
W6VIO Calling



Jet Propulsion Laboratory Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 842, La Canada CA 91012-0842

Volume 40, Issue 1 w6vio@arrl.net; <http://jplarc.ampr.org> Jan 2017

President (2017):	Jonathan Cameron, KF6RTA	4-1189	EmComm. Mgr:	Chris Gaylord, W6YTB	4-5584
Vice President (2017):	Josh Miller, KB3UUS	4-0835	W6VIO Trustee:	Rob Smith, W6GRV	3-7937
Secretary (2017):	Matt W. Bennett KF6RTB	3-8200	W6JPL Trustee:	Eric Archer, N6CV	4-7350
Treasurer (2017):	Chuck Sarture, KG6NF	4-2706	WR6JPL Trustee:	Jim Lux, W6RMK	4-2075
Director at Large:	Steve Townes, WB4ILW	4-7525	WR6AZN Trustee:	Bill Wood, W6FXJ	760-256-9576
Newsletter editor:	Jim Marr, AA6QI, email: aa6qi at arrl.net (your articles for the newsletter are requested, please)				

Upcoming Events:

- **Emergency Communications Net:** Every Monday at Noon, on WR6JPL 224.08/(-)/156.7 & 445.20/(-)/103.5, or WR6AZN 223.96/(-)/156.7 on Table Mountain.
 - **JPLARC Regular Membership meeting:** Second working Friday every month from Noon to 1pm and usually in 180-703C. Call-in: 818-354-4044 ID-number: **997 183 539** (without the spaces). Slides (if any) broadcast via JPL WebEx (same ID-number). Next is **January 27, 2017, guest speaker is Jonathan Cameron KF6RTA discussing "State of the Club"**. The 2017 club officers will assume the leadership of the club as of this meeting.
 - **JPLARC Board of Directors (BOD) meeting:** Normally, the first working Friday, every month, from Noon to 1pm and usually in 180-703C. The next BOD meeting will be **Feb 10, 2017**. Call-in: 818-354-4044 ID-number: **997 183 539** (without the spaces).
 - For more upcoming events, see the ARRL Los Angeles Section website: <http://www.areslax.org>
 - **JPL Retiree Nets:** Saturdays, 8:30pm on 1.990 Mhz LSB and Sundays, 2:00pm on 7.150Mhz LSB.
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- JPLARC organization chart (still 2016)

Reminder: The JPLARC Bylaws state that dues for renewing members are payable to the club secretary by January 30th each year.

The Membership application/renewal form can be found on the JPLARC web site, jplarc.ampr.org, at the bottom of the "Who We Are" page (see the button on the left column).

Return this application/renewal form with your dues to our 2017 Secretary, Matt W. Bennett, at JPL MS 321-364.

Regular Membership Roster

By Jim Marr AA6QI

Since there wasn't a December regular membership meeting of the club, included here (Figure 1) is the 2016 year-end club membership roster, including call, first and last names, license class and ARRL membership status, all sorted by last name.

BOD Meeting Jan 13th

By Jim Marr AA6QI

Present were: Jonathan Cameron* KF6RTA, Bob Dengler† NO6B, Chris Gaylord** W6YTB, Rob Smith† W6GRV, Mike Torode. On the Phone: Chris Carson† KE6ABQ, Dave Hodges† KI6RTA, Jim Marr† AA6QI, Chuck Sarture† KG6NF, Bill Weber† N6CI.

Note: † indicates a 2016 regular voting member (i.e., JPL/Caltech/Retiree & 2016 dues paid), ** indicates an associate (non-voting) member, and * Indicates a 2016

Call	First Name	Last Name	LClass	ARRL?
AI6TB	Dimitrios	Antsos	E	
KM6BZX	Paul	Averill	T	
WB6CWI	Chuck	Baker	T	Y
WA6DZS	Philip	Barnes-Roberts	E	Y
KE6PNC	Donna	Barnes-Roberts	G	Y
KK6IHF	James	Bartok	T	N
KF6RTB	Matt	Bennett	E	N
KJ6IZX	Gary	Block	E	Y
	Michael	Bottom		N
K6ZTA	Vaughn P.	Cable	E	L
KF6RTA	Jonathan	Cameron	E	Y
KG6JNO	Janet	Cameron	T	
KE6ABQ	Christopher	Carson	E	N
	Pamela	Clark		
AG6YR	Steve	Collins	E	N
K8NBD	Nancee	Darling	E	Y
NO6B	Bob	Dengler	E	N
N5BF	Courtney	Duncan	E	L
WD5EHM	Viann	Duncan	T	N
KK6URT	Simon	Flores	T	N
K6ICS	Michael	Gauthier	E	L
WA6OUD	Margaret	Gauthier	G	L
W6YTB	Chris	Gaylord	E	Y
KI6BJB	Jorge	Gonzales	T	Y
AE6S	Bob	Gosline	E	L
KM6FCE	David	Gumpertz	G	Y
KC6HUR	Randolph	Hammock	T	N
KM6GBY	Kathleen	Harmon	T	Y
KI6PMB	David	Hodges	T	N
N6UNI	James	Jenkins	E	Y
AG6MN	Jeffrey	LaGrange	E	Y
WA6KPW	Jim	Longthorne	G	Y
W6RMK	Jim	Lux	E	Y
AG6TD	Mark	Lysek	E	N
AA6QI	Jim	Marr	E	L
KC6FSP	Michele	Marr	T	N
KB3UUS	Josh	Miller	E	N
K6DNS	Walter	Mushagian	E	Y
WA6KLC	Stephen	Noland	A	Y
K6SN	Scott	Nolte	E	L
KE6RFV	Ian	Pinkham	T	N
K1NAR	Nasrat	Raouf	E	Y
WB6KZE	Charles	Rhoades	A	N
N6XLK	Michael	Roche	G	Y
N6MP	Stan	Sander	E	Y
KG6NF	Chuck	Sarture	A	Y
KC6NRL	David	Seidel	T	N
KJ6ARC	Eric	Shalov	G	N
W6GRV	Rob	Smith	E	L
KK6RII	Jonathan	Soliman	T	Y
AC6LS	Lew	Soloway	E	Y
	Vishnu	Sridhar		N
WB6VRN	Jan	Tarsala	E	Y
W4EF	Michael	Tope	E	Y
WB4ILW	Stephen	Townes	A	Y
N6FV	Fred	Vescelus	E	Y
N6CI	William	Weber	E	Y
KI6BWO	Simeon	Young	E	Y

Figure 1: 2016 Year-End JPLARC Membership

BOD member. For a BOD meeting quorum, the JPLARC Bylaws require a majority of the BOD (four or more) to

be present. We had four BOD members present (plus 5 other regular members and one non-member) so we **did** have a quorum.

2017 Officer Elections: The newly elected 2017 officers are: President: Jonathan Cameron KF6RTA; Vice President: Josh Miller KB3UUS; Secretary: Matt W Bennett KF6RTB; Treasurer: Chuck Sarture KG6NF, so the only change from 2016 would be Matt for Secretary. Per the JPLARC Bylaws, the new officers assume their duties as of the January Regular Membership meeting. Appointed positions: Jonathan Cameron indicated that he plans to appoint Chris Gaylord W6YTB as Emergency Communications Manager and will ask Steve Townes WB4ILW to continue as Director at Large since he is still the immediate past president.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Chuck Sarture KG6NF reported that there was no change in the treasury since the December report, so that the Beginning and Ending balances remain at \$3,777.75.

Membership Report: Secretary Chris Gaylord reported that there was no change in membership this last month, remaining at 58 total members, of which 47 are voting members and 68% of licensed, voting members are ARRL members.

Membership Renewal: The JPLARC Bylaws specify that membership dues for renewing members are payable on January 1st and are overdue after January 31st. As of this BOD meeting, nine members have renewed so far.

To renew, download the latest membership form from the "How to become a Member" section at the end of the "Who We Are" page. A direct link is: jplarc.ampr.org/JPLARCMemberApp2017.pdf.

The PDF form has been updated to be a "Fill-in" form. Download, fill it in, print, include check, and send to: Matt W. Bennett, MS 321-351 (NOTE the 'W', since there are two Matt Bennett's at JPL).

Guest speaker program update: Upcoming talks and potential talks were discussed (see the list of upcoming talks near the end of this newsletter).

Potential talks include: Using the IRLP system/setting up your own IRLP node; DXing and DXing practices; Working an amateur satellite; Microwave communications and new geosynchronous amateur satellite (uses C/X band up/down link).

If there are topics that you are interested in or something that you would like to give a talk about, please contact Josh Miller KB3UUS or Matt W. Bennett KF6RTB.

Mesh Network Update: In addition to the JPLARC mesh nodes described in last month's issue of W6VIO Calling, there is a new JPLARC node on Pleasants Peak in Orange County (Figures 2 & 3). Node details:

- **W6JPL-PleasantsPk-P2P-JPL.local.mesh**, via a Ubiquity NanoStation M3 with reflector, providing a point-to-point link from Pleasants Peak to JPL at 3,400 GHz (10 MHz channel width, SSID AREDN, with improved bandwidth of 18-15 Mbps).

This node was installed by Joe Ayers AE6XE and Jonathan Cameron KF6RTA along with a 3 GHz backbone link to Yucaipa.



Figure 2: Installation of the JPLARC mesh node on Pleasants Peak, Orange County

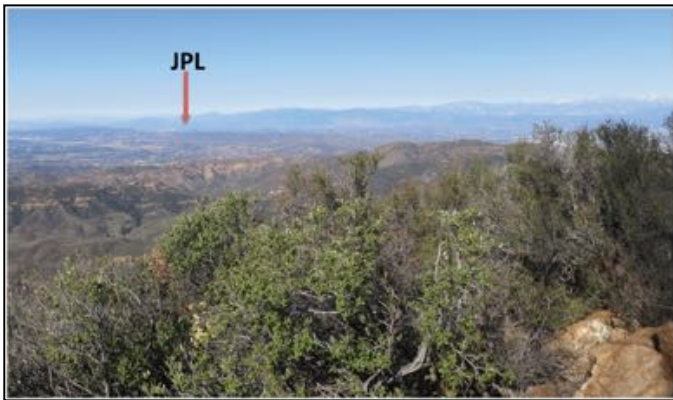


Figure 3: View of JPL from Pleasants Peak, Orange County

It was expected that a link would be installed on Mt. Elsinore on the weekend of January 14, 2017 in order to link the Orange County mesh network (and thus the JPL nodes) to the San Diego mesh network.

Coming later this year will be a link from Pleasants Peak to Ventura County via Verdugo Peak.

Updating the JPLARC Bylaws: The JPLARC Board of Directors is currently reviewing and proposing language changes to the existing JPLARC Bylaws in five areas:

- Clarifying officer transitions at the beginning of each calendar year;
- Correcting outdated language that no longer applies;
- Streamlining membership categories;
- Updating officer duties to match current practices;

- Updating and clarifying voting procedures;

Following discussions, a final draft will be prepared for Board review and approval. Once approved by the Board, the draft will be sent to membership for a vote.

The Board welcomes input from all members. Contact Jonathan Cameron or Chris Gaylord if you wish to participate in this review process.

Work Parties: The club has a long list of tasks that need work parties. Some need longer chunks of time and some are shorter and can be done during lunches or after hours. The Board will review goals and key tasks at the January Regular Membership meeting.

Typically, work parties are Saturdays or RDO Fridays.

While club officers will be organizing "official" work parties, anyone else is welcome to lead a work party at any time.

Club members are strongly encouraged to volunteer for work parties to help make the club better for everyone. Don't worry about your skill level, since any help will be appreciated.

Southern California Linux Expo: Will be held March 2nd through 5th, 2017 at the Pasadena Convention Center. There will be an AREDN/Mesh Networking Booth that Jonathan Cameron plans to help staff. Plan to attend if you can.

Monday Noon-Net Check-ins: We continue to have 20-to-30 check-ins each week. Some statistics from 2016:

- Number of different net controllers: 7
- Check-in statistics (for non-holidays) for 44 nets held during the year: Average number of check-ins - 22.8, standard deviation - 3.3; Max number of check-ins - 30; Min number of check-ins - 16; Missed non-holiday nets - 2.

Remember: We will use the check-in/check-out style net on the first Monday of each month.

Suggestion: When you become aware of a fire drill or actual fire/emergency, turn your radio to the 445.20 repeater (J400).

New Newsletter Editor Needed: Jim Marr, the newsletter editor since 2013, has requested that the 2017 Board recruit a new newsletter editor. This person works closely with the club's Secretary. Jim will help get the new editor up to speed, just as Bill Wood W6FXJ did for Jim when he started.

Other nets/clubs: (1) *JPL Retiree nets:* (a) 160m net: Saturdays 8:30pm-9:30pm on 1.990MHz LSB, and (b) 40m net: Sundays 2:00pm to whenever on 7.185MHz LSB; (2) *Pasadena Radio Club*, meets 4th Tuesday of every month at the Kaiser facility in Pasadena. See w6ka.net; (3) The Altadena *ALERT net* meets Mondays at 8pm on

the W6MPH repeater (145.18, -, 156.7), followed by a simplex net on 147.480 MHz (ALTA1).

JEARS

By Chris Gaylord W6YTB

Last January we began the process of formalizing the JPL Emergency Amateur Radio Service (JEARS) as an official emergency response team under the Lab's Emergency Operations Plan and NASA requirements. Key to this process is for JEARS volunteers to complete four online FEMA classes (IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800) to ensure that they are familiar with the standardized incident command system (ICS) terminology and practices used by JPL emergency responders as well as our local, state, and federal partners.

To date, the following individuals have completed the required FEMA classes and been issued a JEARS ID badge: James Bartok KK6IHF, Jonathan Cameron KF6RTA, Robert Dengler NO6B, Jim Erickson N6PGC, Steve Jenkins N6UNI, Jim Lux W6RMK, Nasrat Raouf K1NAR, Charles Rhoades WB6KZE, David Seidel KC6NRL, Lew Soloway AC6LS, and Simeon Young KI6BWO. I would like to recognize and thank these individuals for making this commitment to the Lab's emergency preparedness efforts. Several others are "in the pipeline" working on completing the classes and will be added to this list as they do so.

As the next phase of training, we are implementing the ARRL's EC-001 Introduction to Emergency Communication class as our standard "basic training" on EmComm procedures. After attending the class myself last spring and completing other requirements, I was authorized by ARRL as a Field Instructor for the class and plan to offer it once a year at JPL for new JEARS members. The first class begins on January 19 and will run every Thursday through the end of March for an hour each week. At the end of the class, participants will take an exam to receive their official ARRL EC-001 certificate. Rob Smith W6GRV - as an existing ARRL Volunteer Examiner - was authorized as a Field Examiner for the class and will serve as the lead for the exam. Lew Soloway AC6LS is also in the process of becoming an ARRL VE and Field Examiner and will hopefully serve as the second examiner.

For more information, please contact Chris Gaylord W6YTB at christopher.gaylord@jpl.nasa.gov or (818) 354-5584.

ARRL Membership:

By Jim Marr AA6QI

As an ARRL affiliated club, we need to maintain at least 51% ARRL membership among our voting members.

While there are no requirements to maintain ARRL membership, there are some clear advantages to having ARRL membership. Some of these are:

- Receiving the monthly QST magazine and having access to all back issues electronically.
- Being able to subscribe to weekly ARRL news, propagation forecasts, and satellite ephemeris notifications.
- Being able to subscribe to the electronic monthly Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) newsletter that may be of interest to members who wish to stay current on emergency communications.
- Member discounts on materials and training. For example, the ARRL Introduction to Emergency Communication Course is \$85 for non-members but only \$50 for members.
- You support ARRL, the only significant amateur radio advocacy organization in the U.S. that is fighting to protect our access to the airwaves.

Should those of you who are not already members and may wish to join, **please do so through the Club** rather than joining directly through ARRL. Why? If you join through the Club (new members), the Club retains \$15 of your membership fee to support Club activities. From your point of view, the amount you pay is the same either way. Even if you are a member who is just renewing, doing so through the Club nets the Club \$2, again without changing your costs at all.

To renew through the Club, see Secretary Chris Gaylord who will help you with the paperwork (don't worry, it's really simple!).

Thanks in advance for considering joining ARRL or for maintaining your membership.

Future Meetings

By Jim Marr AA6QI

All JPLARC meetings are being held on working (i.e. non-RDO) Friday's from Noon to 1 PM in 180-703C (unless otherwise indicated). The BOD meets on the first working Friday each month and the regular membership meeting is held on the second working Friday of each month. When there is a third working Friday in a month, the Board can decide whether or not to hold an additional BOD meeting on that third working Friday.

Upcoming regular membership meeting talks (always subject to change):

February 24th: AMSAT Future (Patric Stoddard WD9EWK)

March 24th: JPL ARC "Show and Tell" (Matt W. Bennett)

April 21st: Setting up your own mesh network node (Josh Miller KB3UUS).

May 19th: Field Day discussion and planning (Matt W. Bennett).

2016 JPLARC Organization:

