VENTURA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Founded in 1938

P.O. Box 2103, Oxnard California 93034

We are an organization dedicated to promoting science, education, and advancing interest in ham radio.

Affiliated with the American Radio Relay League

October 9th VCARC Monthly Club Meeting Minutes

MEETING ADDRESS: Grace Lutheran Church, 6190 Telephone Rd, Ventura, CA 93003, USA

ATTENDANCE: Listed on Roll Check-In Sheet

Start time 19:00

Clement Alberts KM6OKZ opened the meeting and asked Jeremy to start Zoom and record the meeting.

- Pledge of Allegiance

- Brief Introduction of officers and board members, new members Chuck Black KM6PDI and Charles Richards KO6OMM, welcome guests and Zoom participants.

We had two presenters tonight; the first is Dr. David Pepper WA6TWA who has thrilled us with several topics over the years. His topic tonight is “Un-Twinkling" Starlight. And the second is Brandon Jensen KO6IOB “AI Adventures”. Dave says that Brandon has taken AI design to greater heights than Dave covered at our last meeting.

Dr. David M. Pepper, WA6TWA, has held that call sign for more than 60 years. As a young ham in Los Angeles, he worked AM, SSB, CW, and RTTY, earned Worked All States in the early 1960s, and joined 2-meter transmitter hunts while at John Burroughs Junior High and Fairfax High. He later earned a BS in physics from UCLA (summa cum laude) and an MS and PhD in applied physics from Caltech.

He spent more than 31 years as a senior research scientist at HRL Laboratories in Malibu, working on laser communications, laser ultrasound, and adaptive optics. He has published widely and holds 72 U.S. patents. Since retiring he works as a technical consultant, inventor, and educator through Malibu Scientific.

Start time _19:04

Presentation link here: (https://k6mep.org/media/Untwinkling_starlight.mp4)

Questions?

Social/Refreshment Break for 15 mins. Start 20:13 **End** 20:29

Second half: Brandon Jensen KO6IOB will present "AI Adventures"

Introduction of Brandon**,** KO6IOB, hasn't been around the block as many times as most people in this room, so his bio is short and boring. He makes up for it in height, at 6'6".

Brandon got his General-class license in March 2025 and sticks to phone. Living in a small apartment, he keeps his operating simple and uses handhelds. His coworkers invited him to build a $30 ham radio that plugs into a phone. He tells himself and others he only spent a few hundred dollars... Well, actually, more like... let's not talk about it. Don't tell his wife... wait, he's not married. With no one regulating his spending, he can indulge his hobbies freely.

He earned a mechanical engineering degree from BYU-Idaho in 2020, holds professional SolidWorks certifications, and has been designing in CAD since 2009. He has spent the past six years as a flight test engineer and helped design orifice plates for micro nuclear reactors at Idaho National Laboratory.

Brandon is very active in his church and loves metalworking, woodworking, 3D printing, and electronics tinkering. His "shop" is a conglomerate of his own CNC gear, his brother's metal shop in Kern County, and his parents' woodshop in Hot Springs, Arkansas, which he visits for a few weeks each year. Without BBQ access at his apartment, he has also been cooking quite successfully with sous vide.

He only started using AI last month, and he's terrified by how good (and how bad) it can be. He'll share his "AI Adventures" now.

Start time 20:31

Presentation here: (https://k6mep.org/media/AI_Adventures.mp4)

Questions?

End time 21:16

Old Business

- **Thank those who brought food**
- **Mention the location of badges and sign-in clip board, as well as the Monday Net Sign-up sheet.**
- **DISCUSS OCTOBER IS MEMBERSHIP DUES MONTH and is time to consider running for an office. Please send your nomination(s) to secretary@vcarc.club. Membership is required of both the nominator's nominee and any self-nominee. If you nominate another person, you must obtain that person's permission before submitting the nomination.**
- **Status update on our Charity Issues. No response yet.**
- **Ask Dave to comment on the Ham Exam, Club Picnic and Portable Operations Day (Saturday, September 19th)**

- **Ask Keith to comment on the October 3rd Micro Expo. October 1, 2, 3 full ham radio ARRL convention. County wide swap meet April.**
- **Mention any other upcoming club or County activity.**

New Business

- **Youth Committee (Tim KN6JGB) Scouts on the Air on October 16-18. Have Tim show the circular he has prepared and talk about the bands and times the scouts will be on the air. The Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air is coming up! Oct 16-18. Information can be found at https://jotajoti.info**
- **Also Troop 304 will be participating again this year and would love to have some ham folks come out to visit them and talk about ham radio!**
- **If you remember, Seth and a few of the Boy Scouts from that troop came out last year to one of our meetings to talk about it.**
- **I hope some of you go out and visit, and many of you participate in JOTA this year!**
- **Idea of offering officers and board free membership the duration of their service.**
- **This link send-a-letter.org/HOA is ARRL's letter effort to Congress to get the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act passed. This to sidestep the HOA's. FCC exposure regulations going to be updated.**

Wrap Up

Our next club meeting is November 13th and we will have elections. Afterwards Ben Holmes K6QV will present his scratch built 2n2 20-meter transceiver and we invite everyone to participate in home brew night.

Next dates for VE session and club picnic and portable operations/help session: Saturday, November 21st at Grace Lutheran Church.

- Weekly nets: Monday 2m and Wednesday 40m. Remind everyone that we need volunteers.
- Special net and/or other activities:

Remind everyone that many of us meet at Toppers for Pizza, etc., after the club meeting.

Asked for a Motion to Adjourn: Please REPEAT their Name and Call Sign so the secretary can enter it in the minutes. (must be club member) John Kitchens NS6X

Asked for a 2nd to the Motion to Adjourn: Please REPEAT their Name and Call Sign (must be club member) Phil Cohen WA6BUZ

End Time 21:29

OFFICER ATTENDEES

OFFICE	LAST	FIRST	CALL SIGN	PRESENT
PRESIDENT	Alberts	Clement	KM6OKZ	Y
VP	Shank	Robert	KM6RSS	Y
SECRETARY	Shank	Robert	KM6RSS	Y
TREASURER	Schmidt	Dave	AI6VX	Y
BOARD	Climer	Jeremy	KN6JMD	Y
BOARD	Auerbach	Burt	KA6BJA	Y
BOARD	Tenopir	Tim	KN6JGB	Y