



RACES – Mountain District – Mile High Radio Club

PO Box 1204

Idyllwild, CA 92549-1204

E-mail: mhrc@arri.net

www.milehighradioclub.org

Repeater Station WA6SSS 146.895 (-) pl 118.8



Officers - President: Vi Hallacy K6VBH, Vice President: John Hauer K6CEH, 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

MARCH - 2011

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County wide Monthly Roll Call

First Monday of the Month

Will be on **March 7th**, Roll call normally starts around 1845 and ends when a stand-down order is issued.

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

March - Wednesday Roll Call

is held at 1900 Hours

This month's callers are;

2nd: Chris N1OUT 9th: Rick KG6TIJ
16th: Chris K6IDY 23rd: Paul KG6TIL
30th: John K6CEH

March Meeting @ Chris and Diane's Home

Mark Your Calendars!

MHRC Board / Club / RACES: Thursday March 10th, Please see special notice on page 2. All are welcome to attend any of the above meetings or call in on the nets.

President's Message

Katie Hedrich, organizer of the Idyllwild Spring Challenge, has requested our help with the communications for the bike race.

This is an annual event which gives us an opportunity to practice our skills in a real situation. This year the dates are April 30 and May 1.

We will be manning twelve stations on a course that winds through the forest in the May Valley area. We need 16 operators and can use more if more people volunteer. In past years, we have used Mountain Disaster Preparedness volunteers also which gives us experience in cooperating with them. I will be asking for signups at our next meeting.

We talked about the details at some length at our Ham Chat following last week's Roll Call and I can answer questions at the March 10 meeting but if you are interested participating, save the dates.

It's a lot of fun.

Vi Hallacy K6VBH
MHRC President
RACES – Mountain District – AEC



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MHRC's SPECIAL MARCH 10 MEETING starting at 5:00 PM

This meeting will be special on several counts. First, it will be a Pot Luck dinner at Chris (K6IDY) and Diane Johnson's home at 53193 Toll Gate Road starting at 5:00 PM.

Then at 6:30PM, Marty Woll N6VI, the ARRL SW Division Vice Director, is scheduled to give a presentation on NVIS Antenna. These are specialized antennas, designed for local HF communications (and easily home built). Marty is a popular speaker at ARRL Conventions, Hamfests and club meetings.

If you get lost or need better information, please e-mail chrissoarcj@aol.com or call the Johnson home at 951-659-0480.

Please bring two items to the meeting, first a folding chair(s) and second a side dish. Diane will provide a ham, the silver ware and the paper ware. No time to make a side dish? Call Diane to coordinate.

All non-Ham spouses and partners are encouraged to come.

Hope for NO snow !

AI, N6TEZ, Program Chair

Mile High Radio Club General Meeting Minutes for Meetings Held on February 10th

There were 7 Board members in attendance and 12 members including new members Otay and Marilyn Peck

A total of 19 members in attendance

Regular Radio Club meeting opened at 1832 hours by President Vi Hallacy

Minutes of January 13th in newsletter - Motion to approve - Rick Foster Second - Tom Unwin Ayes: All Nays: none

Treasurer's report for 2/10/2011 - Letter from BBVA Compass Bank requesting to share information with their associates - Motion to deny permission - Christy Huss Second - Tom Unwin Ayes: all Nays: none Motion to accept Treasurer's Report - Bill Tell Second - Rick Foster Ayes: all Nays: none

New membership - Motion to accept Otay and Marilyn Peck as new club members - Rick Foster Second - Paul Miglin Ayes: all Nays: none

Old Business -

Secretary Position - Bobbi McLaughlin, KI6JCT, submitted a Letter of Resignation as secretary due to a location change. Motion to accept Christy Huss, KG6AVU, as secretary - Vi Hallacy Second - Paul Miglin Ayes: all Nays: none

ARES in Perris use of MHRC repeater - Floor open for discussion Motion to accept Memo of Understanding with Perris ARES - Christy Huss Second - Rick Foster Ayes: all Nays: none

Repeater call sign - Vanity call sign KD6OI which belonged to George Covington, who was a founder of the Mile High Radio Club, has been applied for.

March meeting and a pot luck to be held at Chris Johnson's home at 53193 Toll Gate - Guest speaker Marty Woll, N6VI Vice Director of ARRL South Western Division, will give a presentation on NVIS. The meal will start at 1700 hours and the regular club meeting will begin at 1830 hours. For more information, Chris can be contacted at 951-659-0480. A press release will be placed in the club newsletter and the Town Crier.



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Portable repeater - Hopefully, the repeater will be finished enough to present at the March meeting.

Field Trip to Table Mountain Radio Station belonging to Lee Shaklee, W6BH, is run remotely from his home in Newport Beach. Jim Day, W6DF, who manages the station, has set a tentative date in May for Anza Valley and Mile High radio clubs to visit there. There will be further information on this event.

Liability Insurance - discussion - this topic was tabled until further information can be gathered. Motion to apply for quotes - Al Toering Second - Carole Toering Ayes: all Nays: none

New Business -

Interference from Orange County - Al Toering offered to look into possible changes with their power usage, Location, or antenna

A good First Monday of the Month attendance for February of 16 check-ins was reported.

RACES meeting dates and times - Suggestions on changing to possibly day time and Sundays was proposed. A decision will be made at the March meeting.

The Quartzite HamFest and the Desert Rats HamFest were both attended by club members who had a great time, learned valuable information and had opportunities to buy equipment.

Motion to adjourn 18:30 - Al Toering Second - Wayne Laube

Christy Huss KG6AVU
MHRC Secretary

RACES Report – Mountain District

I trust everyone is making it through the February storms. Its lots of work no matter how you look at it.

March may offer more of the same and it's good if we can use our radios to stay in touch with each other. It's hard to be near a radio all the time or to be in range of a signal but the effort may be important at any time especially with rough weather. I tried to stay on the air while snow throwing –not practical but at other times heard some traffic.

What we need to try is the every other month RACES meeting since it has not been effective to have the RACES and MHRC meeting the same date. We talked about Sunday afternoon every other month. If we have good weather the meeting could be outdoors with practical use of our radios for communications and even practice setting frequencies in the radios as a field exercise. When the weather turns bad – indoors we go - and work on other important communications matters.

While this would be basically a RACES meeting I would encourage all club members to participate and be ready for the time when our communications becomes vital.

One big issue is setting frequencies or tones or shifts into your radio in the field. The variety of radios owned by club members makes a one-method-fits-all difficult, if not impossible. Making adjustments in the field to overcome communications problems suddenly makes knowing your radio important and useful rather than just a neat piece of electronics that lets you check in at roll call. NOTE- I still want you to check in at roll call!

On occasion we could take the group up to Station 23 to look at what we have there for communications. Fox Hunts teach you to track down communicators for whatever the need.



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It's all about being better communicators.

How about some feed-back. I suggest the 3rd Sunday of the month on odd months in the afternoon say 2 PM to 3:30 PM. Location: the State Park in Idyllwild - Weather permitting otherwise we will try to get into the IFPD Fire Station.

Send your comments and or suggestions to me at kn6jv@verizon.net via e-mail.

Bill Baker KN6JV

Mountain District EC – RACES

NOTICE TO ALL RACES MEMBERS

In view of the fact, that we have recently had a number of small and some not so small earthquakes, it would be advisable for all RACES members to download the most recently available **RIVERSIDE COUNTY RACES MEMBERS MANUAL**.

The manual is frequently being updated but the most recent copy can be found at www.rivcoraces.org/.

This manual is very informative about RACES activities and should be read often by RACES members until they are familiar with all aspects of RACES operations.

It also has a list of what you should have in what we have been calling your "Get-Away Bag". It's time for all of us to take a look at our "Bags" and see what we have taken out to use and not replaced, such as batteries and who knows what else.

When the call comes we need to **BE PREPARED**.