



Welcome from the President!

SMARC President's Update 1/1/24

Welcome to the Spirit Mountain Amateur Radio Club and thank you for viewing our ninth monthly newsletter! December was a great month for many of us as we enjoyed time with family and friends, along with enjoying giving and receiving gifts that make it more than just a new radio.

We are currently 31 days into our 60-day provisional period for our repeater frequency coordination, and so long as nothing comes up within the rest of the 60-day period, the current frequency coordination will be assigned to our club permanently. Thank you for all of your support with this process. The repeater is currently running on analog with AllStar capabilities. More digital modes to come!

In more news, we have scheduled our first club breakfast for Saturday January 6, 2024 at 8am over at Perkins Restaurant & Bakery located at 2250 AZ-95, Bullhead City, AZ 86442. We look forward to seeing you there! Attendance to the breakfast is not required, however it is encouraged so we can meet face to face over a meal and get to know each other better than over Zoom. We will continue to have the monthly meeting that afternoon on Zoom at 2pm MST. We hope to see you at the breakfast that morning, and later on Zoom!

One thing we will be discussing this meeting is Winter Field Day 2024. Please take a look at their website at <https://winterfieldday.org/> to become familiar with the rules, dates, and times in preparation for the upcoming meeting. We plan to reach out to a known contact from the Bullhead City Parks Department this week to look into locations and see what our best options would be. We also had an offer for advertising the event from the same contact.

We look forward to this year's Winter Field Day as this will be our second club event. We want to invite everyone from the club and the community surrounding us as this will likely be a great way to interact with and introduce ham radio to the community. This will be a wonderful event for all involved and interested.

Do you have questions, ideas, thoughts or concerns? Email me at President@SMARC.Club and we can discuss it. Thanks for reading, and I look forward to seeing everyone in our meeting, and in the coming events!

Stay safe, and 73!

Paul Jameson, WB7N
SMARC Club President

My Friend Ken WA6IVD

Two weeks ago, I made a quick visit over to California (I know, don't feel sorry for me, I survived the traffic!) to see friends and have dinner. I'm glad I took the time to check up on my long-time friend Ken Meade, WA6IVD and see how he is doing.

I first met Ken in 1979 when I joined a radio control model airplane club in El Monte, CA. Ken was the club's chief flight instructor and he test flew my first RC plane, a yellow Piper Cub, and he taught me the basics of flying and got me up in the air. He was so good at flying he had the nickname Golden Thumbs.

There were many fliers in the club who were also amateur radio operators, for the main purpose of flying on a 6-meter frequency which allowed shorter wait times in between flights. Of course, a secondary benefit of holding a radio license was to talk on the radio to the other hams in the club on the club's 2-meter repeater KA6AMR/R.

It didn't take me long to figure out I needed to become a ham too, shortly thereafter I was over at Ken's house to take the Novice theory and CW test. I passed and got my first call sign KA6KSX.

Ken retired at the age of 59 and has been enjoying his retirement for 35 years now, still flying RC and talking on a local repeater. I spent thousands of hours talking to Ken over the radio during the past 40 years plus. He's been such a great friend helping me learn the basics of electronics, radios, and flying. I miss talking to him now that I've retired and moved away from California. I wish Ken continued good health for years to come!

I bring up this story because I hope the members in our new club can forge new long term friendships with each other moving forward through our radio activities.

Mark AE6MP



Truck Antenna Mount

I found this unique antenna mount for my truck and thought I'd share it with everyone. If you're like me and don't like drilling holes in your vehicle's body, then you'll like this antenna mount. It replaces the mount for the brake light behind the cab and above the bed. It's available on the bulletproofdiesel.com web site.

Mark Melvin AE6MP



Editor's Notes

It's the same for all newsletter editors, the hardest part is to have a source of information to put in the newsletter. This month I'm going to submit an article about a radio I purchased back in 2011 and just opened the shipping box for the first time to see what I bought.

Anything that members have to add to a future newsletter are welcome. Just get them to me.

Does any club member want their own personalized club email address, such as AE6MP@smarc.club? Contact me and I'll set it up for you.

Mark Melvin AE6MP
SMARC Newsletter Editor

SMARC Early Bird Breakfasts

I'm guessing that most of the hams in the club are near or at retirement age like me and have plenty of extra time in our schedules for something new.

I'm an early riser and often head out to a local restaurant for a cup of coffee and something to eat to get my day started. Are there hams in the club who like to do the same? Well let's get together and get that cup of coffee and talk radio stuff.

In response to the idea of SMARC club members meeting for breakfast to get an eyeball on each other and talk radios, the feedback I received makes it look like once a month and not Sundays are what we should plan for.

To get things going, I'll pick the date and time for the first monthly breakfast get together for Saturday, January 6 at 8am at Perkins in BHC on 95, just south of Hancock.

Keep in mind these are not club meetings nor mandatory, just for those who like to get up early and get their day started. The day of the month, time, and location is not set in stone, At the first breakfast get-together we'll talk about if the time and date need to be changed.

Talk in frequency for the first time is the club repeater 449.35Mhz. -5Mhz. 123.0Hz. PL, or simplex on the repeater output when you get closer in if no one is using the repeater. If you have your club name badge wear it to the breakfast meeting.

Mark Melvin AE6MP

Club Repeater Information

This breaking news just in. The club repeater is now online. For more information tune into the club's online meeting Saturday 1-6-24 at 2pm.

For now, you should try dialing it up in your radio and test it. The numbers are as follows.

RX: 449.350MHz.
TX: 444.350MHz.
Offset: -5 MHz.
PL/CTCSS: 123Hz.

Mark Melvin AE6MP

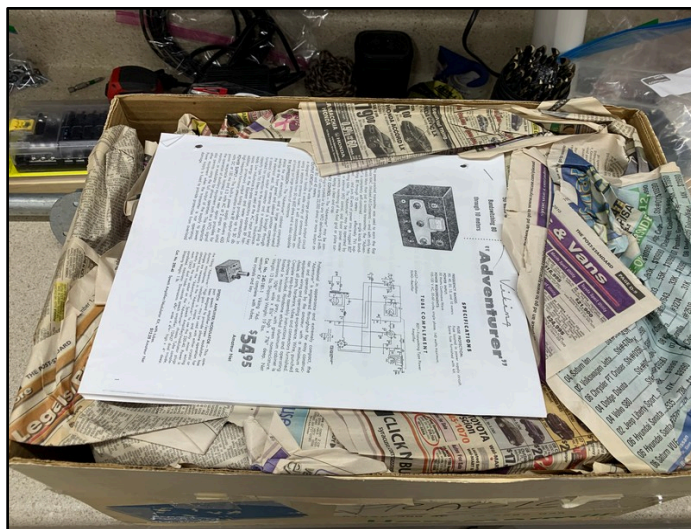
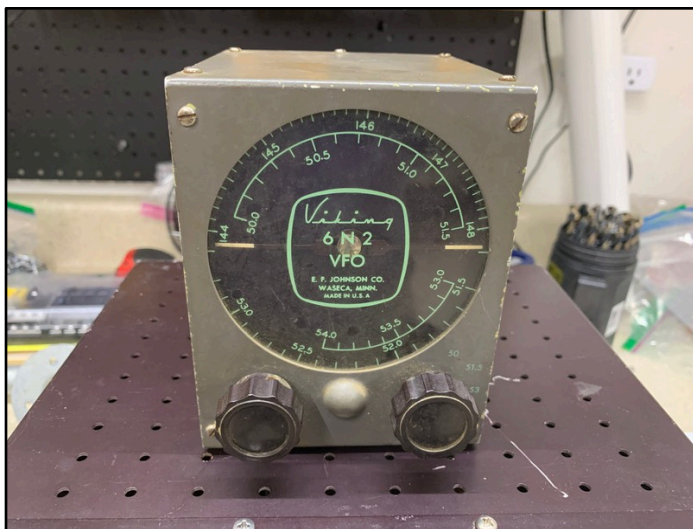
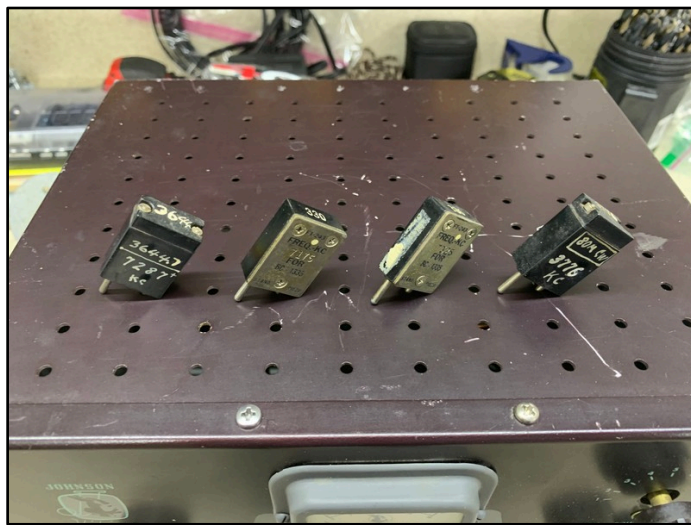
New Radio In The Ham Shack

Years ago, I'm guessing in the mid 1980's, I borrowed a CW transmitter from a friend in our model airplane club, Ken Meade WA6IVD, to practice and build up my CW speed so I could take the General Test. He loaned me a Johnson Adventurer TX and a Korean War era US Military RX, and dipole antenna, a TR switch, and coax. I remember there were 2 crystals for 40 meters to work the Novice band. I took the equipment home and set it up and made numerous confirmed calls up and down California. After passing my General test I returned the equipment to Ken and continued to operate on the 2-meter band along with the other hams in the model plane club.

The operation of the 1955 radio, an old tube transmitter, left an impression on me and years later I decided I needed to have my own Johnson Adventurer. Ken said he had given away the Johnson Adventurer he had once loaned me, so I turned to eBay and found one to be in decent shape from the looks of the photos and placed my bid.

I don't remember what the winning bid was, but the shipping box with the radio arrived in 2011 and I never opened the box until just a few weeks ago to see what I had. Wow, what a beauty inside. The radio is in great condition, has printed copies of the owner's operation manual, schematic and parts list, and 2 crystals each for the 40-and 80-meter bands. In a separate eBay auction, I purchased a matching VFO to go with the Johnson Adventurer. I'm looking forward to getting this radio powered up and operational. First things first. I still need to find an antenna, receiver, and TR switch for it.

Mark Melvin AE6MP



Spirit Mountain Amateur Radio Club KS7MC

SMARC Membership

Are you ready to become a member of the Spirit Mountain Amateur Radio Club?

Use the link below. It will redirect you to the online membership form. Fill out the requested information and click on submit. A PayPal request will be sent to your email address for payment.

The cost is listed at the top of the membership form, \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families of up to three members. Thank you.

<https://tiny.cc/smarcjoin>

CLUB MEMBERSHIP BADGES

Get your own custom SMARC membership badge from Ham Badgers. Several members have ordered their badges with quick results. Order using the redirect link listed below.

<https://bit.ly/smarcbadge>



THE HAM BADGERS

zoom Video Club Meetings

The SMARC Club has a monthly online ZOOM meeting on the first Saturday of each month at 2pm MST. The next one is January 6, 2024. If you're new to online video meetings, it's simple, and fun. You need just a microphone and web cam. Most laptop computers already have the mic and cam built in. If you need a camera/microphone combo unit for your desktop computer search Amazon and you'll find a nice unit for just \$25-30.

You can install the software on your phone but you and the others in the video meeting will all have a better experience if you use your desktop or laptop computer on your home or business Internet connection. There's a meeting client to download before your first online meeting. Use this re-direct link: <http://tiny.cc/zoomclient>.

A suggestion is to add your callsign to your display name, so it'll be displayed to everyone else during the video meeting. You do this in your account settings before entering the meeting. Give yourself extra time before the meeting to prepare.

Contact Mark Melvin AE6MP at mightypilot@gmail.com for help getting set up.

From time to time the meeting schedule may need to be adjusted to accommodate member's schedules. The change will be announced on our group Facebook page.

—>USE THIS MEETING RE-DIRECT LINK TO LAUNCH THE ZOOM MEETING!<—
<http://tiny.cc/smarczoom>

