



Mt. Vaca Radio Club, Inc.

January 2010
www.mvrc.org

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

ARRL
NARCC

General Meeting Sunday, January 31st, at 4:00 p.m.

Event Center in Raleys
4650 Natomas Blvd.
Sacramento

MEETING

We have had several ways of getting the word out to MVRC. The best is this newsletter. The quarterly meetings and the MtVacaRC Yahoo Group are good, but don't reach everyone. Repeater use doesn't reach as many any more and our Net was dropped. Another club that some of us belong to with a similar number of members has rejuvenated repeater and net use, so it can be done! But full member use of our Yahoo Group would be good. See me at the meeting (or the Activities web page) to join MtVacaRC because it is blocked from the Yahoo directory.

Other January meeting agenda items may expand into mini-talks and some members have volunteered. One subject not covered for a year is our GMRS repeater and getting equipment reasonably. Ron, W6KJ, our SM, recently put out a pessimistic memo on Pave Paws which makes GMRS more interesting. I forwarded Ron's comments to our Yahoo Group.

We have had to make temporary changes to our IRLP access but Marc, W6MAR, has some fixes to suggest. The Progresso soup can tech talk has been rescheduled later.

We want to go back to our 2003 campground near Twain Harte (photos next page) for our July 2010 Ham campout. It is being scouted now and we will have the results at the meeting. We have

Continued on page 2



2010 ANNUAL CHILI PARTY February 27th 6:00

Bring a Chili or side dish.
Please RSVP to Bill N6MSI or Linda
(see roster for phone # & address)



Not all of our Chili contest have been on the up & up.

They're Baaaack.....

In case you haven't encountered them yet, I'm happy to report that Lee and Dolly Rominger are back in town. Those of you who know the Romingers (and that's most everyone out there) know that long time hams; Lee 30 years and Dolly 18) left the area when the Sacramento Army Depot closed. Since their departure from this area, they lived in Eastern Pennsylvania where Lee worked at Tobyhanna Army Depot near Scranton. Now retired, they have returned to the area and are living in Sacramento. Glad you two are back - MVRC can always use more people taking part in activities.

AB - (Membership)

Yes it is time for Meeting,
Yes it is way past time for your dues to be paid. So if you have not please pay.



Dues are DUE \$48/year Regular Member, \$18/year DX member. \$15 for a Sponsor any 1 year period.



The good old days when a work day was a party.

Where is that blue shorts gang now?

Meeting continued

a second e-mail group (not on Yahoo), Mobileer, for travel and camping, open to all Hams, with campout details. We will have RV hookups, tent spaces, cabins, and motels.

Les Cobb, W6TEE
President

Twain Harte



You may bring your news letter to the meeting and use the space below to take notes.

ACTIVITIES 2010 CALENDAR

SUN JAN 31 - MEETING - 4:00
Optional dinner after.

SAT FEB 27 - CHILI PARTY - 6 pm,
Bill N6MSI, Linda QTH off Cirby,
Roseville

Future events:

APR - MEETING
MAY - DAVIS DOUBLE
CENTURY - Public Service
JUN - WESTERN STATES
ENDURANCE RUN - Public Service
JUL - MEETING
JUL - ANNUAL HAM CAMPOUT
JUL - TEVIS CUP - Public Service
SEP - TAHOE SIERRA 100 - Public
Service
SEP - WHITNEY CLASSIC - Public
Service

See www.mvrc.org Activities for latest updates.

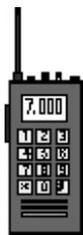
Check the roster for the year your dues are paid. If it does not show 2010 then dues are due.

Please verify your information - Email, etc...

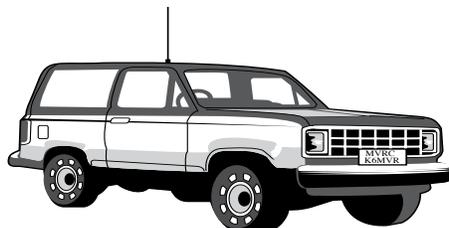
Please check your information on the enclosed roster. You should also check the MVRC web site (www.mvrc.org) to insure that your E-mail and Web address are correct.

Please e-mail Bill - WA6ACF if there are changes.

Activities need to be planned so please come to meeting. What activities would you like to see the club involved in?



SEE YOU ALL AT THE MEETING!



Our IRLP node configuration has been changed because a Bay Area "official observer" thought our 220 link transmitter does not identify properly. Previously, the 220 link was on a full time

transmit and receive connection to the 147.000 repeater even if the IRLP node was not connected to another node over the Internet. Now the default condition is to have the 220 MHz link radio connected to the VHF repeater in receive mode so that calls to our node can be heard over the repeater even if the link transmitter on Mt. Vaca is not transmitting. This prevents routine local repeater traffic from being transmitted constantly over the 220 link, and with a transmitter that was not being identified, this was cause for concern for some people.

With this new configuration, a prospective IRLP user will need to change the link connection from receive only to transmit using the controller command using microphone DTMF (see the command list for the proper command). After entering this command, the IRLP node is now available for connecting to other nodes. When disconnecting, the user just needs to use the standard "73" command. The node will then automatically send a DTMF command to put he link system back into "receive only" mode. No further user action is required.

When another node calls our node from the Internet, the node generates the DTMF command to put the link radio into transmit mode so that a repeater user can answer the IRLP call without entering the link command on his microphone. The node link radio transmitter will answer the connect request with a repeater callsign that will not be heard over the 147.000 repeater.

Although the above-mentioned configuration "works," I think it is a weak workaround to our radio identifier issue and I would like to talk about changes to our IRLP system at the next meeting.

Sincerely,
Marc Reitzell, W6MAR
Node Administrator