

# The Monitor

Newsletter of the Riverside County Amateur Radio Association  
ARRL Affiliated Club #1720 - - - - Celebrating our 54th Year

www.w6tj.org

April 2009

Volume 54

No. 4

## INNOVATIVE AND DIFFERENT AMATEUR RADIO OPERATING MODES

### IRLP

#### Internet Radio Linking Program

Achieve worldwide communications with a simple handheld! This is now made possible via the IRLP network of dedicated servers and nodes and linked repeaters.

With a basic low cost radio and computer equipment you can build your very own node and be part of the IRLP network. (Viewpoint Pg. 5)  
For more information go to [www.irlp.net](http://www.irlp.net)



**IRLP DEMONSTRATION**—Luis Diaz, KP4DX captured the attention of our membership at the March meeting. Radio contact was made with stations in Chicago and Puerto Rico. For many the live demonstration was a door opener to exploration of another worldwide communications mode utilizing IRLP.

### ECHOLINK

#### VoIP Technology

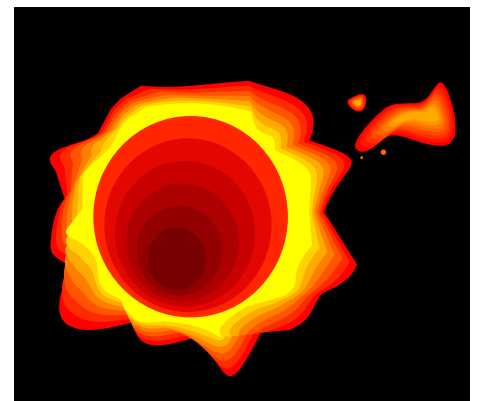
EchoLink software allows communications with another over the internet using voice-over-IP (VoIP) technology. The program allows worldwide connections by licensed amateurs to be made between stations or from computer to station.

EchoLink is an extension of conventional voice modes, communicating over the internet digitally but does not transmit on any digital signals over the air. For more information, [www.echolink.org](http://www.echolink.org)

## 'Solar Cycles' Topic of April Meeting

So...how much longer will it be until we have sunspots, and the resulting good HF propagation again? Arlo Myers, WA6UDR, our resident solar guru, will review sunspot history, and the current thinking, about this subject, in his talk, "Solar Cycles."

Arlo has been observing the sun with his telescope, and recording data for many years. His long standing interest in this subject, enables him to provide us with some realistic perspective, and, maybe even predictions about the return of good ionospheric propagation. Will he have good news?



**NEXT MEETING:** *Thursday, April 9 at 7:30 PM*  
*4937 Sierra Vista Ave- La Sierra Univ. Church (Conf. Ctr.)*

# PRESIDENT'S QSO

The majority of the club is probably not aware, but things are starting to happen in the background. There is talk of going green, of batteries, solar panels and even human powered generators. Oh yeah, also throw in some homemade antennas and a spud gun. What does all this have in common? Field Day! A number of members have been throwing ideas out and putting some structure around what our Field Day operations will look like this year. While most of it is still in the planning stages, a lot of great ideas are coming together on how to make this Field Day more enjoyable for all.

We are working on going back to Martha McLean Anza Narrows Park this year. It's my understanding that, while we will still hear the trains go by, they no longer blow their whistle so it should be a little quieter for both sleeping and hearing the radios. We are also lining up batteries to run the stations on and using solar and a human generator (peddle power) to recharge the batteries. We are even working out the bugs for our logging software ahead of time so we insure that we not only log the contacts, but get them turned into ARRL. There's even talk of a work day to build a spud gun for getting the lines and antennas up over the trees.

As I stated, we are still in the planning stages and pulling together all the details. If you haven't been involved as yet, you still have a chance to volunteer your time, ideas and equipment to make it the best Field Day ever. Even if you don't have the time or equipment to donate now, at least mark the dates on your calendar and join us on the last full weekend of June for a lot of camaraderie, and a chance to get on the air and make lots of contacts. If nothing else, you'll need to come out and see what strange antennas we dream up, or steal from QST. And, I bet we'll even let you peddle the generator. For more details, you can reach out to Kiki, our communications director, Chris, our Vice President, or me.

Sincerely,  
73 de Ric, N6RIC

The Monitor is published monthly by the  
Riverside County Amateur Radio Association  
P.O. Box 1412, Riverside, CA 92502-1412

## PUBLICATION DATE

Monitor publication date is 10 days prior to each meeting, and all articles for the next issue must be received by the Editor no later than Thursday, April 29th – send as a text file via e-mail to kf6bnp@sbcglobal.net with photos as attachments. Tnx.

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Open

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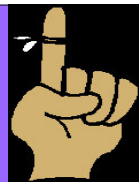
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**REMINDER !**  
**IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**  
**Join now only \$ 15**

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Riverside County Amateur Radio Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Ric Maxfield, N6RIC.

The meeting was held at the La Sierra University Church. Board members present: Ric Maxfield (N6RIC); Chris Maness (KQ6UP) set up for the guest speaker, Ed Morgan (KF6BNQ), Steve Evans (AF6HR), Bruce Morgan (K6OIF), Gervase Hammond (KI6TFL)

Absent: Kiki Cervantes (KI6RQK).

Guests: Thomas W Whelchel (WA6TLL), Robert T Wade Jr. (W6RTW), Walter J Davidson Jr (KC6TFS)

### Old Business:

LeJoe Award: No one has successfully contacted Justin.

Repeater Report: The batteries were successfully installed and are working properly. Members involved were Don Williams (KD6UVT), Bob Wade (W6RTW), Ron Braley (KE6RYX), and John Davidson (KC6TFS).

Audit Committee Report: Michael Cirocco (KI6JRM) and E.E. Van Noty (AA6SD) were not present. No new information was given to the Board.

Field Day: Kiki Cervantes (KI6RQK) was not present to give any updates on the next Field Day.

IRLP or EchoLink for repeater: Discussions will proceed after the guest speaker's presentation.

Bob Wade's resignation: Ron Braley (KE6RYX) will chair the repeater committee.

### New Business:

Delta Loop via Balloon(s): The motion to purchase the balloon and valve from Fred Roberts (W6TKV) was initiated by Ric Maxfield (N6RIC). The motion was seconded by Gervase Hammond (KI6TFL) and finally passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Gervase Hammond, KI6TFL - Secretary

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Riverside County Amateur  
Radio Association  
General Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Ric Maxfield (N6RIC) followed by the Flag Salute and round table self-introductions. There were 26 members, 1 guest and 2 new members (Kenny and Dave) present. The location of the meeting was at the La Sierra University Church.

### Old Business:

Repeater: The batteries were installed. Don Williams (KD6UVT) charged and carried the batteries to the top of the CAC building. It is estimated the batteries will last 6 days with constant use. The auto-patch codes to the repeater have change. New codes appear on the membership cards.

### New Business:

Program: Fernando Louis Diaz (KP4DX) gave a presentation on the Internet Radio Linking Project.

### Announcements:

Ron Braley (KE6RYX) announced Bob Mann (W6LKN) has been hospitalized

William Hering (N6WMH) is looking for members to volunteer as Net Control Operators.

Arlo K. Myers (WA6UDR) shared some QSR Cards he had acquired, one dated as far back as 1932.

Donald Johns (WB6FKR) shared his experiences as a QRP member.

50/50 Drawing: Steve Evans (AF6HR) won drawing.

Perpetual Drawing: Lowell Robertson's (K6QXQ) name was selected but he was not present.

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Gervase Hammond, KI6TFL, Secretary

### ATTENDANCE DRAWING WINNER

Lowell Robertson, K6QAQ

Unfortunately he was not in attendance

### 50-50 Drawing

Winner

Steve Evans, AF6HR



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**June 27-28**

Announcements to be made at April meeting

For additional information contact:  
Kiki Cervantes, KI6RQK— 906-4652  
Dir. Of Communications

### VE results for February:

KI6WJN David Koss, Riverside.  
KI6WBT Adrian Reyes, Riverside.

### VE results for March:

KI6WTF Kevin Lauter, Highland

Congratulations and welcome to the hobby!

### Got a Radio to Sell or Trade?

Check out the club website Buy & Sell listing  
Free Listing for Members  
[www.w6tj.org](http://www.w6tj.org)

## RACES

### Diamond Valley Marathon

RACES Dep. Chief West-Don William, KD6UVT; Dean Chambers, KG6YS, and wife Pat Chambers KI6PAH, of Riverside were among 14 amateur radio operators providing communications for the '09 Diamond Valley Lake Marathon on January 24.

### Members Support Baker to Vegas 25th Annual Challenge Cup Relay

The March 14th and 15th, 25th running of the Annual Challenge Cup Relay drew law enforcement officers from around the world and amateur radio operators to support teams and race officials. Four Operators from Riverside included Bil Seymour WA6MOD; Don Williams KD6UVT; Bill Allen KD6VAE; and Ric Maxfield N6RIC worked with Communications Support Services of Redlands, CA to support teams from Beaumont PD, LA City Attorney's Office and Riverside PD. The weather was great, most operators worked 8 hour shifts but several were on station for more than 20 hours.



### KA6ABL Monthly Club Breakfast

Saturday, April 4 at 8 am  
The Little Green Onion Restaurant  
6723 Brockton Ave—Riverside

## REPEATER COMMITTEE

### Update

**Task Completed**-The W6TJ repeater upgrades and battery installation have been completed. Our gratitude goes to the dedicated committee members Bob Wade, W6RTW, Ron Braley, KE6RYX, John Davidson, KC6TFS, Bil Seymour, WA6MOD, Don Williams, KD6UVT, Mike Cirocco, KI6JRM and Bill Allen, KD6VAE



# VIEWPOINT

Why Not?

What an exciting experience to see Louis, KP4DX, and his buddies in Chicago and Puerto Rico demonstrate the possibilities of IRLP at our March meeting! Questions...and later discussions from our gang, surely indicated high interest.

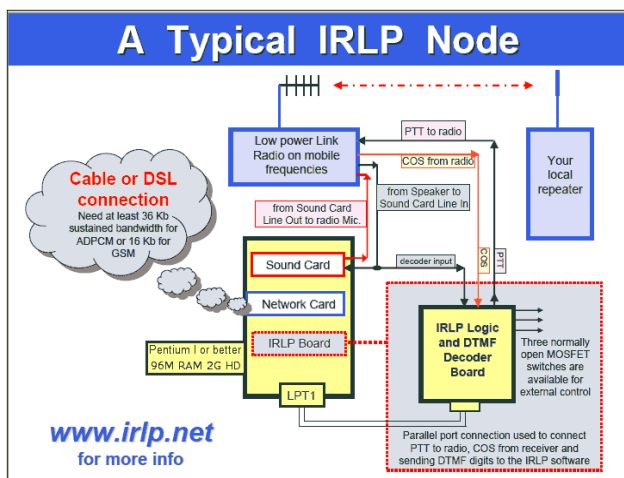
I kept thinking about how neat it would be to have a similar set up at W6TJ/r...when we could demonstrate ham radio to Girl Scouts, youth conferences and other public events, what ham radio is all about. No more setting up demo tables, HF gear and big antennas, just to be disappointed by dead bands! Just bring a 2M rig and let them talk to others around the world. I'm sold on this possibility alone!

Sure, we could use other IRLP/ECHOLINK nodes...but why not have our own? We could also use rental cars, but we choose buy our own, for the same reasons. We put good money and effort into our repeater....why not get a lot more out of it for ourselves and amateur radio?

I propose that we set up a trial on our repeater ASAP. This may require an initial outlay for an off site node....but it will be money well spent to move us ahead into 21st century ham communications. Let's get it going so we can use it at our Field Day demo table!

I'm looking forward to our new and exciting adventures on W6TJ/r connected!  
Why not?

de K6LG



**AUTOPATCH ACCESS**  
Repeater auto-patch access codes have been changed — The new codes will be issued with your 2009 membership

# THE CLUB SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2009

<p><b>REGULAR WEEKLY NETS</b></p> <p>Every Sunday at 8:30 AM          Every Monday at 7:00 PM          Every Monday at 7:15 PM          Every Monday at 7:30 PM          Every Wednesday at 8:30 PM</p>	<p>RACES Public Service Net, 3.945 MHz          10M Early Check-In Net, 28.328 MHz          2M Net on the Repeater 146.880 - PL 146.2          Newslines on the Repeater          Simplex Net on 145.52 MHz</p>	<p>Info: KQ6U-Ted          Info: WA6DDL-Paul          Info: N6WMH-Bill          Temporary discontinued          Info: K6GUK-Mark</p>
<p><b>EVENTS UNTIL NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>April 4 – Saturday at 8:00 AM          April 9– Thursday at 6:30 PM          April 9 – Thursday 6:30 PM          April 9 –Thursday at 7:30 PM          April 14 – Tuesday 7:30 PM          May 2 – Saturday at 8:00 AM          May 2 – Saturday at 8:00 AM          May 14– Thursday at 6:30 PM          May 14 –Thursday at 6:30 PM          May 14 – Thursday at 7:30 PM</p>	<p><b>Club Breakfast@ Little Green Onion</b>          VE Testing (by appointment only)          Club Board Meeting          Club Meeting          RF Group (aka Real Friendly Guys)          KA6ABL Breakfast @ Little Green Onion          T-Hunt – St. John’s Church, Corona          VE Testing (by appointment only)          Board Meeting          Club Meeting</p>	<p>Info: KD6UVP-Bonita Welch          Info: K6UIZ-Frank          Info: N6RIC-Ric          Info: N6RIC-Ric          Info: AA6SD or K6GUK          Info: KD6UVP-Bonita Welch          Info: W6TKV-Fred          Info: K6UIZ-Frank          Info: N6RIC-Ric          Info: N6RIC-Ric</p>
<p><b>UPCOMING EVENTS</b></p> <p><b>Field Day ‘09</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 27—28</b></p>	
<p><b>LOCAL SATURDAY SWAP MEETS</b></p> <p>April 11 – 7:00 AM          April 18– 7:00 AM          April 25– 7:00 AM</p>	<p>Cable Airport Swap Meet, Upland          Chino Hills High School Swap Meet          TRW Swap Meet, Manhattan Beach</p>	<p>Sponsor: IEARC          Sponsor: CHHS Boosters          Sponsor: W6TRW ARA</p>

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