
W6VIO Calling



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

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President (2016):	Jonathan Cameron, KF6RTA	4-1189	EmComm. Mgr:	Christopher Carson, KE6ABQ	3-3888
Vice President (2016):	Josh Miller, KB3UUS	4-0835	W6VIO Trustee:	Rob Smith, W6GRV	3-7937
Secretary (2016):	Chris Gaylord, W6YTB	4-5584	W6JPL Trustee:	Eric Archer, N6CV	4-7350
Treasurer (2016):	Chuck Sarture, KG6NF	4-2706	WR6JPL Trustee:	Jim Lux, W6RMK	4-2075
Director at Large (2016):	Steve Townes, WB4ILW	4-7525	WR6AZN Trustee:	Bill Wood, W6FXJ	760-256-9576

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 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 was to be Jan 15th, Guest speaker: Chris Gaylord W6YTB speaking on plans for JEARS development in 2016.** Additionally, newly elected club officers begin their term.
- **JPLARC Board of Directors (BOD) meeting:** Normally, the first working Friday, every month, from Noon to 1pm in 180-703C. **Since January 1st is a holiday, the next subsequent BOD meeting will be January 29th.** Call-in: 818-354-4044 ID-number: **997 183 539** (without the spaces).

In this issue:

Topics in this issue:

- Happy New Year & welcome to our new BOD
- Special BOD meeting: Dec 18th
- 2016 dues due by end of January.
- ARRL Membership
- Equipment for sale
- Future membership meetings & speaker topics

Happy New Year to all

By **Jim Marr AA6QI**, editor

As we begin another year with a new set of club officers at the helm, we salute them for volunteering their time and effort to continue the club. It is also important to remember that the club's officers need your help in running the club and its activities. Please let your new officers know that you are interested in helping and what you'd like to help with. Believe me, they will really appreciate any help you can offer.

Special thanks to our 2015 officers for their service to the club. President: Steve Townes WB4ILW; Vice President: Chuck Baker WB6CWI; Secretary: Rob Smith W6GRV; Treasurer: Chuck Sarture KG6NF; Director at Large: Jim

Marr AA6QI; EmComm Manager: Chris Carson KE6ABQ; and of course our continuing Trustees.

BOD Meeting Dec 18th By Rob Smith W6GRV

Present were: Chuck Baker* WB6CWI, Jonathan Cameron† KF6RTA, Chris Gaylord† W6YTB, Josh Miller KB3UUS, Rob Smith†* W6GRV, Steve Townes†* WB4ILW. On the Phone: Steve Canell WD6FIL, Jim Marr†* AA6QI, Walt Mushagian† K6DNS, Mike Topet† W4EF.

Note: † indicates a 2015 regular voting member (i.e., JPL/Caltech/Retiree & 2015 dues paid), and * Indicates a 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, four other regular members and two non-members (total of 10 attendees), so we **did not** have a quorum.

Main topic: Transition of responsibilities from the 2015 Board to the 2016 Board.

Steve reviewed the status of our newly elected officers.

Chris Carson is willing to continue as EmComm Manager but would be willing to yield the roll to anyone interested who would like to gain the experience. Lew

Soloway did do the Monday net once and would be a potential alternate.

Jim Marr encouraged all incoming officers to read the bylaws. They spell out the duties for each Board position.

The Director at Large's (DAL) job is to make sure the BOD is following the bylaws correctly and provide any other relevant advice.

Per the JPLARC Bylaws, Annual Dues are officially due by the end of January. Everyone (even if just renewing or updating information) needs to fill out the membership form available on the jplarc website. Rob will send out a membership notice. Folks to return their completed forms with dues to Chris Gaylord. Rob will update the membership form on website. Folks who are NOT active employees (JPL or CIT) need to sign the liability waiver form on the back of the application (e.g., family members, retirees, etc.).

Discussed membership cards. As a result of that discussion, we will continue to issue membership cards.

Last treasurer's report was in for October 2015 (no changes).

Future Regular Membership meeting Guest Speakers:

- January 18th presentation will be about future plans for JEARS.

- Feb. presentation will be a walking tour of radio shack locations.

- April 22nd presentation will be about the Altadena ALERT (Altadena Emergency Response Team).

Altadenaradio.com

Budget:

Jim put together a draft proposed 2016 budget and sent it out to all Board members (2015 & 2016).

Per the bylaws, we cannot spend money if it is not in the budget. Additionally, we cannot spend more than 10% above budgeted amount without a membership vote.

Bob Dengler has requested to purchase a RaspberryPi. He was told that if he spends the money by end of 2015 it is fine. If it waits until 2016, this will need to wait until we have a 2016 budget.

If there are items related to JEARS, Will Michael is willing to pay for what is needed.

Secretary, once the budget has been approved by the Board, would need to send it out for a membership vote.

Inventory: Jim Marr sent around the last club equipment inventory list. The list includes identifying items as government-owned or club-owned.

The inventory list needs to be updated for items moved

from B173 or container 7111 to the new shack or new storage trailer. Note that it is much easier to update inventory items as they move rather than having one big pushup.

The automatic link establishment (ALE) item (proposed in earlier budgets) has been delayed until the shack is setup, thus zero in the proposed budget.

Rob to send out the proposed budget. Need inputs/comments one week before January meeting to be voted on in January.

Tasks: long list that we haven't been making a lot of progress against.

IT equipment in 180-R6 (club web server, email exploder, Echolink/IRLP node, repeater list, etc.); not broken yet... but need someone on lab to be on top of this equipment and maintain it.

Need Field Day coordinator.

310-106 80m/40m noise troubleshooting.

Need to review the list of items.

Repeater committee is a group of interested individuals that seem to organize themselves and it is working right now.

Other committees - need to review the list and set expectations and understand if they plan to have regular meetings.

Bylaws list standing committees. (On the slide, those inside the dotted line are listed in the bylaws. Those outside are not listed in the bylaws.)

New board should look at new committee members and those interested in supporting them.

Bill Wood is listed as WA6RZN. Jim Marr asked him if he wanted to remain as trustee; he said that yes he does want to remain the trustee but would need help from someone like Bob Dengler that can actually get to the equipment.

Chris Gaylord suggested that there is a much longer conversation that needs to take place about the Trustees and the relationship of the repeaters and HF equipment used to support EmComm.

Other Topics:

How do we get others to be involved and attend the meetings. Need to figure out how to send out an invitation that will appear on everyone's calendars.

Ian Pinkham and Chris Gaylord drove the Comm van today (about an hour before the meeting).

Shack status:

99.9% of the stuff has been moved out of B173 and into B329 and the new trailer.

There is a 4 elem. 2M yagi on the "stairs to nowhere" to the west of B173.

Co-linear array on top of B159.

VHF/UHF (2m, 1.25m & 70cm) on air from B329. HF rig there but no antenna yet.

HF antennas at B329 need to be discussed. The R7000 is planned to go on top of the new shack, but need to understand how we will mount it up there. Need a more complete discussion of the Mesa antenna configuration and how to get them up and running as soon as possible.

Next meeting will be the regular meeting on January 18th.

2016 Dues Due 1/31/16

By Jim Marr AA6QI

Article IV, Section 1 of the JPLARC Bylaws states: The amount of annual dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors and shall be due 1 January and **payable no later than 30 January to the Treasurer**. The Board of Directors has chosen to leave the dues at \$20 for 2016.

To join or renew your membership, fill in the membership application form located at <http://jplarc.ampr.org/applic.pdf> and return it to the club Secretary along with your dues.

Those who are not active JPL or Caltech employees must sign the liability waiver located on the reverse side of the application form. Active JPL or Caltech employees do not need to sign this waiver.

ARRL Membership:

By Jim Marr AA6QI

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

As of October 19, 2015, of our 50 CY2015 members, 35 (72%) are either Life (7) or Regular (29) ARRL members. Note that 73% of our 45 voting-eligible members (i.e., JPLARC Regular members) are also ARRL 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.

Equipment For Sale

By Jim Marr AA6QI

The sale of the following items of surplus JPLARC equipment was approved by the quorum present at the October 24, 2014 regular membership meeting. Please make your best offer to Club Treasurer Chuck Sarture at JPL. All equipment is sold as-is with a receipt from the JPLARC.

- ICOM IC-27H 25W 2m FM transceiver, asking \$40.
- Kenwood TR-9130 all-mode 25W 2m transceiver, asking \$60.
- ICOM IC-471A all-mode 70cm 25W transceiver with external PS-30 power supply, asking \$100.
- ICOM IC-471H all-mode 70cm 75W transceiver with internal power supply, asking \$150.
- ICOM AG-35 70cm mast mounted preamp, asking \$10.

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