

Amateur Radio Club

At our last Amateur radio club meeting we were greeted with two new, licensed Amateur Radio Operators. Both Rob Gardner and Fred Weck passed the Technician class license test. Diligent study allowed Rob and Fred to pass on their first attempt, and were assigned the Call Letters KK6HBP and KK6HBQ respectively. They also were accepted into SPARC, the San Gorgonio Pass Amateur Radio Club, in Banning. They now join 738,000 amateur radio operators in the United States.

Obtaining a license is the first step. What follows is acquiring the knowledge to find the correct radio for what you wish to do and learn how to operate the radio effectively. Finally 'getting on the air' to make contacts with other amateur radio operators.

Some Amateurs prefer to operate in a Morse code environment (called CW). Others utilize a computer interface to operate in digital modes. While still others enjoy 'phone', i.e. just simple conversation.

Our 4Seasons amateur radio club is closely associated with the Banning Amateur Radio club, and two of our club members are up for election to the board as officers in the Banning club. We have come a long way since our initial organization 2 years ago.

One hallmark of the Banning club is participation in events held locally: bike races, radio demonstrations and running events. In March, members will participate in the famed Baker to Vegas race. This race consists of several thousand law enforcement officers and approximately 400 ham Radio operators. Since the race actually takes place in the desert between Baker and Las Vegas, we maintain desert radio outposts. The lack of cell phone coverage in this remote area necessitates radio communication. So it is a great venue to practice skills which can come in handy during any emergency where cell phone coverage may be minimal or not at all. This race is held every year; visit the web site: www.bakervergas.com].

Our website is w6fsb.com; meetings are on the last Friday of the month at 10AM -- in the Lodge Ballroom. The November meeting is on Nov 22.

Dick Van Bree, W6RVB, President