

Q5

SERVING DOWNEY AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES SINCE 1951

VOLUME XXVIII #2



### S.S. Lane Victory to be February's Presentation

Our own **Sam Lollar**, K1SL, will be presenting information on the Victory Ship, the S.S. Lane Victory.

The Lane Victory is one of the last remaining "Victory Ships", part of the U.S. Merchant Marine fleet that ferried supplies and troops to Europe during World War II. She's berthed in San Pedro within sight of the Vincent Thomas Bridge.



The ship is open for tours and summer excursions. See <http://www.lanevictory.org/>

Maintenance of the ship is mostly done by a group of volunteers, past veterans, past merchant marines and others. [The Editor's late father, Robert Powell (of the US Signal Corps) volunteered for several years doing electrical work aboard and the editor and his family were lucky enough to have been on one of the cruises out towards Catalina Island.]

So all aboard for a "cruise" on the Lane Victory.

**Art Varney, WA6OZQ, SK**

See page 7

### February Birthdays

**Frank Tillmann, KN6LM, 7th**  
**Lloyd Hendrickson, KI6NQY, 22nd**  
**Steve Hartranft, KI6SUF, 25th**  
**Linda Fernandez, KI6NSI, 26th**

**Happy Birthday To All!**



**THE DOWNEY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.**  
P.O. Box 207  
Downey, CA 90241  
<http://www.downeyarc.org>

**Affiliations:**

Affiliated ARRL Club  
ARRL Special Service Club  
Los Angeles Area Council of  
Amateur Radio Clubs  
Orange County Council of  
Amateur Radio Organizations

**Club Frequencies:**

Simplex : 145.595 MHz\*  
440 Repeater: 445.640 (-) PL 156.7 Hz\*  
\* See Calendar for Net Skeds

*Permission to copy material from the  
Q5 is granted provided that credit is  
given to the "DARC Q5".*

**Q5**, as in: a signal that is perfectly  
readable, hence the name of our  
newsletter. We hope you agree.

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**VP Programs**

Position Open  
YOUR NAME  
COULD BE HERE!

**VP Membership**

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Tom VanBuskirk, K6TV  
Phone: (562) 861-3085  
tomvanb@verizon.net

**Director (Two Years)**

Buck Kerns, AE6DT  
Phone: (562) 634-8441  
ae6dt@arrl.net

**Trustee, W6TOI**

Tom VanBuskirk, K6TV  
Phone: (562) 861-3085

**Looking for an Elmer?**

Here are a few resources that can get you going:

**Bill Heather**, KB6WKT, 562 863-6607 kb6wkt@arrl.net,  
Helping Hams, **Contesting**

**Ivan Mikulich**, KB6ATT, 562 862-4592 kb6att@att.net,  
Helping Hams, **Field Trips**

**Glenn Allen**, KE6HPZ, 562 928-2080 ke6hpz@ham-  
radio.com, **Microwave**

**Dave Buhler**, WB6ZGF, 562 861-6069 wb6zgf1@verizon.net, **Net Control, Public  
Service, Emergency Communications**

**Harold 'Buck' Kerns**, AE6DT, 562 634-8441 ae6dt@arrl.net, **Public Service**

**John Schroeder**, N6QQ, 562 404-1112 n6qq@msn.com, **Contesting, DXing,  
DXCC and WAS Card Checker**

**When and where we meet:**

We normally meet the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM in room 120 of the **First Baptist Church** in Downey. The church is between 2nd and 3rd streets, near City Hall, address is 8348 E. 3rd St. Use 2nd St, east from Downey Ave (1 block north of Firestone Bl), adjacent to City Hall. Entrance via double glass doors on the north side of 2nd St.

**Swap Meet Information:****CHHS Electronics Swap Meet**

Chino Hills High School  
16150 Pomona Rincon Rd  
Chino Hills, CA  
Held the **third Saturday of each month**, 6:30 to 11:30 AM

**W6TRW Swap Meet**

Northrop Grumman Parking Lot  
Corner of Marine and Aviation  
Manhattan Beach, CA  
Held the **last Saturday of each month**, 7:00 to 11:30 AM  
Talk-In 145.320, PL 114.8

**Minutes of the D.A.R.C. Board of Directors Meeting – January 6, 2009**

Rick Norwood, KD6KHJ, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President called the meeting to order at 1930 hrs in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Downey Fire Station #1. Other Board members present were: Arlene Schwartz, KE6GFI; VP Membership; Ron Eveland, W6QM, VP Ways & Means; Frank Hornberger, N6ZDS, Treasurer; Buck Kerns, AE6DT, Director, One Year, and Tom VanBuskirk, K6TV, Director Two Years. Not present: Sam Lollar, K1SL, President; Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF, VP Service; Delight Miller, WB6WWI, Secretary;

**Officers Reports:**

President: Absent.

1<sup>st</sup> VP: Rick Norwood, KD6KHJ, no report.

VP Programs: Tom VanBuskirk, K6TV reported at this time he did not have a speaker for the February meeting. A discussion followed, and Arlene, KE6GFI, suggested that we do a program on the transition of commercial television from analog to digital, which occurs this February. Arlene then agreed to do a short program on the subject if Sam, K1SL, or Tom could not come up with a speaker.

VP Membership: Arlene Schwartz, KE6GFI, no report.

VP Service: Absent.

VP Way & Means: Ron Eveland, W6QM, reported that the shirts and jackets that had been ordered in December were ready, and would be distributed at the February meeting...

Secretary: Absent.

Treasurer: Frank Hornberger, N6ZDS, distributed the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made to accept the report as written and it passed.

Director, One Year: Buck Kerns, AE6DT, reported that Art Varney, WA6OZQ had become a silent key, and that Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF had been hospitalized over the past weekend. .

Director, Two Years: Tom, VanBuskirk, K6TV, suggested that we include a Ham Shack of the Month in Q5.

**Planning Calendar:**

1. **ARC Walk** will be on March 28<sup>th</sup>...
2. **Tour De Sewer** will be on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
3. **Baker 2 Vegas** will be March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.
4. **Street Fair** will have same involvement as last year. We will have a booth, at least.
5. **Kid's Day** will be May 8<sup>th</sup>

From page 3

6. **Yard Sale** will be in May.

### Old Business

1. **Vacant board position.** Still no interest from club members.
2. **Return of Downey Float.** Buck, AE6DT, gave a briefing on the return of the Downey Rose float on January 3d.

### New Business:

1. **Location for the May Yard Sale.** A discussion followed, and it was decided that at the next club meeting, an announcement would be made asking for someone to volunteer as a host site.
2. **Website update.** Rick, KD6KHJ, agreed to coordinate the update of the site.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 2000 hrs.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ron Eveland, W6QM, Substitute Secretary

**No general meeting minutes as there was no general meeting in January**

### Equipment for Sale

I've got a near-new condition Ten-Tec T-Kit Model 1209 (now discontinued), 2 meter to 6 meter transverter for sale. I built it in kit form but the final tune-up was done at the factory. Used to convert 2 meter signals to 6 meter signals, 5W in, 8W out, all modes. Has a power plug ready to plug into Astron RS-12A or 20. List \$139, asking \$70.00



I also have a near-new condition Ten-Tec T-Kit Model 1253, 9 band short-wave super-regen receiver for sale. Runs on 'C' cells inside (not included) or via 12VDC via external "pin" jack. List \$89, asking \$45.00



Contact me if you are interested. 562-985-8610 days from 7:30 - 4:30 or 562-862-4608 after 6PM. Or by email to [jpowell@csulb.edu](mailto:jpowell@csulb.edu)

73

**John Powell**  
KF6EOJ

Treasurer's Report—Income
---------------------------

2008 - 2009	Dec 08 ACTUAL	YEAR-TO- ACTUAL	ANNUAL (OVER)/UNDER BUDGET	BUDGET
<b>INCOME</b>				
Dues	\$180.00		\$1,200.00	\$1,020.00
Other	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
Fund Raisers	\$0.00		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$180.00</b>	<b>\$2,710.00</b>	<b>\$2,530.00</b>

Treasurer's Report— Expense
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2008-2009	Dec 08 ACTUAL	YTD ACTUAL	ANNUAL BUDGET	(OVER)/ UNDER BUDGET
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>Autopatch, Repeater Club Bulletin</b>	\$19.01	\$19.01	\$225.00	\$205.99
Printing		\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Supplies		\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Postage		\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
<b>Committees</b>				
Award		\$34.64	\$50.00	\$15.36
Membership		\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Publicity & Public Relations		\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Sunshine		\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
<b>Equipment/Maintenance</b>		\$0.00	\$350.00	\$350.00
<b>Events</b>				
Christmas Party		\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Field Day		\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Luncheon		\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Special Events		\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
Fund Raisers		\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
<b>Insurance</b>		\$0.00	\$350.00	\$350.00
<b>Officers' Expenses</b>				
Board Members		\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Treasurer		\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
<b>Other Organizations</b>				
Dues		\$0.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
<b>P.O. Box Rental</b>		\$70.00	\$80.00	\$10.00
<b>Refreshments, Meetings</b>		\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
<b>World Radio Listing</b>		\$0.00	\$70.00	\$70.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$19.01</b>	<b>\$123.65</b>	<b>\$2,710.00</b>	<b>\$2,586.35</b>



**SILENT KEY - WA6OZQ**

Long-time Downey Amateur Radio Club member and past-President **Art Varney, WA6OZQ**, passed away on January 3, 2009.

He served the club in a variety of capacities, served the Downey community with emergency communications support and served ARRL members as a QSL card sorter.

For many years he led a group of members in the production of the Q5 which included the stapling, addressing, and stamping the Q5 to send out to the membership. That was a large undertaking, when back in the day the club's membership neared the 300 mark! More recently he served as a backup for club event communications such as Downey's Rose Parade Float roundtrip travels to Pasadena, the Tour de Sewer bike ride, and Downey Street Faire.

He kept his interest in our club by regularly participating in the weekly nets, attending the club meetings, and coming to the Saturday morning breakfasts with his wife Irma.

In the past few years he regularly participated on a 20 meter net with some old friends, developed a CW regular QSO with a young Ham, and used an Echolink connection to talk to his grandson up in the state of Washington. Speaking to his grandson was one of his favorite activities. He was really pleased when his grandson got his "ticket".

Art will be missed by many. Not only was he awarded the Ham of the Year honor by the club, he also received the Golden Microphone Award and was known as the Golden Voice of Downey.

Arlene, KE6GFI

## QST, Your Monthly ARRL Membership Journal

QST is simply **the source** for news and information on any topic that's part of, or relates to, Amateur Radio. Here's some of what you'll find every month:

- Informative and hard-hitting Product Reviews of the newest radios and accessories from hand-held and mobile FM radios, to home-station transceivers, antennas and even shortwave radios.
- Advertisements. You'll find everything from full-color pages introducing new radios to a large classified ad section.
- Each month's Coming Conventions and Hamfest Calendar columns show you who's getting together every month at Hamfests, conventions and swap meets in your area.
- The Public Service column keeps you up to date on the public service efforts hams are providing around the country and shows you how you can join in this satisfying aspect of our hobby.
- Digital Dimension covers news in the Amateur Radio digital world and includes information on useful Web sites.
- The New Ham Companion section is filled with features and how-to information just for beginning hams. There's no jargon-filled "tech talk"-- just straightforward, easy-to-understand articles designed to get you on the air doing the things you like best.

Whether you're interested in contesting, DXing, or radios, accessories and antennas you can build at home, QST covers them all: New trends and the latest technology, fiction, humor, news, club activities, rules and regulations, special events, packet radio, and much more.



<http://www.arrl.org>

**February 2009 DX**  
**By Mike Gauthier, K6ICS**

1-14-2009

**February Propagation Outlook**

Minimum sunspots during the midwinter, 160 and 80 meters are at their maximum. This should be the best low band DX conditions till the next sunspot low. Don't miss it. 60 and 40 meter night-time conditions will also be great. 30 and 20 meters will continue to provide day and nighttime DX contacts. 17 and 15 meters should have good East-West contacts. 12 and 10 meters will be sporadic during daylight hours. Follow the sun with your beam.

**February DX**

**ANTARCTICA, OP0LE.** Paul, ON3PC will be operating as OP0LE until mid February 2009 from the new Belgian Antarctic station "Princess Elisabeth" on Dronning Maud Land.

**AZERBAIJAN, 4K0CW.** DL6KVA, Axel, will be active as 4K0CW March 19-25. Listen for him on CW on all bands. He'll be running 100 watts and an 84 meter long wire.

**BANABA ISLAND, T33HC.** Udo, DL9HCU is currently active as T33HC. QSL to home call.

**BERMUDA, VP9400--.** In celebration of the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Bermuda, VP9 Amateur Radio ops will be using special prefix VP9400 during 2009.

**BURKINA-FASO, XT2WC.** F1IQH, Michael, will be operating as XT2WC from Burkina-Faso. He'll be there till about February 10 and mostly active on 20 meters, with the possibility for other bands depending on propagation. QSL via F1IQH.

**CANADA, VE.** In remembrance of the work of Italian physicist, mathematician and astronomer Galileo Galilei, Canadian amateurs may use the prefixes CF, CG, CH and CI from January 1 to February 28.

**CROATIA, 9A2009--.** Special event stations 9A2009OS, 9A2009PO, 9A2009PU, 9A2009ST, 9A2009VZ, 9A2009ZD and 9A2009ZG are active until February 1. They will be operating during the Men's World Handball Championship, QSL via bureau.

**DOMINICA, J79XBI.** SM0CCM, Seth, to be on holiday and operating in his spare time as J79XBI from Dominica from now to April 1st. He will be active on SSB only. QSL via SM0XBI, preferably via the bureau.

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HI.** Simone, IZ5JNQ is operating as HI7/IZ5JNQ until February 5. He also plans to be active as HI2/IZ5JNQ from the coastal islands Saona and Catalina, both IOTA NA-122. QSL direct to EB7DX.

**GABON, TR50R.** F8EN (TR8CR), Roland is currently operating with special callsign TR50R. His first logs have been posted to <http://lesnouvellesdx.fr/voirlogs.php>. QSL via F6AJA.

**INDONESIA, YE1ZAT.** Indonesian ops YD1JZ, YD1GCL, YC1KAF, YB1CCF, YE1AA and YB1KAR will be QRV as YE1ZAT in the CQ World Wide RTTY Contest. They will be putting on a multi-single. QSL via YB1KAR.

**NAMIBIA, V5/DL2SL.** DL2SL, Peter, is currently operating as V5/DL2SL in Namibia. He'll be active until March 6th. QSL via DL2SL.

**NICARAGUA, YN.** AC8W, K8DD, KB8TXZ, and N8LJ will be in Nicaragua from February 18th to 24th. They will be operating from the QTH of YN2N, including the ARRL CW DX Contest. Callsigns are unknown at this time. They will either operate H7/home call or get YN2 callsigns. QSL via their home calls.

**PUERTO RICO, NP3U.** During the CQ WW RTTY Contest, February 14/15, NP3U will be a multi-two effort. Ops will be W1AN, K3IU, AJ1M, N1HRA and WP4U. QSL via WP4U.

**UGANDA, 5X4X.** Peter, 5X4X will be operating from Arua until June while working as development aid worker. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters generally before 2000z. QSL via DF5GQ.

**VIET NAM, XV9DX & 3W1M.** Mike, OM2DX is QRV as XV9DX and 3W1M while working for the Slovak Republic Embassy. He is here for three years. Activity is on all bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via OM3JW.

Thank you to: the OPDX Bulletin, DXNL, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, for the information.

#### **DARC Member DXCC Count**

N6QQ 331 Mixed, 313 SSB, 281 CW, 194 RTTY, WPX 2115, 6BDXCC

WA6RTA 328 Phone (AM & SSB)

KB6ATT 305 Mixed, 60 CW

K6ICS 295 Mixed, 288 Phone (AM & SSB), 164 Mixed on 40 Meters

K6TV 206 SSB, 126 QRP, 110 CW, 215 Mixed

W3OB 150 Mixed

W6TOI 139 Mixed

WA6OUD 129 Phone on 10 Meters

K6EH 57 on 30 Meters CW

I am interested in receiving DX reports for this column, one contact or many.

e-mail: [k6ics@arrl.net](mailto:k6ics@arrl.net) .



## Shack of the Month

A new feature we'd like to incorporate is our **Shack of the Month**. This month we visit the shack of **Tom Van-Buskirk, K6TV**. Want to share your shack with others? Send the editor your photos and info.



Lineup left side top to bottom: Yaesu G800SDX rotator, Yaesu FT-5100 2. PC screen and the op himself.

SWL Post, left to right: GE Superadio III, Radio Shack PRO-90 scanner, Hammarlund HQ-180 general coverage receiver with a Grundig Yacht Boy 400 sitting on top. The HQ-180 has a 60' outside wire antenna between the house and garage.



Antennas: GAP Titan vertical on the left, 38' tower with an Explorer 14 at 40', 2 mtr beam at 45', and VHF/UHF Vertical at 50'. There is a 100' inverted Vee under the HF beam.

# DARC Calendar of Events February 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> DARC 440 Net Club Repeater 445.640, pl 156.7 Control Op: AD6AF	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Club Meeting</b> 7:30 PM, First Baptist Church Downey, on 2nd St, off of Downey Ave	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> DARC Club Break- fast, 06:30
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> DARC 440 Net Club Repeater 445.640, pl 156.7 Control Op: KN6LM Board meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> DARC 2 meter net Club simplex 145.595 Control Op: K1SL	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> DARC Club Break- fast, 06:30
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> DARC 440 Net Club Repeater 445.640, pl 156.7 Control Op: WB6JDH	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> DARC 2 meter net Club simplex 145.595 Control Op: AD6AF	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> DARC Club Break- fast, 06:30 CHHS Swapmeet See page 2
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> DARC 440 Net Club Repeater 445.640, pl 156.7 Control Op: N6TEB	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> DARC 2 meter net Club simplex 145.595 Control Op: WB6JDH	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> DARC Club Break- fast, 06:30 DARC Swapmeet See page 2



SERVING DOWNEY AND THE  
SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES  
SINCE 1951

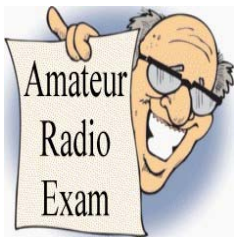
Website:

<http://www.downeyarc.org>

Downey Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 207  
Downey, CA 90240

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### VE Exams

The Downey Amateur Radio Club provides VE examinations for all classes of Amateur Radio licenses on the **third Saturday of each even-numbered month**. Exams are held at the Downey Fire Department Headquarters, 12222 Paramount Boulevard, beginning at 8:30 AM. The exam schedule for 2009 is as follows:

**February, April**

Contact **Steve Grudzinski, AD6HT** at 951-674-4699 prior to the session.

The ARRL/VEC test fee is \$15.00 for all tests. The fee is controlled by the FCC and goes to the ARRL to cover their expenses in providing the tests and handling the applications.

After the test session please wait 10 days before contacting the ARRL at (860) 594-0300 or <http://www.qrz.com/callsign> for new license information. Please do not call the FCC directly.

### DARC INFORMATION

#### DARC Annual Membership

Single: \$20 Associate: \$10  
Maximum for Family: \$35

Make checks payable to "DARC",  
Send to: DARC Membership  
3600 Platt Ave  
Lynwood, CA 90262

#### Ever want to be a writer?

Do you have an idea for an article for the Q5? Remember, this is OUR newsletter, about OUR hobby. Please submit articles to: **John Powell, KF6EOJ**, [jpowell@csulb.edu](mailto:jpowell@csulb.edu)

#### DARC Badges

DARC name badges are available for \$11.00, payable on order.  
Previously ordered badges may be picked up at the Club general meeting.

**Saturday  
Breakfast Location**



7900 Florence Ave  
Downey, CA  
(562) 927-6713