



Mt. Vaca Radio Club, Inc.

April 2005

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

ARRL
NARCC

www.mvrc.org

General Meeting Sunday, April 24th, at 4:00 p.m.

SIZZLER IN WOODLAND,
201 W. COURT ST.
(CORNER OF COURT AND COTTONWOOD)

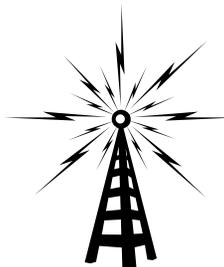
MVRC Spring Campout at Joshua Tree



Part I - Thursday evening, 4/7/05, the Barnards and Colliers met up with the Harrington's at Tehachapi and spent the night at a very cold, very rainy and very windy RV park. Next

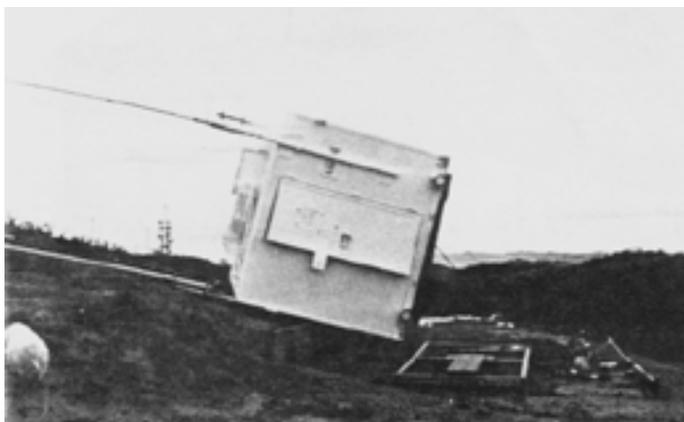
morning it was off to Joshua Tree and we hoped much warmer weather. After arriving at the campground and setting up, a 4 mile hike on the Black Canyon Loop Trail was enjoyed by all in pretty nice weather before the cold wind kicked up again in the evening. Bill & Linda's daughter and grand daughter, Kim and Amanda joined us this afternoon. Later John showed up on his motorcycle and managed to pitch a tent in near hurricane conditions. Still later Marc arrived and then much later in the evening Sunny & Ed arrived at camp. Word was received that Les and Matt had experienced mechanical trouble and would be spending the nite in Bakersfield. Communications between everyone had been hampered by Marc not having his (BIG) radio (just an HT) and Ed having a bad antenna. Saturday morning, Lew led the assembled group on a road tour of the park including Keyes View, a walk thru the Cholla Cactus Garden and a hike to Barker Dam. The Park was extremely crowded with wildflower enthusiasts. And in fact, the wildflowers were abundant and quite beautiful along with cactus blooms. That evening more very cold wind prevented the group from gathering outside. The Barnards pulled out at 6 a.m. on Sunday having received word of a death in the family.

Part II - Previous by Adrienne, continued by Les: Matthew and I arrived from our Bakersfield stop at 5 PM Saturday. The gang was just emerging from the Park as we got into Yucca Valley. We missed John, who left midday. Matthew and I had time to microwave a quick dinner before generator time expired. (Two hours at each meal time, and you thought camping was rough!) Jim led everyone on a hike to Lost Horse Mine the next morning. Then we had lunch and went different ways. Marc, with Matthew and me, decided to go 4-wheeling. After Matthew photographed Cholla and Ocotillo, we took Old Dale Road, which led north out of the Park. It was easy until near the Park boundary, where it was rough with rain erosion. It came out east of 29 Palms, and we returned to camp. Ed and Sunny suggested Sizzler for dinner, and the three of us joined them. Then Marc, Matthew, and I visited with locals, Frank, W6GZI, and Jan, KD6HYE, while I took Frank's photo at his HF rig in their motorhome, requested for a new ARRL book. The next morning, Monday, the Harringtons and Colliers left for Las Vegas, while Ed and Sunny, Marc, and Matthew and I left for home.



The MVRC will be moving to a new location soon. The reason for this move is that we can not afford the increasing monthly rental.

The new location is still being discussed by the Board of Directors and we need to make a decision. Please come to this meeting and be part of this discussion and decision



While this move will take some effort by all unlike the time the wind blew our building over on to its side.

Membership Report:

Membership is happy to report the addition of a new members to the club roster. We welcome

Bill Salisbury, WB6QFG - Lincoln

Dave Walizer, K6DDW - Auburn

A.Barnard, WA6CNE
Membership Chairman

Activities

SAT. 23 April 2005 Keith Crandall's 'Radio Electronics Estate' SALE from 8 to 3. Details concerning this sale are located on the following web site:<http://Estate.Mike-McDermott.com>

SUN APR 24, 4 PM - REGULAR MEETING - Sizzler in Woodland, 201 W Court, at Cottonwood, side dining room.

SAT MAY 21 - DAVIS DOUBLE CENTURY - Public Service.

SUN MAY 22 - NORTH HILLS HAMSWAP - Bella Vista HS, Fair Oaks.

SAT JUN 25 - WESTERN STATES ENDURANCE RUN - Public Service.

SUN JUL 10 - REGULAR MEETING

JUL 15-17 - ANNUAL CAMPOUT - Railroad Park nr Dunsmuir. RV, tent reservations through Les, W6TEE, reserve cabins through resort. Read web link.

SAT JUL 23 - TEVIS CUP - Public Service.

A little history From previous published article By Les Cobb, W6Tee

The building that houses the MVRC repeater today was transported to the old site in 1967 for an Air Force MARS repeater built by Jay O'Brien, W6GDO/W6GDD (now W6GO). Jay and Jan O'Brien, K6HHD, started using the 450 'Channel 1' repeater at this site January 27, 1968. Channel 1 was used for communications and Channel 2 was added for a full duplex autopatch link to Rio Linda on March 31, 1968. I was introduced to these marvels in April, 1968.

A remote base on 146.34/76/94 was added on September 29, 1968. A link to K6LPG in Fresno was added on December 8, 1968. Ross Stevens, W0UMG/W6FRE (now W0XJ), joined the team and the three of us spent much of April 1969 renovating the building. MARS had moved to what is now known as the MARS south site. A 116 function controller replaced something very primitive on May 9, 1969. Our ranks grew to include Don Jones, WA6DBL/W6ICX, and others wanted in.

Mt. Vaca Radio Club: We had been operating under our individual licenses, each modified for remote control privileges on Vaca. We decided to get a club license since it was unknown whether repeater rules, when they came to be, would favor clubs or individual operators. To get this license, we had to invent a club and name it. Not having any good ideas, we used "Mt. Vaca Radio Club" just as a temporary name. That got us WAA6UGY, which went on the IDer on August 26, 1969. It is from this period that we measure the history of MVRC.

Mt. Vaca Radio Club, Inc.: Soon we incorporated and in the bylaws we recognized the five Founders, plus the other 14 Charter members, plus two pre-charter reciprocal members who exercised conversion rights to membership. Those remaining as members today are:

Founders
George Masters, W6GHE
Les Cobb, W6TEE

Charter
Doug Macheel, K6HLE
Bob Bartels, K5MVZ

Conversion Lew Barnard, WA6ESA

Remembering when

Did you know that for a brief time the MVRC was truly a mobile repeater club ??

The original repeater site on Mt Vaca was on property owned by Crowley Maritime. In exchange for allowing the MVRC to occupy the space, the Club was responsible for maintenance around the Crowley and MVRC sites. This amounted to occasional trips to do some weed control. Then in 1989 Crowley sold the property to a commercial site operator. The rent charged by the new owner was prohibitive and so the MVRC was, for a time, homeless. VHF did continue operating at a temporary location until a fellow ham offered us space on which we could relocate the building. And so it goes that, pulled not by a reindeer but by a big ol' Blazer known as WA6ACF, the building was towed to the new site as the little ol driver called out "WA6UGY MOBILE."

WA6CNE Historian



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.

**SEE YOU ALL AT
THE MEETING!**