President's Message January 2025

Happy 2025!!

I sincerely hope this year brings wonderful things for all of you!

We had a very generous donation of Hallicrafters and held a very successful auction in April. After the auction we reviewed what we could accomplish to enhance our members' experience at the Shack.

We started by repairing the air Conditioning system as well as long overdue maintenance on the roof. We moved some antennas and put up the Hex Beam. We then decided to enhance the Shack's entrance and class area. Our own, Dick Stout with the help of many moved ventilation ducts, added a new ceiling and had the walkways at the entrances repaired to make it easier for all our folks to have access to our facility. Our Radio room was enhanced by the donation from our late Director, Pat Regan's estate. It was decided by the Directors to move the museum to the end unit and make room for our new surplus Area 51 viewing area of donated items to view by our members and other interested parties in a comfortable setting. All the work was done by Dick and volunteers and funded, for the most part, from the funds we received from the Auction and sales of our donated equipment.

As all this work was accomplished, we added classes for our members and other electronic enthusiasts in our new setting. An amazing year and thanks to all our Directors and volunteers.

As we start 2025, I encourage all of you who have a key fob or card to utilize it for entry. Even if someone opens the door for you, please FOB in so we can have a record of attendance.

We no longer have a phone at the Shack. So, if you have questions email <u>westvalleyhamshack@gmail.com</u> or call Richard (Dick) Stout at 623-414-7514. The best place to stay informed is to check our website <u>westvalleyhamshack.com</u>.

Our repeater has been relocated to the Shack. We encourage you to use our repeater often (441.775 + PL100).

The Museum and our surplus Area 51 will be open January 6th. All Area 51 equipment will have known condition and suggested donation attached.

Our January 25th Open House and Tailgate will feature a Raffle for two items. One will be free (Heath Kit GR91) and the other will be a Kenwood TS 520 in restored condition. The tickets for

the Kenwood will be \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20. Tickets will be available at the Thunderbird Ham Fest, the Shack during open hours and at our Open House January 25th. You DO NOT have to be present to win! Be sure you have your call sign and phone number on your ticket in legible writing!

We are going to start having two monitors during open hours and are actively recruiting volunteers.

I am positive this will be a great year for us all and please come visit us. I look forward to visiting with you at the Shack!

73*,* Fred

Note: Attached is the flier for our upcoming Open House and Tail Gate. Help us spread the word! Also attached is our class schedule for January & February.

West Valley Electronics Club

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https://westvalleyhamshack.com/