



Mt. Vaca Radio Club, Inc.

WWW.MVRC.ORG
January 2003

P.O. Box 417405
Sacramento, Ca. 95841-7405

ARRL
NARCC

President's words:

Happy New Year to everyone!

The calendar page has turned. The New Year came in despite all the celebrations and by now all the holiday parts and pieces have been disposed of or put away. It would seem we are back to normal.



To mark the New Year, I have spent some time cleaning out my e-mail inbox and "sent" files and leafing through some of the past issues of the newsletter. We have been a very busy club and next year promises to be just as busy. In addition to getting on the air, there other tasks and events designed to fill up the spare time for all members. We have meetings, public service activities, potluck get-togethers, "camping" trips, tech committee projects, mobile runs, jobs to help run the club, and you name it.

One thing I was reminded of was the skimpy participation in the Monday nets at 7:45 p.m. It is an excellent place to find/hear about the latest doings and what is planned in the very near future. We need you there, especially since this newsletter is published only quarterly. Details of some listed activities may not be finalized until a month or two after publication. The only way to get the details is to participate on the net.

The tech committee is currently compiling a current inventory of club equipment. A list was created a couple of years ago after exhaustive research, but no one is absolutely sure it is complete. And there have been changes since the list was prepared. The job is made difficult in part because no one person knows where all the equipment is located. Most MVRC women could probably itemize the club "stuff" or "junk" they have in their garages, radio rooms or spare bedrooms. Maybe the tech committee should ask the women rather than the men! Maybe it would really work for the women to box up all their unexplained

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General Meeting

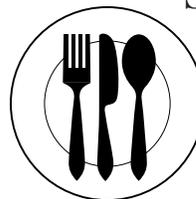
Sunday, January 19, at 3:30 p.m.

Solarium green room

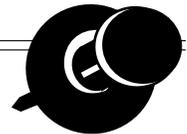
Chevy's

1234 Howe Ave.

Sacramento, CA.



Please join us for dinner after the meeting.



Activities

- SUN JAN 19 - REGULAR GENERAL MEETING
- SAT FEB 8 - CHILI PARTY - 6:30 PM, Bill, WA6ACF, Anita(Willie), WD6ABF QTH, Loomis. Bring Chili or pot-luck side dish. RSVP
- WED FEB 19 - BOARD MEETING
- WED MAR 19 - BOARD MEETING
- SUN MAR 23 - MOBILE RUN - Streetcar Rides, Rio Vista Jct. Leave 10 AM from IHOP, Bond Rd at 99. Or 9 AM for breakfast. Picnic lunch. WB6PHQ leader, rain or shine. See freqs above.
- MAR 27-30 - SOLANO BICYCLE CLASSIC
- APRIL 5-9 - ANNUAL DESERT TRIP - Joshua Tree - Tent & RV camping, motels available in Yucca Valley. EARLY RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Check with W6TEE. Other destinations in the area for those that have seen the Park.
- SUN APR 13 - REGULAR MEETING

Les, W6TEE

A Reminder that the Club Dues were due July 1st. The club dues are now \$48 for full membership. The DX dues are still \$18 for a year.

Please check the roster and if your dues date has expired or will in the next few months please make your membership current.

Tech report.

1. 440 pre-amp installed. Has noticeably increased sensitivity.
2. Cooling fan installed on 2 meter repeater transmitter.
3. Installed new 440 power amp. It failed due to a shorted cable between it and the duplexer.
Put back the old GE pwr amp. 440 working well now.
4. Moved the 440 system to the backup Diamond antenna. The main antenna is failing again due to the wet weather.

Equipment for SALE: lengths of 50 to 100 feet of 84147 1/2 inch andrew heliax cable with connectors, also some 1/2 inch superflex. - call Tech chairman.

Chili Party,

Sharpen up those taste buds, and get that crock pot cooking.

Then join us at the annual **MVRC Chili Party** on **Saturday, Feb. 8**, beginning at **6:30 p.m.** at the **Yoders**.

Yes, there will be prizes and fame for the creator of the tastiest chili, selected by secret ballot of course. Please bring chili or a side dish to share, along with your hearty appetite. We'll provide soft drinks, beer and wine.

RSVP: Call Bill, WA6ACF. Hope to see you there!



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stuff and haul it to one of the ham swaps (as I jokingly suggested in an earlier newsletter). The tech committee could take an inventory of the club "stuff" that comes into the swap that is to be retained and where it is stored.

However we do it, we must have a list of all the equipment owned by the club. If you have something, please contact Mike Jordan, KT6MJ. He would appreciate it.

Check out the listing and related articles of upcoming meetings, mobile run, camping trip, and public service events elsewhere in this issue. We plan to continue staying busy with some of the annual events as well as some new ones.

Hope to see you all at the general meeting January 19th at Chevy's, 1234 Howe Ave., Sacramento. The meeting will begin at 3:30. Please plan to stay for dinner following the meeting.

Doris, WA6UAF

Holiday Potluck

Hostess Extraordinaire and Board Secretary Joanne Young, KF6GXX, hosted the December Board meeting and holiday potluck, which attracted members from thousands of miles away. Shown left to right back row are Tammy and Mark Reitzell, W6MAR; Les Cobb, W6TEE; Ed Hendrick, KE6AFB; long-time member Helen Stevens, WA6KHD, from Ellsworth, Kansas;

Mike Keller, WA6RWR; Lew Barnard, WA6ESA; George Besley, W6GWB; Jan Smelzer; Bill Yoder, WA6ACF; and Matthew Cobb, W6KDJ. The front row featured Sunny Hendrick, KE6AFA; Joanne; Adrienne Barnard, WA6CNE; Willie Yoder, WD6ABF; and Doris Keller, WA6UAF.



PUBLIC SERVICE:

The SBC 2003 is well into the planning stages. Not only will the race be held again this year, but it is the first major race of the season on the West Coast, and has been expanded to five stages. The Rancho Solano Circuit Race, which was cancelled last year due to Easter, has been put back into the schedule, and a new time trial has been added. The new time trial is straight up Mix Canyon to the top. Those of you who have done repeater maintenance know what this climb is like.

The road race route has been changed for the better, and will avoid a lot of the problems we had last year. The road race map can be found at <http://www.solanobicycleclassic.org/rrace.htm> Note that the pack goes through the English Hills area early in the race, so that the road closures will be much shorter than last year.

Essentially, the race will begin at Lagoon Valley and proceed in the reverse direction from last year. Rather than coming back through Fairfield, the race will go north along Lake Berryessa and will end at the town of Angwin. The women's race will start at Winters, as soon as the men have passed through. Thus, we won't have to worry about two separate races occurring simultaneously in different places. Or something like that...

The current plan is for net control to be set up at Angwin, probably on the college grounds. We may be able to use an airborne repeater for better coverage, but this will depend on the weather, which can be unpredictable at that time of year. Donut distribution is as yet undetermined...

In summary, the road race will need the most radio coverage. The circuit race will need some coverage, but not nearly as much as the road race. The two time trials will need minimum coverage.

Schedule (brazenly stolen from KG6KCJ's web site):

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2003

Stage 1, Jelly Belly Road Race

This classic road race with challenging climbs will last 54 miles for the women, while the men will race for approximately 95 miles. The men will start at 9:00 am at Lagoon Valley Park, between Fairfield and Vacaville. The women will start in Winters as the men's race passes by. Both races will finish on the campus of Pacific Union College in Angwin.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2003

Stage 2, Solano Garbage Time Trial

Held on Montezuma Hills Rd. (near Birds Landing), the time trial is an individual race against the clock where both men and women ride the 12.2-mile course in the shortest possible time.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2003

Stage 3, Steve Larsen Hill Climb

Stage 4, MLO/Genisoy Criteriums; and Public Races

The professional riders will race twice on Saturday. In the morning, they will individually complete Stage 3 by climbing approximately 2500 ft. in 4 miles on this epic Mix Canyon time trial. The Downtown Fairfield venue will be used for Public Races on Saturday morning. The Start/Finish line of the 1.2-mile criterium course will be located on Kentucky Street across from City Hall. In the afternoon, the Pro's will compete in Stage 4, which will consist of a 60 minute timed ride for the women and a 90-minute race for the men.

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2003

Stage 5, Daily Republic Circuit Race and Amateur Criterium Races

USCF Licensed Amateur Criterium races will be held on the Downtown course while the Pro's compete in Stage 5. Rancho Solano and surrounding neighborhoods will host the circuit portion of the course with riders starting and finishing in downtown Fairfield. The women's race includes 9 laps through Rancho Solano for a total of 64 miles. Men will complete 13 laps through Rancho Solano before finishing their 87-mile course.

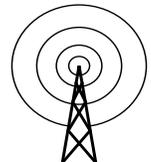
John K6JRB

REMINDER FOR THE NEW YEAR

The 2002/03 fiscal year is already half over and some of you nice folks out there have forgotten to get your dues dough to the trusty MVRC Treasurer, Les Cobb. The Mt Vaca Club is running a special for the month of January so if you act now you can send in dues for the last half and no one will flog you. Those who contribute as Sponsors rather than full members can also show support by making a donation. Any amount will be appreciated since we operate right on the edge and have not been able to qualify for a federal grant to keep our good works going. We are a public service organization and your contribution should be tax deductible and if its not at least it will make you feel good to help out a great organization like the MT. VACA RADIO CLUB. Thanks for listening.

the Membership Committee

Please listen to the MVRC NET at 7:45 p.m. every Monday evening. Latest club activities are heard on our net.



January

The Mt. Vaca Radio Club, Inc. (MVRC), operates repeater station K6MVR on 2 Meter and 440 MHz., from locations on Mt. Vaca for communications over a wide area. All Amateurs are welcome to use the open repeaters on 147.00 (-) (PL 136.5 Hz.) and in open contacts which do not impede the use by others, except when K6MVR is used for Public Service activity. Club simplex operation for public service and other activities will use 147.585 MHz.

CLUB NET: The MVRC net is every Monday at 7:45 PM on the 147.00 repeater. Club activities are announced. Members, Sponsors, and Visitors are asked to check in.

Members Dues: Membership dues are \$48 per year, due and payable June 1 of each year. (out of area members \$18 per year)

Sponsors: Support for the open repeater. Anyone can become a Sponsor for one year by sending \$15 or more to the Membership Chairman. Sponsors will receive the Mt. Vaca News.

Information on system operation or on membership is available from the Membership Chairman. There is no obligation to become a Sponsor or Member to operate on the open system.



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First Class Mail