

# Mt. Vaca Radio Club, Inc.

July 2003  
www.mvrc.org

P.O. Box 417405  
Sacramento, Ca. 95841-7405

ARRL  
NARCC

## General Meeting

**Sunday, July 27, at 9:00 AM**  
**Breakfast meeting**  
**at Joanne's (KF6GXX)**  
**Sacramento, CA.**

## 3rd Quarter Activities

SAT JUL 12 - TEVIS CUP RIDE - Public Service.  
Contact Ken, KC6JSV, 916-723-3796.

JUL 18-20 - ANNUAL CAMPOUT - Sugar Pine RV  
Park E of Twain Harte - Tents, RVs, motels. MVRC  
and NHRC.

SUN JUL 27 - REGULAR MEETING - 9 AM  
- Breakfast - MVRC IRLP Demo -  
Elections - KF6GXX QTH near Watt & US-50,  
Sacramento. RSVP. Talk-in on MVRC repeaters.

WED AUG 20 - BOARD MEETING

SEP 6-8 - BIKE TREK - American Lung Assn.  
Contact Ken, KC6JSV, 916-723-3796.

SAT SEP 13 - SACRAMENTO HAM PICNIC -  
Gibson Ranch Park. Details at July meeting.

WED SEP 17 - BOARD MEETING

OCT 11-19 - MVRC FALL TRIP - Southwest. Start at  
Lone Pine or home. RSVP W6TEE. Can include:

*Oct 3-5 - Whitney classic bike public service from  
Death Valley or oct 6-8 - Lone Pine camp out, Sam's  
radio hams*

OCT 17th, 18th, and 19th PACIFICON 2003 will be  
at the Marriott Hotel in San Ramon California.

[www.pacificon.org](http://www.pacificon.org)

SUN OCT 26 - REGULAR MEETING



Don't forget to  
check our web  
for the latest  
news.  
[www.mvrc.org](http://www.mvrc.org)

## Presidents comments

Happy Summer to all. I would wish you a happy 4<sup>th</sup> but by the time you read this, the 4<sup>th</sup> will have been and gone. As usual things have not slowed down either for me personally, or for the club.

It's that time again! The July general business meeting with all the usual reports and discussions and the election of the 2003 – 04 officers. Bill, W6ACF has been busy trying to find candidates for the available offices and I would hope you all say “yes” to his requests. It would really be advisable for everyone in the club to attend the July meeting and election for three reasons: 1) annual dues are due and you can't vote until they are paid, 2) if you don't come and vote, you can't complain when things don't go your way in the next year, and 3) if you are not there to say “no” you just might find yourself an office holder! Wouldn't that be something. As an aside, wouldn't it save us all a lot of heartache and wasted effort if we could hold a state or national election without any campaigning and just vote and the winner is who ever got the most votes. HmMMM.

The latest thing for MVRC is a club version of the IRLP. Your board is preparing a demonstration of the system for the July 27<sup>th</sup> general meeting. After pondering over the system we are sure it will work and dovetail nicely with the existing systems. Future upgrades and changes are planned but since they require more \$\$ than we currently felt comfortable spending, they will be added later. If there were ever a good reason to come to the meeting, this would be it! Please come and see how it works, ask questions and hear the details.

Both of the above are very good enticements to attend the July meeting, but there are a couple of more. In response to a request at the April general meeting, we are planning the July meeting early in the day with a breakfast to follow rather than starting

*Presidents comments continued on page 2*

*Presidents comments continued*

the meeting in mid-afternoon. The meeting will be held in a backyard AND the breakfast will be prepared and served by the club YL's. This is a landmark event and most likely never to be repeated, so be sure and attend. Cost for the breakfast will be \$10.00/person and all proceeds will go the treasury to help pay for the IRLP and other system upgrades. (Sorta like Paul Newman's salad dressing and popcorn, except MVRC is our charity.) Please see the July breakfast meeting article elsewhere this issue.

What other enticement could we offer members to come to the July meeting? There can't be too many legal things left.

The annual summer camp out near Twain Hart is scheduled for the weekend prior to the meeting. If you are reading this and are interested in attending, but have not made your wishes known, put down the paper and give Les, W6TEE a call (radio or telephone). He has all the information about who to contact, the dates, and the activities planned during the camp out. And he would love to hear from you – the more the merrier.

Other happenings this summer and early fall include several public service events. Please check the listing in this newsletter to see them all and contact Ken, KC6JSV or Glenn, WA7SPY for more details. They can almost always use more operators both mobile and net control and they have all the details.

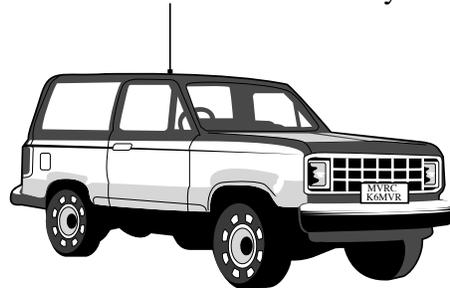
Hope to see you all there with dues paid, ready to vote, hungry for the swell breakfast that will be served and swapping a details on the latest trips and vacations.

73 Doris, WA6UAF

**Annual Camp out**

The annual joint camp out with the North Hills Radio Club will be held at Sugar Pine RV Park, Highway 108, 5 miles east of Twain Harte in the Sierras. The dates are centered on the weekend period of July 18-20. But a number have indicated that they will arrive on Thursday, July 17, and leave as late as Monday. There are many activities in the area that people want to see and do. However, we are not forgetting those that choose to arrive anytime Friday and stay until Sunday.

At this time (June 25), we have reserved 7 full-hookup sites, all taken, and there are no more of those available. We have reserved 2 water/electric sites and 2 dry RV



sites. Two of those are available from me and we might be able to get more. We have 4 tent sites reserved, 3 are spoken for, and

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

The 30th annual Western States Ultra marathon went smoothly thanks to the superb efforts of the following MVRC hams:

Lew WA6ESA - Dusty Corners  
AB wa6cne - Last Chance

Les W6TEE - Devil's Thumb packet

Marc W6MAR - Devil's Thumb  
Matt W6KDJ - Devil's Thumb

Wayne WA6APX - NCS radios

Ralph W6RWL - Cross band setup/  
Brown's Bar

Ken KC6JSV - NCS setup

This grueling 100 mile race can only be done through the efforts of many hams who relay entrant data, support info, and provide emergency links.

Thanks to all!

Ken KC6JSV

more are available. A week ago, they had two bath/kitchen cabins available for 4 or 6 people, with the smaller going for \$50/night. Contact me about camping, or call 209-586-4631 about cabins, or Mi-Wuk Village Inn (3 mi) about rooms.

This is a good turnout, but we could have reserved more if people had responded earlier. This is a great location in the evergreens as you can see at

<http://www.k6is.org/camp03.htm>.

Les, W6TEE

## A Landmark

(and not soon to be repeated)

### MVRC YL-catered breakfast meeting!

The July general meeting will be held at Joanne's, KF6GXK starting at 9 a.m., July 27<sup>th</sup>. Following the business meeting the club YLs will serve breakfast. Cost of the meal is \$10.00 each and it will include hot and cold foods and beverages. All proceeds will go to the club treasury for IRLP and other system costs.

Please RSVP with:

- The names/calls of the people attending, and
- Special dietary needs

RSVP to Doris, WA6UAF via:

- Phone message at 916-456-1998, or
- E-mail at [dknits@pacbell.net](mailto:dknits@pacbell.net), or
- Mail to the address in the roster

RSVP requested by Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>.

We will have enough tables, but it would be a great help if all who have one, bring a lawn chair.

Guests, especially potential new members, are welcome and should be included with the RSVPs.

Thanks  
The Breakfast Committee

Your MVRC club dues are now due. Please send your dues to our treasure. Please check the roster for your dues date.

## Technical Committee Report

At the May board meeting, the board decided to pursue adding an IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project) to the Mount Vaca Radio System. IRLP makes it possible to connect to any other similarly equipped radio system anywhere in the world and also through specialized stations known as reflectors to many stations at the same time. The equipment needed to run a "node" consists of a Transceiver, Personal Computer, Network card, Sound blaster Audio Card, Always on Internet connection (DSL or Cable modem preferred) and a special interface card and software. The PC, Network card and sound card were donated by various members and the Transceiver is being loaned by Marc W6MAR. The only purchase required for the demonstration project is the interface card and software from the system designer at [www.irlp.net](http://www.irlp.net) which was approximately \$150. Marc W6MAR has also volunteered to build the system and host it at his residence where it will share his Internet connection. Marc's time permitting, we hope to demonstrate IRLP operation at the next general meeting. At the board meeting, we also discussed the purchase of a 4-pole antenna for UHF that has already been approved by the membership and decided to wait until after our insurance bill has been paid (Les has confirmed that the bill has been received and paid) after our dues are collected and we have the funds available. Thanks Marc!

Just a personal note about IRLP. I was just in Washington, DC and used the system at node 4000 to talk with a couple of people back in Sacramento then made a contact with a station in the United Kingdom just moments later. I was then listening to the Western Reflector (located in Las Vegas) and thought I heard a friend of mine in Denver but was not able to talk to him due to the battery on my new portable deciding at that moment to run out of charge.

Mike  
KT6MJ

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### DEMO

There will be a demonstration of IRLP at the general meeting. We will demonstrate how we can connect our repeater system to the IRLP system and how other IRLP nodes can connect to us. Following will be a discussion of how IRLP is currently integrated with our system and eventually how we can make it better.

Marc W6MAR

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Please check your information on the enclosed roster. You should also check the MVRC web site ([WWW.MVRC.ORG](http://WWW.MVRC.ORG)) to insure that your EMAIL and Web address are correct.  
Please email Bill - WA6ACF if there are changes.

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**First Class Mail**

**GENERAL MEETING NOTICE**  
Check page one for time and place

Club web address: [www.mvrc.org](http://www.mvrc.org)

The Mt. Vaca Radio Club, Inc. (MVRC), operates repeater station K6MVR on 2 Meter and 440 MHz., from locations on Mt. Vaca and within the Sacramento area for communications over a wide area. All Amateurs are welcome to use the open repeaters on 147.00 (-) (PL 136.5 Hz.) and in open contacts which do not impede the use by others, except when K6MVR is used for Public Service activity. Club simplex operation for public service and other activities will use 147.585 MHz.

**CLUB NET:** The MVRC net is every Monday at 7:45 PM on the 147.00 repeater. Club activities are announced. Members, Sponsors, and Visitors are asked to check in.

**Members Dues:** Membership dues are \$48 per year, due and payable June 1 of each year. (out of area members \$18 per year)

**Sponsors:** Support for the open repeater. Anyone can become a Sponsor for one year by sending \$15 or more to the Membership Chairman. Sponsors will receive the Mt. Vaca News.

Information on system operation or on membership is available from the Membership Chairman. There is no obligation to become a Sponsor or Member to operate on the open system.