



## RACES – Mountain District – Mile High Radio Club

PO Box 1204

Idyllwild, CA 92549-1204

E-mail: [mhrc@arri.net](mailto:mhrc@arri.net)

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

Repeater Station WA6SSS 146.895 (-) pl 118.8



**Officers** - President: Vi Hallacy K6VBH, Vice President: Vacant, Membership: Rick Foster KG6TIJ  
Secretary: Christy Huss KG6AVU, Treasurer: Bill Tell KD6KTV,  
**Board Members:** Chris Johnson K6IDY, Wayne Laube KJ6HYC, Tom Unwin WA6SSS  
**RACES EC:** Bill Baker KN6JV

# MOUNTAIN FLASHES – NEWSLETTER

## JULY - 2011

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*President's Message ✦ June Club Minutes  
RACES Report ✦ Field Day 2011 Report  
July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade*

### County wide Monthly Roll Call First Monday of the Month

*Will be on **August 1<sup>st</sup>**, Roll call normally starts  
around 1845 and ends when a stand-down order  
is issued. July's was cancelled*

**All Mountain Roll Calls are conducted on the  
Idyllwild Repeater 146.895 (-) 118.8**

July - Wednesday Roll Call  
is held at 1900 Hours

This month's callers are;

6<sup>th</sup>: Jim KF6TYZ      13<sup>th</sup>: Rick KG6TIJ  
20<sup>th</sup>: Chris K6IDY      27<sup>th</sup>: Bill KD6KTV

**July Meeting @ Idyllwild Fire  
Department – Training Room  
Mark Your Calendars!**

**MHRC / Club / RACES: Thursday July 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Board Meets at 6 pm, General Meeting at 6:30 PM

Everyone is welcome to attend any of the above  
meetings or call in on the nets.

### **President's Message**

Another Field Day has come and gone. I look forward to it every year for many reasons, all of them important.

One, it gives us practice in setting up an emergency station and in problem solving. This year we had a problem putting up a long wire antenna which was solved successfully by Don Hamilton with the help of Paul Miglin and Bill Tell. Also, a problem with the generator was solved but I don't know who was involved in that.

Two, it gave us an opportunity to talk to visitors about the importance of radio in emergency communications and get the names of people interested in signing up for our new licensing class.

Three, some of our new hams from last year's class came by with problems with their radios and we were able to help them and did some teaching so they could do more programming themselves.

Four, we had a chance to take a first look up close at the portable repeater and watch it put together along with the solar panels, batteries and antenna. Tom Unwin has done a remarkable job, putting it all together.



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And last, I enjoy the sitting around chatting with other club members, exchanging information and getting to know them better.

To me, the contesting is not as important as the things I just mentioned but the contest enables all those other things to happen.

There is one more thing I want to bring to your attention. When you volunteer for something please do your best to do it. If you find that you are not able to do whatever you signed up for, find a substitute or let us know so we can find a substitute. If you are just forgetting, mark it on your calendars, date books, cell phones, whatever you use for doctors appointments and other important events. We need you to follow through.

Vi Hallacy K6VBH  
MHRC President  
RACES – Mountain District – AEC

### ***Mile High Radio Club Board & General Meeting Minutes Meetings Held on June 9<sup>th</sup>***

1830 - Regular Radio Club meeting opened by President Vi Hallacy  
Pledge of Allegiance - Bill Baker  
There were 18 members in attendance

Minutes of May 12<sup>th</sup> in newsletter – Motion to approve Rick Foster Second – Don Hamilton

Treasurer's report for 6/09/2011 – Treasurer Bill Tell reported on this months activity - Motion to accept Treasurer's report – Bill Tell Second – Wayne Laube Ayes: all Nays: none

Correspondence - Tom Pierce noted he could not participate in Field Day or the 4<sup>th</sup> of July due to a broken ankle - the club wishes him a speedy recovery.

Old Business –

The Portable repeater is ready for packaging.

Field trip to Table Mountain in Anza – no new information is available.

New radio class – Bill Baker is working on the question and answer pool with key words and a secondary pool with all correct answers for students. There will be a preview meeting on a Saturday in July, three following Saturday meetings and a final Sunday meeting. Costs for the book, class and test will be around \$30.

Uncollected Membership dues – 58 members of which 9 are unpaid, Rick Foster will check into the unpaid memberships.

Field day June 25<sup>th</sup> - Rick Foster can be contacted with any questions, 9<sup>am</sup> Saturday start time and pot luck at 5<sup>pm</sup>. A radio frequency training will be given at 2<sup>pm</sup> for those with radios and instruction manuals, Field Day points can be scored for the class.

4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade - there was a discussion about volunteers and their stations.

New Business –

Training and Field Exercises - Email notification will be given to members for upcoming sessions.

Replies to Interest Inquiry - Bill Tell will continue to collect suggestions from those who wish to volunteer their time for projects and activities.

Contact list and privacy - Bill Tell noted that the response from members was poor and he will continue to collect membership details from willing members so we can have the ability to communicate by more means than just the radio.

July Board meeting - President Vi Hallacy noted that at its July meeting the Board of Directors shall appoint a committee to contact members who wish to serve on the Board and then



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recommend a slate of officers for the coming year at Septembers meeting.

For those who wish to have a copy of the By-Laws, contact Vi Hallacy.

Chris Johnson offered his home for any meetings the Board might like to hold there. He also noted that the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in September is the HamCon swap meet in Torrance with speakers, demonstrations and new gear. Information is available at <http://www.hamconinc.org>

Thanks to Reba Coulter for refreshments Meeting adjourned at 7:30 - Motion made by Vi Hallacy Second - Christy Huss

Christy Huss KG6AVU  
MHRC Secretary

### ***RACES Report – Mountain District***

Well—having passed through the Field-day event with a good set up and support from the Mile High Radio Club and Anza Radio Club, we once again had problems making contacts with our usual equipment and location. However – we did what we always do – we displayed amateur radio to the public and talked to those who stop. Often we get a few interested enough to think seriously about Emergency Communications.

A license class is in the works and will start soon with a good number of interested men and women from both the Anza and Idyllwild areas.

**WATCH OUT!** Fire danger is rising and with the unusual amount of snow/moisture the conditions are right for late season fires. Have you done all you can do to your property abatement?

In our role as communications folks, we can report what we see when driving off the hill or if you have a good view of local terrain from home be alert – there are still people who get their

thrills by starting destructive fires - and of course, fires that start by lightning etc. Know phone numbers to call -----!.

**Always the fastest! 911**, Be quite clear about the location of the fire or event.

- Idyllwild Fire- 659 2153
- Pine Cove Sta. 23- 659 2732
- Idyllwild USFS front desk-, 659 2117. Your call may be transferred to the San Bernardino Forest Service Office.

Note: Fire stations may be out on calls. **In that case CALL 911.**

Bill Baker KN6JV  
Mountain District EC – RACES

### ***Field Day 2011 – Report***

We had a strong turnout from the membership this year, up nearly 50% from years past. As Vi and Bill Baker mentioned a number of new radio operators dropped by for radio programming help, which is great as they get to see first hand our operations.

Radio contacts were made primarily using the HF rigs. A good number of contacts were logged via CW thanks to Jerry Rustad KG6TIS. Jerry hit Oregon, Arizona, Nevada and parts of California.



Photo courtesy of Frazier Drake Photography



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On voice our club covered nearly 5,000 miles, reaching from Hawaii to the West and clear out to Washington DC to the East. Plus we hit a good number of states in between. There is something about the night shift that pulls in the contacts, and this year Wayne Laube KJ6HYC, deserves the kudos for pulling the all nighter.



Photo courtesy of Bill Baker KN6JV

Our claimed QSO total hit 140 points, plus a bonus point total of 950 points. The combined point totals for this year is 1,090 points. Excellent results for a small club.

With little effort this year we received great press coverage by the Town Crier and the Press Enterprise. Please thank both Beth and Cid the next time you see them on the town. Both papers covered us before and after the event with articles and photos.

A good number of visitors turned out this year. Two local IFPD officials James Reyes and Mark LaMont dropped by and they were updated on some our new capabilities supporting local field communications should they require our support.

Cheers,

Bill Tell KD6KTV

## Independence Day Parade – 2011

Our club has two of its members that serve in American Legion Post 800 Honor Guard. They are Rick Foster KG6TIJ and Danielle McKnight KI6DDR. We thank them for their great service not only in our club, but for all they provide for our community and country.



Prior to this year's parade we have Tom Unwin WA6SSS, Bill Baker KN6JV Mountain EC, and Wayne Laube KJ6HYC going over a few last minute communication details.



Communications were relayed from the top of North Circle clear to the center of Idyllwild. Reports have it that there were a number of changes from the original running order. Thanks to all of the members that participated in this year's parade. Everyone did a great job, as Vi K6VBH mentioned the announcers were impressed with the stellar job we performed.