

# The Coachella Valley Repeater



President: Peter Reinzuch  
VE7REZ  
760.318.0186



Leo Meyerson Chapter 154  
President: Gene Pentecost W4IMT  
760.568.3341

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President: Robert Grassi  
K16JIZ  
760.341.3881



Coachella Valley Dist Officer:  
Ken Nelson N6HR  
760.219.7962



## Coachella Valley Amateur Radio Club

The February 9<sup>th</sup> Tuesday meeting is a CVARC and QCWA Chapter 154 sponsored event. Everything you wanted to know about "Simply the Best **Repeater System** in Southern California" you can get FIRST hand. The "shaker and mover" of the PAPA (Pocket Auto Patch Association) repeater system, Cecil Casillas, WD6FZA, will be speaking about this system at the usual CVARC meeting site (Cathedral City Fire Dept., 32100 Desert Vista Road, Cathedral City) at 7pm. Cecil's Power Point presentation is outstanding. Coupled with his enthusiasm, an equally enthusiastic response is predicted.

For comprehensive information visit the PAPA website at [www.papasys.org](http://www.papasys.org). You can access, from most of the Coachella Valley, the PAPA repeater located on Toro Peak (446.580-). Generally, you register on the PAPA Forum, download a PAPA System Guest Guide, and then start using the PAPA System. One can try out the System temporarily (recommended for at least a month) to see if this works for you. Before the meeting, you will have an opportunity to meet and speak with Cecil.

**73,**  
**Bill Crowl**  
**WH6CUX**  
Vice-President



**Coachella Valley  
Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 11092  
Palm Desert, CA 92255**

**President:**  
**Robert Grassi**  
K16JIZ  
Email: bobbyelectric@netzero.net

**Vice President:**  
**Bill Crowl**  
WH6CUX  
Email: tropicrowl@aol.com

**Secretary:**  
**Robin Millar**  
KA6HWT  
Email: robin072@verizon.net

**Treasurer & Membership:**  
**Tom Becker**  
K16CDF  
Email: tbecker@msn.com

**Activities Director:**  
**MaureenHiemstra**  
K6BSC  
Email: k6bsc@juno.com

**Past President:**  
**Louis Parker**  
KA6BJO  
Email: ka6bjo@dc.rr.com

**Editor:**  
**Joyce Witten**  
KG6FHU  
Email: Joyce-Witten@dc.rr.com  
Fax (888) 556-9114

**Club Website:**  
[www.qsl.net/k6bsc](http://www.qsl.net/k6bsc)

**REPEATER:**  
NR6P 146.025+ pl 107.2



*Hey, did you know...*

*CVARC Dues are due and payable the month of January. Please submit your money to PO Box 11092, Palm Desert 92255, or payment can be made at the CVARC meeting. If your dues are **not** up to date, you will lose your voting rights and receipt of the monthly newsletter.*



## COACHELLA VALLEY R.A.C.E.S.

The regular monthly meeting could not be held at Civic Yard, Palm Springs at 7pm on Thurs 14 Jan 2010 due to a mix up and City of Palm Springs making a double booking for the room. We postponed the meeting to Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Jan. Unfortunately the room had been double booked again but we were able to utilize the large room divider. With some 38 attendees - including new members and despite terrible rainy weather - we had something of a curtailed meeting. We started at 7.15pm and due to there being no flag the meeting was opened without the Pledge of Allegiance but with personal introductions. All are reminded of the requirement to have completed the study on ICS 100 & 700 and forward the certificates to Ken Nelson.

APRS units were collected for checking prior to Tour de PS. Most of the meeting was taken up with details about the Tour and again a list was circulated asking for volunteers for the Tour de Palm Springs on Feb 13<sup>th</sup> 2010. At least 48 RACES and other radio volunteers would be needed. There was some explanation of the Race and SAG stops etc. The website for the Tour is <http://www.tourdepalmsprings.com/>.

Members were reminded that full uniforms would be required on that day. Information to order shirts, etc is on the RACES website and Ken plans to issue an email with frequency information before the next meeting. He will also be asking for your shirt size in the expectation of getting Tour T-shirts for all volunteers.

Members are again reminded of the huge amount of information contained on the County RACES website: <http://www.rivcoraces.org>. All licensees / RACES members are encouraged to check it out before the next regular meeting which is scheduled for Thurs 11 Feb 2010. We look forward to seeing you there- but of course EMERGENCIAS CAN HAPPEN in between times. This is a good time to ensure that you have a working portable with TWO batteries (you'll need them for Tour de Palm Springs as well). And remember if we have an earthquake go to 146.025 (Cactus City repeater). First operator on the air becomes the control point and we need feedback of what has happened in your neighborhood - short, informative and to the point please, no rambling stories.

**Ken Nelson N6HR**

*Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services  
District Officer, Coachella Valley  
Cell Phone 760-219-7962  
Pager 951-270-4705*



Article Submitted by: David Simpson W6OPS

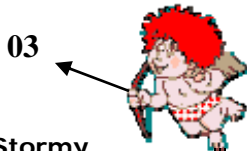
# Happy Birthday



**Rick Madlin  
KI6QIK**



**Woodrow  
Wood  
N6LGW**



**Stormy  
Dayton  
KF6BM**



**Weldon  
Madlin  
KE6GMC**



## *The Desert RATS* **Palm Springs Hamfest 2010!**

The accolades keep rolling in for Hamfest 2010 as the ground breaking, precedent setting event takes the Desert by storm. The well publicized event drew a crowd of hundreds (up to 600 attendees, by best estimates). Over 30 vendors sprawled over the grounds and into the Barn at the Boskovich's Estate in Palm Springs. Visitors came from as far away as Nova Scotia, Canada, and Vancouver Island, British Columbia and from North Carolina to the East. Almost every vendor did an outstanding day of sales, beyond their expectations, especially HRO, as did our Club consignment tables!

Reports I am getting are: it is putting a new thought as to what other Ham events may evolve to. Here is a quote from Clint Bradford AMSAT Coordinator for Southern California: "What you accomplished with your great volunteers and hard work is causing many to think about the future of the 2 and 3-day conventions in our region. You had most of what hams want at such a gathering and I didn't have to pay a parking fee, didn't have to pay admission, was charged only five bucks for a lunch and only a buck for coffee . . ." I might add that the vendors had no costs and stayed with their RV's for free too!

On Saturday morning I was the first one up at 5 am and put the coffee on. I had no idea what to expect for the day. Volunteers arrived by 6:15 am and throughout the day did a great job at all that was assigned to them with grace and good humor. Many thanks go to them.

Mr. Ham Radio himself, Leo Meyers, spent the afternoon there with caregiver Abigail. Leo is an icon in Ham Radio circles having been an inventor and manufacturer of famous radios of bygone days with his companies World Radio and Globe Radio. In his mid 90's now, Leo is still in great shape.

Some of the other notable guests were ARRL's Dick Norton, Carl Gardenia and Bill Prat. Organizers from Yuma Hamfest came and invited all to their Hamfest and Emergency Preparedness Show on Feb 19-20. Palm Springs Hamfest will be working with the organizers of Quartzite Hamfest and Yuma Hamfest to form the 'big three' of must attend events for the Ham community in the area. We all agreed they compliment each other so well.

Winter Field Day was special for a couple of operators. Both Lisa and Evan are graduates of our Tech and General Ham classes and they had a grand time on the air. It was their first try on an HF rig. Lisa was especially charged up as she made contacts to VE2 land in far Northeast Canada and Germany, all within the first half hour of being on the air, plus many other contacts across the country. That lady was born to be contesting! To end the evening we had a good old fashioned jam session in the Barn. Ham jammers from Vancouver Island, Canada and from Yucca Valley joined special guest Muishi, a professional musician from El Centro, in the best impromptu jam session I have listened to in a long time! Many toes were tapping and others sang along.

Many thanks to everyone that participated, especially to the Desert RATS Club and the Palm Springs DX Club volunteers. 73 to everyone involved!

Peter VE7REZ /w6

See our web site Forum for the rest of the story <http://desertrats.x.am>

### Desert RATS EVENTS:

Listen to NEWSLINE on 146.940 - PL 107.2 Mondays at 6:30 pm. Monday Net at 7PM on same repeater. Digital Communications Net after the main Net about 7:30 pm:

See our web site Lab RATS section at <http://desertrats.am/labrats.php> for information on how to download FLdigi, the software we will use, and PSK 251 is the NBEMS mode for this experimenters event. It is a fairly basic easy to use form of digital communications; all you need is a 2 meter Radio, a mike and a computer; no interface or any special wires needed. It's very simple to use . . . come join us on the Desert RATS Repeater. If you have any questions or problems we can talk you through it during the Net. It's a lot of fun; try it; you'll like it!

### **----- PRESS RELEASE -----**

AMSAT area coordinator Clint Bradford, K6LCS, will be presenting his "Working Amateur Satellites with Your HT" multimedia session at the February 16, 2010 meeting of the Desert RATS of Palm Springs. All are welcome to attend. "Tentatively, we'll have a workable pass of AO-51 at 5:37pm that evening," Clint reports. If you would like to show up early, Clint will be working the satellite from the Jack-in-the-Box parking lot at 2591 E Tahquitz Canyon Way, and monitoring our 146.940 repeater.

Tuesday, February 16, 2010  
Desert RATS meeting starts at 7PM  
Palm Springs Corporate Yard  
425 N. Civic Drive  
Palm Springs CA 92262-0331

Attendees should download Clint's four-page tutorial and radio programming matrix before the meeting from... <http://www.work-sat.com> and Clint welcomes pre-presentation questions - call him at 909-241-7666, or send email to [clint@clintbradford.com](mailto:clint@clintbradford.com).

73 ....Peter VE7REZ  
President- Desert Radio Amateur  
Transmitting Society of Palm  
Springs  
" The Desert RATS"

**WEB SITE:**  
<http://desertrats.am>





**QCWA Chapter 154  
DREEP's Droppings**

**There will be NO February luncheon meeting!** Instead, we will join the Coachella Valley Amateur Radio Club for a presentation by Cecil Casillas, WD6FZA. Cecil is the "shaker and mover" behind a system of 22 inter-linked analog and digital repeaters, covering the area roughly bounded by Santa Barbara to the north and Mexico to the south, and from the Arizona border to the east and well into the Pacific Ocean on the west. For more information see the CVARC article in this issue of the Repeater.

Nick Rodillas, N6RND, President of the QCWA Riverside, CA, QCWA chapter was our January luncheon speaker. He talked about his visit to the MFJ facility in Starkville, MS, and his interview with owner Martin F. Jue, K5FLU. It was truly an eye opener about how he manufactures and sells such a wide variety of products at very competitive prices. Thank you, Nick.

Saturday morning, January 16, at 5:00 AM (yes, AM), two vehicles (station wagon and pickup) hauling a full load of equipment from the estate of Dick Atwood, W6IP (SK), departed Palm Springs. Shortly after 7:00 AM, the vehicles and their occupants, Harold, K6TQM, Emil, K6LGI, Harry, VE6HK, and Gene, W4IMT, were in position at the Chino swapfest. About two hours later we had sold nearly all the items and netted \$1168 for his widow. Saturday, January 30, at the Desert Radio Amateur Transmitting Society's hamfest, we sold the remaining items. Thanks to all who helped with this important project.

**Leo Meyerson, W0GFQ, will soon be 99 years young!** As in past years, Chapter 154 will join Leo and Abigail to celebrate. See next month's Repeater for details.

See you at the February CVARC meeting!

**73**  
**Gene Pentecost W4IMT**  
*President, Leo Meyerson Chapter 154  
Greater Palm Springs Area  
Quarter Century Wireless Association  
760-568-3341  
gene.pentecost@ieee.org*

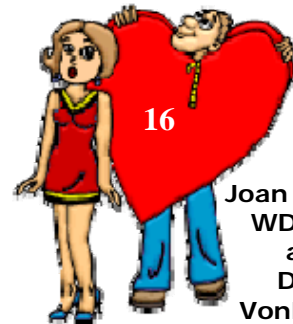


**2010 YUMA HAMFEST**

The 2010 Yuma Hamfest & Emergency Preparedness Show takes place on February 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. All seminars are held on Saturday. This Annual event continues to grow, and has become the "fun" hamfest to attend with all the prizes and the dinner on Saturday evening, etc. This year, both Yaesu and Icom will also have exhibits. There are non-ham activities too. To view the big picture, check out [www.yumahamfest.org](http://www.yumahamfest.org).

**73,  
Bill Crowl  
WH6CUX**

**Happy Birthday**



**Joan Hansen  
WD6CXN  
and  
Dave  
VonKaenel  
N6KOO**








**Charles  
Broussard  
KK6MV**



**Alan Riddle  
N6DCR**

# FEBRUARY 1- MARCH 6, 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7 pm RATS NET	2	3	4 7 pm CV RACES NET	5 11:00 am LUNCH @ Palm Desert Greens	6 9 am VE Testing LDS Church 1400 N. Avenida Cabellero, P.Spgs (between Sunrise & Farrell)
7 8:30 am RACES NET	8 7 pm RATS NET	9  7 pm CVARC & QCWA Meeting Cathedral City Fire Dept, 32100 Desert Vista Rd	10	11 7:00 pm RACES Mtg 425 N. Civic Dr, Palm Springs 	12 11:00 am LUNCH @ Palm Desert Greens	13  Tour de Palm Springs
14 8:30 am RACES NET 	15 7 pm RATS NET	16 7 pm DRATS Mtg 425 N. Civic Dr., P. S. 	17	18 7 pm CV RACES NET	19 11:00 am LUNCH @ Palm Desert Greens	20
21 8:30 am RACES NET	22 7 pm RATS NET	23	24	25 7 pm CV RACES NET	26 11:00 am LUNCH @ Palm Desert Greens	27
28 8:30 am RACES NET	1 7 pm RATS NET	2	3 7 pm VE Testing American Red Cross 42 <sup>nd</sup> & Corporate Way	4 7 pm CV RACES NET	5 11:00 am LUNCH @ Palm Desert Greens	6

**NET(s) FREQUENCIES:** Sundays 830 hrs - RACES Net (3.945 MHz)  
 Mondays 1900 hrs - Desert RATS Net (146.940-, 107.2 pl)  
 Thursdays 1900 hrs - Coachella Valley **RACES** Net (146.940-, 107.2 pl)