



# Ham Shack

A PUBLICATION OF THE RIO HONDO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Founded March 8, 1976 By WA6GEV & WA6WFC

## President's Message

A lot has happened in the past month. First, The Sunset Group, a small club in the Inland Empire, has decided they can no longer support the expenses involved in maintaining their repeater and are making a gift of it along with some other items to the Rio Hondo club. This is exciting as it is a further step in our club owning all of our equipment. As some of you know, we have been operating with borrowed repeaters for a very long time. The 440 System Fusion repeater is ours, as is the 2 meter repeater which we hope will be installed soon. Having our own 220 repeater completes the trifecta. Stay tuned for further information on this.

We are also moving forward in the area of training. We have established dates for four quarterly Technician license classes. We will shortly be announcing the dates of our first General license class, but we are planning to hold it in April. We will be adding a practical class following the Technician class as a focused practical aid in getting on the air. It will cover many of the things that are confusing to new hams when it comes to programming radios like "offset", "step" and "PL". It will also include explanation of good operating practices and a reminder of certain legal requirements.

Most Southern Californians I know think of earthquakes as the major natural danger we face, and some think about brush fires. But how many think of tsunamis or blizzards? Yes, they can happen to us. We know that because they already have happened. John Cvjetkovic from the County of Los Angeles will present a history of natural, and a few man-caused, disasters in LA County over the past 100 years or so. This should be of value to all hams as we think of "When all else fails". Not only could we be the first line of defense, but we could also be the last line of defense. We hope to see you at the meeting for this most interesting and informative presentation, and also for updates on the new repeater and our classes.

73, Rick WM6M

*Join the Rio Hondo ARC Net every Wednesday evening at 8 PM on any of our Repeaters: at 146.175 MHz (+), PL 156.7 Hz; at 223.94 MHz (-), PL 100 Hz; or at 445.560 MHz(-), PL 100 Hz. All Hams are invited!*

## Important Dates

### February

1<sup>st</sup> RHARC NET

8<sup>th</sup> RHARC NET

13<sup>th</sup> RHARC

**Meeting 7:00 PM @  
15390 Lambert Rd.**

**Whittier, CA 90604**

15<sup>th</sup> RHARC NET

22<sup>nd</sup> RHARC NET

27<sup>th</sup> RHARC BOARD

**Meeting 7PM @ 11139**

**Washington Blvd.**

**Whittier, CA 90606**

### March

1<sup>st</sup> RHARC NET

8<sup>th</sup> RHARC NET

13<sup>th</sup> RHARC Picnic

15<sup>th</sup> RHARC NET

22<sup>nd</sup> RHARC NET

27<sup>th</sup> RHARC BOARD

**Meeting**

29<sup>th</sup> RHARC NET

### April

5<sup>th</sup> RHARC NET

10<sup>th</sup> RHARC Meeting

12<sup>th</sup> RHARC NET

18<sup>th</sup> TAXES DUE!

19<sup>th</sup> RHARC NET

24<sup>th</sup> RHARC BOARD

**Meeting**

26<sup>th</sup> RHARC NET

**2017 RHARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Rick Norton (WM6M)**  
*President*

**Josh Henderson (K6PNP)**  
*Vice-President*

**Tom Calderwood (AA6TC)** *Secretary*

**Clay Camero (KJ6WUS)**  
*Treasurer*

**Paul In (KI6EL),  
John Johnson (KM6EXO)**  
*Board Members*

**Dave Harring (K6CJZ)**  
*Past-President*

**Tom Polley (WA6GEV)**  
*Club Trustee*

**Joe Provenza (W6UPN),  
Dino Darling (KX6D)**  
*Repeater Committee*

**Board Meetings are held at IHOP on the last Monday of the month at the IHOP Restaurant on Washington Blvd in the Santa Fe Springs Market Place Shopping Center, at 7:00 PM.**

**Ham Shack is published monthly. Advertisements are welcomed.**

HamShack's are brought to you by  
Donald Ocampo (KJ6RXV)  
Ret. Secretary

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MEMBERS BORN IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY**



- 2/4~Eugene Lin (KM6EXM)
- 2/10~ Daniel Iwamoto (KM6EXT)
- 2/11~ Linda Souder (W6QE)
- 2/12~ Duc Nguyen (KM6EXP)
- 2/18~ Tino-David Ontiveros (KM6EXQ)
- 2/20~ Dino Darling (KX6D)
- 2/28~ Bill Leslie (WA6POK)



For Sale:  
Icom ID-880H compact dual band 50 Watt mobile, FM and D-STAR, with programming cable, missing power cord \$200. Please Contact Rick Norton (WM6M) Info is below



**RHARC W6KAT Estate Auction  
Items Remaining**

12/5/2016

| Brand         | Model      | Description  | Bid       | Amount | Sold To |
|---------------|------------|--|-----------|--------|---------|
| Heathkit      | SA2060A    | HF Antenna Tuner                                     | \$ 232.50 |        |         |
| Heathkit      | SB-610     | Monitor Scope  | \$ 95.63  |        |         |
| Mirage        | C106       | 220 10-60 Watt Amplifier                             | \$ 82.50  |        |         |
| Motorola      | Micor      | 100 Watt 6 meter trunk mount radio - All accessories | \$ 75.00  |        |         |
| Motorola      | Micor      | 100 Watt 6 meter trunk mount radio - No Accessories  | \$ 45.00  |        |         |
| Unknown       | Unknown    | Dual band J-Pole - 2m/220                            | \$ 22.50  |        |         |
| Hallicrafters | R42        | Speaker (Classic!)                                   | \$ 75.00  |        |         |
| Unknown       | 4E27A-125B | Tube 300 Watts                                       | \$ 67.50  |        |         |



As most of you know, longtime member and good friend to the Rio Hondo Amateur Radio Club Don Olejnik, W6KAT, became a silent key last August 23rd. He was kind enough to remember the club in his estate planning, and left the bulk of his ham gear to the club to be auctioned. His desire was to help the club in moving forward with repeater and antenna upgrades and improvements. Much of the gear has been sold both at our auction and through after auction sales. In this newsletter is a list of the remaining items. The starting bid prices are shown, however the club will consider all reasonable offers, which will be presented to the board for approval. You may contact Rick Norton, WM6M for further information or to place a bid. He can be contacted at Rick@RNorton.com or 562-698-7758. Remember, this is to benefit the club as we upgrade our repeaters, so your bid helps. Thanks for your support.

**Rio Hondo Amateur Radio Club  
General Membership Meeting January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Highlight:** Move to have the club treasurer and president authorized to sign checks

- 17.1 Called Board Meeting by Clay Camero (KJ6WUS), Treasurer
- 17.2 Board members present: Rick Norton (WM6M), Josh Henderson (K6PMP), Tom Calderwood (AA6TC), Clay Camero (KJ6WUS), Dave Haring (K6CJZ), Paul In (KI6EL).
- 17.3 Meeting was called to order at 9:02 p.m.
- 17.4 Clay moved to have the treasurer and president authorized to sign checks at the bank. Treasurer: Clay Camero, President: Rick Norton.
- 17.5 So moved, approved by unanimous vote by those present.
- 17.6 Dave moves to adjourn, unanimous.

Minutes respectfully given by Tom Calderwood, AA6TC

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**Rio Hondo Amateur Radio Club  
General Membership Meeting  
January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Highlight:** Moved Tom Calderwood AA6TC to Secretary, moved John Johnson KM6EXO to board member at large. Minutes will be posted in the newsletter. Paul KI6EL given lifetime membership.

- 17.7 The meeting was called to order by Rick, WM6M.
- 17.8 All officers were present.
- 17.9 Flag Salute was given.
- 17.10 **Presidential Announcements**
  - 17.10.1 Rick read from the RHARC constitution Article 2, Section 4 concerning vacancies within the board. KM6GOG, Paige York, resigned from the position of Secretary. Tom Calderwood, AA6TC, was moved as a board member at large to secretary. John Johnson, KM6EXO was appointed board member at large.
  - 17.10.2 Beginning in February, the minutes will be posted in the newsletter which will be distributed before the monthly meeting so that the membership can approve the minutes.
  - 17.10.3 Reminder to the members that the yearly membership is due in January.
  - 17.10.4 Reminder to join the AARL, and if you do it through the club, the club gets a certain percentage.
- 17.11 **Presentation:** Chief Scott Edson from the LA County Sheriff's Department gave us a

presentation about the present state of the LASD communications systems, the frequency allocations, as well as future plans for the digital Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS) and the Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service.

**17.12 Officer and Committee Reports and Announcements**

- 17.12.1 V.P.: Josh, K6PNP, needs ideas or thoughts for future presentations
  - 17.12.2 Josh, K6PNP moved to give Paul, KI6EL, a lifetime membership. A vote was taken, and the membership unanimously approved (26 votes total).
  - 17.12.3 Treasurer's report: Checking: \$1690.74, Savings (capital fund): \$1513.50
  - 17.12.4 Tech Classes/Testing: 4 training/test sessions planned for 2017: March 3-4-5, June 2-3-4, Sept 15-16-17, Dec 1-2-3. Other testing sessions can be arranged.
  - 17.12.5 Paul, KI6EL, has syllabus' available for Tech, General and Extra exams. Contact Paul if interested.
  - 17.12.6 Pub. Services/ARES: Dave, K6CJZ had applications to join and participate in the City of Whittier Emergency Team.
  - 17.12.7 GLAARG is testing at East L.A. College on February 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - 17.12.8 Hospitality: The club needs a volunteer to make coffee and coordinate clean up to help reduce cost to the club. Please contact Rick, WM6M if interested.
  - 17.12.9 Mentor Team: If you are interested in helping form a mentor team, please contact Rick, WM6M.
- 17.13** Tom, AA6TC, moved to adjourn the meeting, John, KM6EXO seconded. Moved and accepted.

Minutes respectfully given by Tom Calderwood, AA6TC

**RHARC Board Meeting IHOP Restaurant  
Jan 30, 2017**

**HIGHLIGHT:** The Sunset Group donates a 220 Repeater to RHARC. Start of a new year.

- 17.14** Present: WM6M Rick Norton (President), K6PNP Josh Henderson (VP), AA6TC Tom Calderwood (Secretary), KJ6WUS Clay Camero (Treasurer), KM6EXO John Johnson (Board Member at Large), K6CJZ Dave Haring (Past President), KI6EL Paul In (Membership), WA6POK Bill Leslie, Mark Leslie, K6VTH Vince Henderson, KM6EXM Lucinda Halley, KM6GOK James Halley, NT5A Bob Anrens, KX6D Dino Darling, K6RIX Jackie Darling
- 17.15** Meeting was called to order by Rick at 6:54 p.m.

- 17.16** Introduced Bob Aarons – Sunset group
- 17.17** Tom motions to have members voice items to vote, but do not have a vote. Josh seconds. Approved, unanimous.
- 17.18** Rec'd WB0MRE Rich McDonald – the sunset group is interested in donating their 220 repeater to the club.
- 17.19** Tom Polley WA6GEV, has been trustee for the group, became a silent key two weeks ago.
- 17.20** Dino received an email that he forwarded to Rick, from trustee of a repeater in Chino Hills. We are co-channeled on 440, and they are also a Fusion Repeater. They have instituted a coding on the digital side – similar as a PL. As it stands now, with the System Fusion radios the code is global. In this case it is not like PL. You don't change the code for the channel, it's global to the unit being programmed. Rick doesn't see us instituting a code to avoid them interfering with us.



- 17.21** Vice President Report - Josh
  - 17.21.1 Nothing for Feb, March is birthday party. Battery company – possible speaker in April.
  - 17.21.2 If you have any ideas for the birthday party, please email Josh.
- 17.22** Last week Rick and Dave presented a program for emergency services: “Weather and other natural events in the last 150 years”. Purpose is to get folks to think of disasters beyond earthquakes.
  - 17.22.1 Rick – maybe we do a 4 hour class on protocol and setup for the club. Rick can do a test run if the other speaker can't show up.
- 17.23** Secretary Report
  - 17.23.1 Huddle – Tom moved to investigate and possibly set up a test on Huddle.com for on-line document keeping, seconded. Unanimous
- 17.24** Treasurer Report
  - 17.24.1 Income exp/ checking \$2147.30, savings \$1583.50, \$3307 in cash.

- 17.24.2 Working on an assets list.
- 17.24.3 Larger monthly income due to badge/dues, Expenses \$107.14.
- 17.24.4 Stop check 358 – \$10.80, if stop payment is more, ignore.
- 17.24.5 Cut off day – all income for a general meeting won't register until the next general meeting, at which all deposits will be made by that time.
- 17.24.6 Bank balance vs book balance: Transition from Dino – Quicken showed \$1556.41, bank was \$2173.40, difference of \$616.73. Due to the discrepancy, he did a line-by-line item comparison – now Quicken ending 12/31 is \$1734.71, bank balance is \$1690.74, now a difference of around \$44 Will correct with a voucher program to be discussed in order to correct discrepancy at hand. Motion to the board for a (\$43.97) to bring into alignment – John seconds. Unanimous.
- 17.24.7 Bank Signers – only two signers are the treasurer with the president as a backup. Bank has been updated. (Online access now available.) Online code/password known only to Clay, copied in sealed envelope given to Rick should anything happen to Clay.
- 17.24.8 New form introductions – disbursement form for different cash expenses. Coffee/donut donation from kitty jar.
- 17.24.9 State of California – Statement of Information: State only has us registered twice, last time in 2013 - but requires this statement every two years. Don't know about penalties, there is a \$20 filing fee. We have a corporate number but we can't find statement of incorporation.
- 17.25** Test Committee
  - 17.25.1 East Los Angeles College testing Feb 4th. RHARC Tech class March 3-4-5. Also looking at the possibility of a testing session before a general meeting. Paul has volunteered to conduct a General Class session. Josh will coordinate the date. Josh may be able to work with the EOC (Tiffany) to have them print out the materials. Looking at General for April.
- 17.26** Dino: Repeater/Equipment: No action on 2m repeater. Weekend of the Feb 25th – move things around and get controller programmed. Motion to purchase, from Dino or vendor, what is necessary to facilitate the Arcom controller and interface for the 2m fusion repeater, understanding there may be more purchases down the road. Tom so moves, Josh seconds. (\$684.90 + \$175). Passed unanimous.
- 17.27** Past President Report:
  - 17.27.1 LAACARC: Meeting 1st Tues in February, Dino will attend.
  - 17.27.2 Pub Service – Shelter's Right Hand 5k coming up. No further info.
  - 17.27.3 New opportunity in July – Parks Department received a grant to put on another 5k "Walk and Roll".
  - 17.27.4 Emergency Communications: After the emergency preparedness meeting, Rick and Dave

had a chance to greet the Battalion 8 chief, Michael Fuentes. He is enthusiastic to involve Amateurs Radio Operators.

- 17.27.5 ARES situation – not sure what’s up. Need to contact Diana Feinburg.
- 17.28** Weekly Net: Ongoing every week. K6JRD has resigned as net control operator (no System Fusion radio).
- 17.29** Hospitality Team
- 17.29.1 Initiate a hospitality team to be responsible for hospitality functions, including goodies and coffee at meetings, as well as other hospitality functions that may need to be supported for events (Field Day, Sizzler).
- 17.29.2 We can’t afford Starbucks, will go back to making our own coffee using the clubs coffee maker. Proposed to make the coffee at home then transporting it to the meetings with insulated vacuum pump pots. Wants to buy 3 pots plus condiments at \$150 + coffee. Motion for the hospitality to buy, John moves, Tom seconds. Unanimous.
- 17.30** Mentor Team: Rick and Dave will form and run a new Mentor Team.
- 17.31** Rick also wants to get an Apparel Committee to update tee-shirts and jackets. Josh will do it. Paul will still do badges.
- 17.32** New Business
- 17.33** Sunset Group 220 Repeater
- 17.33.1 Hardware available is a Mark 4 220 repeater with manuals, amp 160, cavities that can be arranged as a duplexer, and a cabinet. Antennas are also available but may not be worth it.
- 17.33.2 Bob Aaron – Sunset group is now down to 3 members, and they have had repeater for decades. It’s hard for the three members to justify the cost of the rental space so they will close it down. They want to donate the equipment to RHARC to give it a good home. Clay motions for a complimentary membership of the 3 members of the Sunset Group, renewed annually. John seconds. Unanimous.
- 17.33.3 Date to remove the equipment TBD. Equipment will need to go in for tuning/repair.
- 17.34** Reference Cards: Board Members were handed a quick reference cards of info for the club.
- 17.35** Field Day: Dino proposes possibility to do it in a new park on the old Nike Missile site. They used to do Field Day from that area. Dino won’t be able to attend this year, but passes this on to the club as a possible site.
- 17.36** Goals: Rick reviewed goals for the club. Will assign completion dates at a future meeting.
- 17.37** Dave moves to adjourn, Josh seconds, Unanimous.

Minutes respectfully given by Tom Calderwood, AA6TC

This may sound familiar to a lot of you. There are many in the world that believe that ham radio is a free system. If you read the FCC Part 97 thoroughly you will note that there are several places where it mentions the cost of Ham radio. Specifically it mentions that we are expected to serve the public. Just joining a club is not serving the public. Joining a club and taking part in the activities of that club is not serving the public. Doing the best job you can to be prepared for any of a number of emergency situations is the beginning of serving the public. It also requires that you actually get out and provide communications during an emergency.

A lot of people believe that the many services that the ARRL provides should be free or at a cost level that goes back 100 years. One such service is the outgoing QSL bureau. A recent cost increase for this service has been met with a great deal of discontent. If you think about what it would cost to send a QSL card direct and expect a reply you will quickly find that even with the recent increase the outgoing QSL bureau is still a bargain. An even cheaper way of dealing with the issue of QSL cards is to use Log Book of The World. I have done all of the above methods over the years.

When you consider all the costs involved in sending a card direct (outgoing postage, return envelopes, return postage and the dollar or more requested by the DX station) the outgoing QSL bureau turns out to be quite a bargain.

Dave (K6CJZ) Past Pres.

Join us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/RHARC/>



**RIO HONDO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P. O. BOX 1781 WHITTIER, CA 90609**

