927.9625 – PL 100.0. We are also planning to put up some more 900 MHz repeaters at other locations as well as simplex IRLP nodes soon.

You can't buy a 900 MHz radio at HRO. We have got our hands on some used commercial Motorola radios that can be modified to operate in the ham section of the band. We have some GTX 900 MHz handheld radios and some GTX 900 MHz mobile radios. You can get on 900 MHz and play with some fun gear. If you are interested in checking out one of these radios, contact Leon KC6JAR.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Independent Radio Club, Inc.  
Statement of Income and Expenses  
January 1, 2005 through December 31, 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	
October Donations	170	
December Donations	40	
Membership Dues	800	
Class Income	292	
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Total Income		1,718
Expenses:		
Bank Charges	91	
Dues	10	
Fees	20	
Party Food	128	
Site Rent	900	
Telephone	385	
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Total Expenses		1,534
		-----
Excess of Income over Expenses		184
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Independent Radio Club, Inc.  
Balance Sheet  
December 31, 2005

Operating Funds	1,464	
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Total Cash		1,464
Other Assets:		
Books	266	
	-----	
Total Other Assets		266
		-----
Total Assets		1,730
		=====
Total Liabilities		0
Unrestricted Fund Balance	1,730	
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Fund Balance		1,730
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Liabilities and Fund Balance		1,730
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## Congratulations

*Significant Milestones for Members*

Ed KB6THO

Congratulations Ed! Ed just upgraded to Extra Class. Ed is the MRA net control on the Thursday evening net. He has also agreed to be a VE for the club as well. Thanks Ed!

## Club Repeaters

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

Linked to

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

## Club Contacts

[www.ircradio.org](http://www.ircradio.org)

Information:

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Echolink System info:

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