



## 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: Tom Unwin WA6SSS, Vice President: Christy Huss KG6AVU, Secretary: Vi Hallacy K6VBH, Treasurer: Vi Hallacy K6VBH, **Board Members**: Bill Baker KN6JV, Rick Foster KG6TIJ, Chris Johnson KI6LOD, Bill Tell KD6KTV

## MOUNTAIN FLASHES – NEWSLETTER APRIL - 2009

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*From the Editor*

### April – Wednesday Roll Callers held at 1900 Hours:

1<sup>st</sup>: Jim KF6TYZ                      8<sup>th</sup>: Chris KI6LOD  
15<sup>th</sup>: Bill KD6KTV                  22<sup>nd</sup>: Bill KN6JV  
29<sup>th</sup>: Paul KG6TIL

### County wide Monthly Roll Call

*Will be on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 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.*

### April Meetings @ Idyllwild Fire

### Mark Your Calendars!

MHRC Board: Thursday, April 9th, 6:30 PM

MHRC/RACES: Thursday, April 9th, 6:30 PM

All are welcome to attend any of the above meetings.

### *Message from Bill Baker*

The RACES section of our meeting in March brought home the need for more training in message handling. This is a common issue for most operators since we do not have recurring need for actual use. There are a whole host of topics that need attention for communications operation but message handling has to be at the top of the list. Many of the others such as setting frequencies, using the radio, setting up a radio in the field etc are subjects of manuals or assistance of others. Actually sending or receiving a message accurately is not the same as the mechanics of using a radio largely because:

1. Messages are seldom prepackaged or include an instruction manual
2. Poor signals, local distractions, situation urgency, cumbersome documentation
3. Technical terms, jargon, speed of delivery, lack of breaks between word sets and on and on all lead to poor communications usually at a time when messages are vital.

We will begin sending and receiving messages at roll calls. The plan will begin very soon and I urge all those who call roll be ready to send and receive messages on air once we begin. More info will be sent to the district via e mail.

73, Bill Baker KN6JV



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### *MINUTES OF THE MILE HIGH RADIO CLUB/ RACES MEETING March 12, 2009*

The meeting was called to order at 1840 by Christy Huss, Vice President. There were 6 members and 2 guests, Chris Milford and Tom Huss, in attendance. There were no corrections to the minutes of the January meeting and no minutes for the February meeting which was cancelled due to the bad weather.

The treasurer's report was given by Secretary/Treasurer Vi Hallacy

Vi reported she has sent thank you letters to all the people who have donated to the Portable Repeater Fund so far.

Christy asked for volunteers to work on necessary changes to the By-Laws and Bill Tell, Rick Foster and Chris Johnson volunteered. Bill will request an electronic copy of the By-Laws from Jim Kent and invite him to participate in the changes.

Chris Milford submitted an application for membership to the MHRC. It was voted on and approved unanimously by the members.

Bill Tell reported that the annual Bike Race will be held May 2 and 3 and said we have been asked to work on communications again. They would like to have us meet with the Rescue and Medical teams prior to the race to do some organization. This will not be a RACES event and Bill asked for volunteers. Chris Johnson, Vi Hallacy and Rick Foster signed up.

Bill Baker said he spoke to the Rotary Ann organization and the POCPOA about our need for funds for the Portable repeater. Vi said she would start working on a grant from the Idyllwild Community Fund after March 15 when the application will become available.

The problem we have been having with interference on the repeater has apparently been solved by Tom Unwin working on the weather station which is in the same building as the repeater.

Bill Tell asked for Newsletter articles to be submitted by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. He also asked us to be sure to look at the much improved Web site.

The MHRC portion of the meeting was adjourned at 1905 and we enjoyed some refreshments courtesy of Bill Baker.

The RACES meeting was called to order by Bill Baker, KN6JV, Mountain District EC, at 1920. He announced that he will soon be meeting with Gina Moran-McGough from the OES office and Bruce Yoho, Anza E.C., to set up a communications drill with the Anza RACES group. The training for this month was on message handling with emphasis on 5 word spacing and use of phonetics for words that could be misunderstood. After the exercise was over, all agreed we needed much more practice.

The meeting was adjourned at 2020. The next meeting will be on April 9, 2009 at 1830 at the Idyllwild Fire Station.

73, Vi Hallacy K6VBH

#### *Quiz: Back to basics.*

1. A common connector pair for coax is: a. PL239 / SO 239; b. sc158 / sp 258; c. RG213 / RG 59; d. PL259 / SO239
2. Doubling the output frequency produces a 2<sup>nd</sup> harmonic: a. 2 times the original frequency; b. 4 times the original frequency; c. pi times the original frequency; d. There is no change



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### *Up-Coming Events Schedule:*

**May – the Spring Challenge Bike Race**, always an exciting event. I **urgently** need more sign-ups for this event to be held Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Only 4 have signed up to date. This leaves a huge gap in the race course. Lunch will be provided as will this year's tee shirt so I need to know your lunch selection and Tee shirt size. E-mail me or call and leave a message. Lunch options --- Ham, Turkey or veggie sandwich.

**June 27 – 28 is Field day.** We can always use lots of volunteers and operators. More information on this topic will follow at up-coming meetings. This is a Club event. **Be sure to check out last years Video and Slide show linked from our web site. Go to News and Events and scroll down to "Field Day 08". There you will find all of last years fun and excitement, thanks to the Press Enterprise.**

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade.** We need a minimum of 4 radio operators for course communications. This is a RACES event.

**August 22 & 23 – Jazz Festival.** Need 3 operators each shift (2 shifts each day). This is a RACES event. I will need to know in advance if you will participate since there is some administrative work that needs to be done.

Be sure to check out the clubs web site at [www.milehighradioclub.org/activities](http://www.milehighradioclub.org/activities) for additional information related to these great events.

Thank you, Bill Baker KN6JV

### *Humor!!! It's all in one's perspective.*

A man and his wife were sitting at a table at his high school reunion,

The wife kept staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sat alone at a nearby table.

She asks, "Do you know her?"

"Yes," he sighed, "She's my old girlfriend. I understand she took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear she hasn't been sober since."

"My God!" says the wife, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long....".

### *Quiz Answers;*

- 1: d
- 2: b

### *From the Editor;*

Spring is in the air, the bulbs are blooming and the yard needs attention. But we also need to focus a bit more attention towards our radio club. This in fact is our 20<sup>th</sup> year as an organization and a great one at that. Think back on all of the hard work and dedication the members have given over the years to put us where we are at. We need to hear more from the others in the club so that this tradition of radio communications is carried on long into the future. Please get out to our next meeting, answer up on roll call or volunteer for one or all of the up-coming activities, join in the spirit.

Respectively submitted, Bill Tell KD6KTV