



The Ventura County Amateur Radio Club, K6MEP, will hold its March club meeting at 7:30 PM on Lucky Friday, March 13th, 2020, at The Dudley House 197 N. Ashwood Ave Ventura CA 93003 at the corner of Loma Vista and Ashwood 34d16m13.67s N 119d 14m 43.24s W. Grid square DM04jg (see map pg. 21) Board Meeting precedes the General Meeting. The speakers will be President Denney N6HV and QSL Manager Ben K6QV and their topic will be FT8.



President	Denney Pistole	N6HV
Vice-President	Clem Alberts	KM6OKZ
Secretary	Phil Cohen	WA6BUZ
Treasurer	John Gartman	W6JPG
Board Member	Stewart Stone	KG6BOV
Board Member	Robert Shank	KM6RSS
Board Member	Richard Abbey	WB6AEW
Photographer	Denney Pistole	N6HV
Facilities Mgr.	Richard Abbey	WB6AEW
Keyer Editor	Robert Shank	KM6RSS
PR chairman	Open	
Programs Chair	Open	
Webmaster	Robert Shank	KM6RSS
Domain Mgr.	Phil Cohen	WA6BUZ
New Members	Bob Brodie	KJ6AAE
License Trustee	Stewart Stone	KG6BOV
QSL Manager	Ben Holmes	K6QV
Safety Officer	Bob Brodie	KJ6AAE

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The **KEYER** is published monthly by K6MEP, the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club, Inc. as a means of providing club members the minutes from K6MEP's monthly general membership meetings, the monthly board of directors' meetings, a calendar of events and articles of interest on amateur radio. Layout and logos are the property of The Ventura County Amateur Radio Club, K6MEP. The stories printed in this journal remain the property of the writers, without whom we would not have a publication. Permission to reprint articles should be obtained from the authors. Articles from the ARRL are reproduced with permission. Material submitted for inclusion is encouraged. Submit material by e-mail to KM6RSS@gmail.com. Our club mailing address is **K6MEP, PO Box 2103 Oxnard, CA 93034-2103**

K6MEP holds general membership meetings at 7:30 PM on the 2nd Friday of each month (except December). Dues are \$20 per year.

Message from the President

The Prez Sez,

We are approaching the end of an usually long February and the bottom of the solar cycle. The days are getting longer, the weather is getting warmer and we will have more sun spots. The latest NOAA prediction says that the solar minimum will be this April. That is plus or minus 6 months. Which means that we could already be at the minimum. January through November have past and this month has had long periods of no sun spots, so February could be the minimum.

Looking at the past solar cycles, the solar minimum does not last as long as the solar maximum. We may have only a couple of more months of low to no sunspot activity, then things will take off. Come late spring or summer we could see a great improvement in propagation.

Dragging myself into the 21 century I have attached an interface unit t to my radio so I could get on FT-8. I am surprised at the activity on 20 meters with FT-8. Of course it was a day that conditions were good due to a random solar storm. To get on FT-8 I broke down and purchased a box (Rig Blaster) to interface the radio (an FT-857) to the laptop computer instead of home brewing my own interface. After some teething pains I got it to work. One thing the manual points out was to turn down the power output of the radio. FT-8 is 15 seconds of transmitting and 15 seconds of listening. Many radios cannot take repeated 15 seconds of key down at full power without over heating or being damaged.

The moon is very close to the sun right now, so the moon bounce or Earth Moon Earth (EME) project has been on hold. With the better weather I hope to get back on the project soon.

My friend I helped last weekend with his EME setup is still trying to make a contact off the moon, now that we have worked many of the bugs out of his system. Having worked on technical manuals I could wring the neck of the manual writers that worded the manual so poorly. I am concerned that my friend may have to much feed line loss, but it could be so many things keeping him from making a contact. To all members, don't forget to check in to the Monday night net on the WD6EBY repeater. 73 Denney N6HV

Secretary's Column and Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Amateur Radio Club Inc. Club Meeting

Meeting Date: 2/14/20

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

MEETING ADDRESS: Dudley Historical House, Ventura

ATTENDANCE: Listed on Roll Check-In Sheet; 20 total with 3 guests

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER **19:25**

Vice President Clem led the Pledge of Allegiance

Clem made introductions and welcomed current, new and prospective members

Clem introduced Ben K6QV

Ben presented uBitx Version 6 HF Transceiver, Small Mag Loop and MX-P50 Linear Amplifier

Clem and the attendees thanked Ben for his presentation

Old Business:

None

K6MEP Calendar

February 2020

3: K6MEP Monday Night Net

4: ACS/ARES ORT Tuesday Night Net

10: K6MEP Monday Night Net

11: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net

14: Regular Monthly Club Meeting at 7:30 pm K6MEP Board meeting precedes the club meeting at 7:00pm

17: K6MEP Monday Night Net; President's Day

18: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net

24: K6MEP Monday Night Net

25: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net

29: Remember, this is a Leap Year so February has an extra day!

New Business:

Thanked KD6ASL for helping Antonio KN6GYG get his license.

Would anyone volunteer to be chairman of the Field Day committee?

Would anyone volunteer to be the chairman of the GOTA station at Field Day?

Ask member to please sign the sign-in sheet.

Next meeting is March 13th and speaker/topic is TBA.

Meeting adjourned **21:08**

(cont. on page 4)



Secretary's Column and Meeting Minutes (cont. from page 3)

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEETING ADDRESS: Dudley Historical House, Ventura

OFFICER ATTENDEES:

OFFICE	LAST	FIRST	CALL SIGN	PRESENT
PRESIDENT	PISTOLE	DENNEY	N6HV	
VICE PRESIDENT	ALBERTS	CLEM	KM6OKZ	X
TREASURER	GARTMAN	JOHN	W6JPG	
SECRETARY	COHEN	PHIL	WA6BUZ	X
BOARD	ABBEY	RICHARD	WB6AEW	
BOARD	SHANK	ROBERT	KM6RSS	X
BOARD	STONE	STEWART	KG6BOV	X

CALL TO ORDER 19:00

MEETING MINUTES

Secretary's report:

Minutes read.

Treasurers' report

None.

Old Business:

We have a coffee pot and coffee; please donate \$0.50 per cup.

New Business:

Need alternate Monday night net control operators. (Need volunteers and a list of names and calls and contact info in case Denney gets sick or is out of town).

Monday Night Net contest reviewed; first place \$100, second place \$50, third place \$25, began Monday January 13th.

Clem discussed reaching out to local schools and colleges to obtain educational credit for an amateur radio license.

Minutes and motions approved by board at end of Board Meeting as four members constitute a quorum per K6MEP By Laws.

BOARD ADJOURNED 19:20



Selected March Contests & Special Events

The following contests and special events caught your editor's eye. This is by no means a complete listing. Please see QST or the ARRL website (www.arrl.org) for any details and QSL information.

School Club Roundup



About School Club Roundup

Spring Term: March 10-14, 2020

Objective: To exchange QSO information with club stations that is part of an elementary, middle, high school or college. Non-school clubs and individuals are encouraged to participate.

Sponsored by the ARRL, its Hudson Division Education Task Force and the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club (LIMARC) to foster contacts with and among school radio clubs.

Award certificates will be issued for the following US and DX categories:

Schools: Elementary, Middle/Intermediate/Junior High School, High School and College/University

Non-school Clubs

Individuals

Web Submission of Scores and Logs: Click [here](#) for the SCR score entry website. Scores and logs for any School Club Roundup may be entered from the time the contest begins through the log submission deadline published below. A logs-received page is also maintained and provisional scores will be published immediately following the log submission deadline. Thanks to WA7BNM for creating this new score reporting and publishing web site.

Multipliers: Note that a station can *only* count for a single multiplier as described in Rule 5 below. i.e. a contact may count for a "School" or a "Club" but not both. A "school club" counts as a "school" only. Contacts submitted claiming both multipliers will be scored according to the log submitted by the station contacted.

Post Photos and Stories: One of the best parts of School Club Roundup is showing off your team members and station. Other participants will enjoy hearing about how you did and reading the story of your contest. You can upload photos and text via the **ARRL Soapbox** web page.

Stay updated on SCR. Send an email to: SCR-L-subscribe@yahoogroups.com ([cont. page 6](#))

Selected March Contests & Special Events (cont. from pg. 5)

03/01/2020 | Nebraska Statehood Day

Mar 1, 1300Z-2300Z, N0N, Lincoln, NE. Southeast Nebraska Amateur Radio Club. 7.180 18.150 14.292 14.265. Certificate & QSL. Charles Bennett, KD0PTK, P.O. Box 67181, Lincoln, NE 68506. Hams will be broadcasting from the 14th floor of the State Capitol building. Clubs across Nebraska are encouraged to participate. Please include SASE. <https://www.facebook.com/SENRC>

*Logs
due:
2359Z
Mar 15*

2020: 0000Z, Mar 7 - 2359Z, Mar 8



To encourage W/VE stations to expand knowledge of DX propagation on the HF and MF bands, improve operating skills, and improve station capability by creating a competition in which DX stations may only contact W/VE stations.

03/14/2020 | Battle of Picacho Peak Anniversary

Mar 14, 1600Z-2100Z, K7T, Tucson, AZ. Oro Valley ARC. 7.040 CW 14.040 CW 14.250 USB 18.100 FT-8. Certificate. Email, qsl@TucsonHamRadio.org, for certificate. No paper QSLs please. www.TucsonHamRadio.org

03/14/2020 | USS Midway Museum Ship Special Event; Launching of USS Midway

Mar 14, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 PSK31 14.070 DSTAR REF001C. QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 910 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101.

03/20/2020 | Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary Anniversary of Closing

Mar 20-Mar 31, 0000Z-2359Z, N6A, Healdsburg, CA. Will Pattullo, AE6YB. 21.265 14.265 7.265 3.815. QSL. Will Pattullo, 161 Presidential Circle, Healdsburg, CA 95448. N6A, Special Event for the Anniversary of the closing of the Federal Penitentiary on Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay, March 21, 1963. www.qrz.com/db/ae6yb



Available Gear

Yaesu FT-8 and accessories for sale

Please contact Ron K16YAX
vccert1@gmail.com



From the WT6JS Donation

Yaesu VX 3R, HT Dual Band 2m/440 whip antenna
w/2 chargers, manual
3 HT Dual Band 'Rubber Duck' antennas
4" external speaker w/mag mount
Mag mount system for large mobile HF antenna
Arrow Handheld Yagi Dual Band Antenna

Please contact Stewart KG6BOV
Kg6bov@arrl.net

Looking for Antenna Instructions and manuals

Looking for antenna instruction and manuals for pre-1995 VHF and UHF antennas. Hy-gain, Cushcraft, KLM are the big manufacturers, but there were dozen of little ones (K1FO, K2RIW, Tronna). Would like to start a repository of antenna manuals.

Manuals will be copied and originals will be returned. The copies will be posted on the web for use by everyone. Have needed the manuals for two 2 meter antennas recently and cannot find them.

Denney N6HV /

denney@denneypistole.com

Equipment Tech and Operator Manuals

I have a large collection of radio tech manuals and operator manuals from Alinco / Icom / Kenwood / Yaesu and others. All are PDF format.

Stewart
KG6BOV@arrl.net



Upcoming FCC Exam Session Preparations
ON EXAM DAY BRING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. A legal photo ID (driver's license, passport).
2. When no photo ID is available, two forms of identification must be presented: a. non-photo ID/driver's license (some states still have them) b. birth certificate (must have the appropriate seal) c. social security card d. library card e. utility bill, bank statement or other business correspondence that specifically names the person; or a postmarked envelope addressed to the person at his or her current mailing address as it appears on the Form 605.
3. Students may bring any of the above items and/or a school ID, minor's work permit, report card, or a legal guardian may present a photo ID.
4. Bring your Social Security Number (SSN) or your FCC issued Federal Registration Number (FRN). VEC's are required by FCC to submit either your SSN or your FRN number with your license application form. If you prefer not to give your SSN, then you may use
5. Your FCC issued FRN, if you have one. For instructions on how to register your SSN with the FCC and receive a FRN, visit the FCC's FAQ page and the FCC's registration instructions page.
6. If applicable, bring the original and a photocopy of your current Amateur Radio license and any Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) you may hold from previous exam sessions. The photocopy(s) will not be returned.
7. Two number two pencils with erasers and a pen.
8. 7. A calculator with the memory erased and formulas cleared is allowed. You may not bring any written notes or calculations into the exam session. Slide rules and logarithmic tables are acceptable, as long as they're free of notes and formulas. Cell phone must be silenced or turned off during the exam session. The phones' calculator function may not be used.
9. Bring a check, a money order or cash to cover the exam session fee(s). Check the ARRL VEC's current exam fee. The fee is normally \$15.00 for ARRL-sponsored tests.



License Preparation and Test Sites

(No license preparation locations within 100 miles of Ventura County listed in ARRL)

Santa Monica CA 90405-6130

EXAM SESSION

03/04/2020

Sponsor: PAPA Repeater System

Date: Mar 04 2020

Time: 7:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)

Contact: Norm Goodkin

(818) 222-7013

Email: hamclass@goodkin.net

VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#)

Location: Spitfire Grill

3300 Airport Ave

Meeting Room

Santa Monica CA 90405-6130

Van Nuys CA 91405-4542

EXAM SESSION

03/07/2020

Sponsor: ARES LAX

Date: Mar 07 2020

Time: 11:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: James W. Laage

(818) 368-8710

Email: cllaage@verizon.net

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Valley Presbyterian Hospital

(Health Education Center)

15107 Vanowen Street

Van Nuys CA 91405-4542

Goleta CA 93117-3271

EXAM SESSION

03/14/2020

Sponsor: Santa Barbara ARC

Date: Mar 14 2020

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Tom Saunders

(805) 452-0840

Email: veteam@sbarc.org

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Impulse Communications

6144 Calle Real

Goleta CA 93117-3271

Santa Monica CA 90405-6130

EXAM SESSION

03/14/2020

Sponsor: The PAPA system

Date: Mar 14 2020

Time: 7:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)

Contact: Norm Goodkin

(818) 222-7013

Email: hamclass@goodkin.net

VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#)

Location: Fromin's Deli and Rest

1832 Wilshire Blvd

Http //Papasys Org

Pre-registration required

Santa Monica CA 90403-5610

Valencia CA 91355-2008

EXAM SESSION

03/21/2020

Sponsor: Santa Clarita Amt Radio Club

Date: Mar 21 2020

Time: 8:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)

Contact:

(661) 259-0948

VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#)

Location: United Methodist Church of

Valencia

25718 McBean Pkwy

Rm B

Valencia CA 91355-2008

Trivia for March 2020

Did you know?

1. Americans will eat over 6,000 slices of pizza in their lifetime?
2. In New York City, more people are killed by bicyclists than by cars?
3. The first telephone book was published in 1878?

Beware of the ides of March!

Happy St. Patrick's Day

To my fellow Irishman,



Dana

KG6WXE

Calendar



K6MEP Monday night Net Script

QST- QST- QST. This is _____ (Name) _____ (Call Sign), with the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club Net. If there is any station with EMERGENCY or PRIORITY Traffic that needs the immediate use of this frequency, please come now.

Hearing none, the following is a QST. This is _____ (Name) _____ (Call Sign), tonight's net control station for the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club Net. If, at any time, during tonight's net, anyone needs this frequency for emergency or priority traffic, please call net control, and we will respond appropriately.

This is a directed net, open to all amateur radio operators and is sponsored by K6MEP, the call sign for VCARC. This net begins each Monday evening at 20:00 local time on the WD6EBY linked repeater system.

The primary frequency of this net is 145.200 MHz with a minus offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz. If the repeater should fail for any reason, we can use South Mtn. repeater on 146.385 MHz with a positive offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz as backup.

All amateurs are welcome to check in after the following announcements.

A roundtable will follow the check-ins. A rag chew session may follow the formal net.

K6MEP, the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club, meets at 19:30 hours on the second Friday of each month at The Dudley House, 197 N Ashwood Ave, Ventura, CA. The next meeting date is Friday _____ (insert date). We urge any non-members interested in the VCARC to contact the club Secretary, Phil Cohen WA6BUZ or send an email to him at K6MEP@qsl.net.

Non-members interested in amateur radio are welcome to attend our meetings.

When you check-in, please give your call sign, name and if you are a VCARC member. If you are not a member of the club, please include your QTH or location.

(Check-ins completed): Hearing no other check-ins, we will now begin with our Roundtable

Any last comments? ***** Any late, missed, or visitor check-ins?

Please check-in now.

Hearing no new check-ins does anyone have anything else they would like to add to tonight's net?

Hearing none;

(Closing): This concludes the VCARC weekly net at _____ hours. Thank you for your interest and participation. Also thanks to Paul Strauss, WD6EBY, for the use of the repeater for our K6MEP net.

73, this is _____ call sign), tonight's VCARC net control, signing off.

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

Scottsdale Spring Hamfest

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

03/21/2020

Start Date: 03/21/2020

End Date: 03/21/2020

Location: Mountain Valley Community Church
17700 North Perimeter Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85250

Website: <http://www.scottsdalearc.org>

Sponsor: ARCA and the Scottsdale Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.18 (PL 162.2)

Public Contact: Edwin Nickerson , WU7S

902 N. 73rd Place Scottsdale, AZ 85257

Phone: 480-949-5162

Email: enickerson427@aol.com



April Hamfest at DeVry

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

Start Date: 04/11/2020

End Date: 04/11/2020

Location: DeVry University
2149 W. Dunlap Avenue
phoenix, AZ 85001
(cont. on page 13)

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Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions (cont. from page 12)

Website: <http://www.w7io.org>

Sponsor: Arizona Amateur Radio Club and Arizona Red Cross Communications Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.060 (PL 162.2)

Public Contact: Gary Hamman , K7GH

5326 E. Voltaire Avenue Scottsdale, AZ 85254

Phone: 602-996-8148

Email: ghamman@aol.com



Emergency and Volunteer Training

Some excellent emergency and volunteer training is available through the American Red Cross of Ventura County, FEMA and the American Radio Relay League.

Red Cross Courses

The following is a list of locally available Red Cross courses and a current schedule of classes over the next two months. Enroll by calling the Red Cross Chapter House at 805-987-1514 Ext 320 leaving your name, course code and telephone number. If you are interested in a class not currently scheduled call to be placed on a waiting list for the next scheduled date.

Note: The classes **Fulfilling Our Mission** and **Introduction to Disaster Services** are required for all Red Cross classes if you are not currently registered as a Red Cross Volunteer.

For training class registration, call: 805-987-1514 Ext 320.

Course schedule and descriptions:

<http://www.arcventura.org/DSCourseDescriptions.html>

http://www.arcventura.org/contact_us.html

COLLABORATING TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY(ARC3089-4)
COMMUNITY SERVICES OVERVIEW (ARC 3068-1)
DISASTER ASSESSMENT (ARC 3067-1)
DISASTER HEALTH SERVICES: OVERVIEW (3076-1F)
DISASTER HEALTH SERVICES SIMULATION (ARC 3076-2F)
DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (ARC 3077-1F)
DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH: AN OVERVIEW (ARC 3077-2)
DISASTER WELFARE INQ.:CONNECTING YOUR COMMUNITY(ARC 3085-1)
DISASTER WELFARE INQUIRY SIMULATION (ARC 3085-2)
EMERGENCY OPS CENTER/INCIDENT COMMAND LIAISON (ARC 3089-5)
ERV's: READY, SET, ROLL (ARC 3068-4)
FAMILY SERVICES: PROVIDING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE (ARC 3072-1)
FINANCIAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (ARC 3078-2)
HUMAN RESOURCES IN DISASTER (ARC 3087-3F)
LOGISTICS: AN OVERVIEW (ARC 3087-1)
LOGISTICS SIMULATION (ARC 3071-2)
MANAGING TOTAL DIVERSITY
MASS CASUALTY DISASTER (ARC 3079 1F)
PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN DISASTER 1 (ARC 3080 1F)
SAFE FOOD HANDLING WORKSHOP
SHELTER OPERATIONS (ARC 3068-11)
SHELTER SIMULATIONS (ARC 3068-12)
WORKING WITH TOTAL DIVERSITY

Scheduled Red Cross Classes

For training class registration, call: 805-987-1514

Please try to register for classes a week before the class is being offered



The following free **FEMA Independent Study Courses** are recommended. There are several other FEMA courses available; see the other courses at <http://training.fema.gov/is>

- IS-5.a [An Introduction to Hazardous Materials](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-10.a [Animals in Disasters: Awareness and Preparedness](#) - (10/2/2015)
- IS-11.a [Animals in Disasters: Community Planning](#) - (10/2/2015)
- IS-15.b [Special Events Contingency Planning for Public Safety Agencies](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-20.19 [Diversity Awareness Course 2019](#) - (1/30/2019)
- IS-21.17 [Civil Rights and FEMA Disaster Assistance](#) - (1/25/2017))
- IS-26 [Guide to Points of Distribution](#) - (8/11/2010)
- IS-27 [Orientation to FEMA Logistics](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-29 [Public Information Officer Awareness](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-33.19 [FEMA Initial Ethics Orientation 2019](#) - (1/30/2019)
- IS-35.19 [FEMA Safety Orientation 2019](#) - (1/30/2019)
- IS-36 [Multi-hazard Planning for Childcare](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-42 [Social Media in Emergency Management](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-75 [Military Resources in Emergency Management](#) - (2/25/2011)
- IS-100.b [Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-111.a [Livestock in Disasters](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-144 [Telecommunicators Emergency Response Taskforce \(TERT\) Basic Course](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-162 [Hazard Mitigation Floodplain Management in Disaster Operations](#) - (11/16/2016)
- IS-200.b [ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-230.d [Fundamentals of Emergency Management](#) - (12/16/2013)
- IS-235.c [Emergency Planning](#) - (12/15/2015)
- IS-240.b [Leadership and Influence](#) - (6/16/2014)
- IS-241.b [Decision Making and Problem Solving](#) - (3/31/2014)
- IS-242.b [Effective Communication](#) - (3/31/2014)
- IS-244.b [Developing and Managing Volunteers](#) - (3/29/2013)
- IS-250.a [Emergency Support Function 15 \(ESF15\) External Affairs: A New Approach to Emergency Communication and Information Distribution](#) - (5/7/2012)
- IS-271.a [Anticipating Hazardous Weather & Community Risk, 2nd Edition](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-288.a [The Role of Voluntary Organizations in Emergency Management](#) - (2/12/2015)
- IS-315 [CERT Supplemental Training: The Incident Command System](#) - (8/13/2013)
- IS-317 [Introduction to Community Emergency Response Teams](#) - (6/26/2014)
- IS-320 [Wildfire Mitigation Basics for Mitigation Staff](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-322 [Flood Mitigation Basics for Mitigation Staff](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-323 [Earthquake Mitigation Basics for Mitigation Staff](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-325 [Earthquake Basics: Science, Risk, and Mitigation](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-326 [Community Tsunami Preparedness](#) - (10/31/2013)

- IS-366.a [Planning for the Needs of Children in Disasters](#) - (12/9/2015)
- IS-368 [Including People With Disabilities & Others With Access & Functional Needs in Disaster Operations](#) - (2/20/2014)
- IS-393.a [Introduction to Hazard Mitigation](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-405 [Overview of Mass Care/Emergency Assistance](#) - (12/10/2013)
- IS-454 [Fundamentals of Risk Management](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-546.a [Continuity of Operations Awareness Course](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-547.a [Introduction to Continuity of Operations](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-559 [Local Damage Assessment](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-700.b [An Introduction to the National Incident Management System](#) - (6/25/2018)
- IS-775 [EOC Management and Operations](#) - (8/6/2008)
- IS-800.b [National Response Framework, An Introduction](#) - (1/20/2017)
- IS-815 [ABCs of Temporary Emergency Power](#) - (12/27/2016)
- IS-906 [Workplace Security Awareness](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-907 [Active Shooter: What You Can Do](#) - (12/28/2015)
- IS-909 [Community Preparedness: Implementing Simple Activities for Everyone](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-910.a [Emergency Management Preparedness Fundamentals](#) - (10/19/2012)
- IS-915 [Protecting Critical Infrastructure Against Insider Threats](#) - (7/10/2013)
- IS-916 [Critical Infrastructure Security: Theft and Diversion – What You Can Do](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-922 [Applications of GIS for Emergency Management](#) - (10/31/2013)
- IS-951 [DHS Radio Interoperability](#) - (9/22/2016)
- IS-2200: [Basic Emergency Operations Center Functions](#) - (5/17/2019)
- IS-2500 [National Prevention Framework, an Introduction](#) - (3/27/2018)
- IS-2600 [National Protection Framework, An Introduction](#) - (3/27/2018)
- IS-2700 [National Mitigation Framework, an Introduction](#) - (3/27/2018)
- IS-2900.a [National Disaster Recovery Framework \(NDRF\) Overview](#) - (7/11/2018)

The ARRL offers several on-line courses. The courses listed here are recommended for those involved in disaster and emergency service. See these and other courses at the ARRL web site.

Introduction to Emergency Communication EC-001
HF Digital Communications EC-005
PR-101: ARRL Public Relations (EC-015)
Public Service and Emergency Communications Management for Radio Amateurs- EC-016

There are some costs with the ARRL courses but discounts and occasional scholarships are available to ARRL members. See www.ARRL.org for details and enrollment.

ARES-ACS Frequency Updates

The Tuesday night Ventura County ARES/ACS Net is held on the WD6EBY Sulphur Mt. Repeater. Local nets are 7:00 to 7:30 PM; County Net starts at 7:30 on WD6EBY Sulphur Mt. Repeater 145.200 (-) PL 127.3 / 445.560 Mhz(-) PL 141.3

Good Frequencies to have pre-programmed into your radios...

Area 1 Simi Valley – K6ERN 146.805 Mhz (-) PL 100.0	Area 6 Ventura City – WA6ZSN 146.385 Mhz (+) PL 127.3
Area 2 Conejo Valley, T. Oaks, Newbury Park – N6JMI 147.885 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 BOZO	Area 7 Santa Paula, Fillmore, Piru – WA6ZSN 146.385 Mhz (+) PL 127.3
Area 3 Camarillo, Somis – K6ERN 147.915 Mhz (-) PL 127.3	Area 8 Moorpark, Santa Rosa Valley – K6ERN 145.460 Mhz (-) PL 127.3
Area 4 Oxnard, Port Hueneme, NBVC – WB6YQN 146.970 Mhz (-) PL 127.3	County-Wide – WD6EBY 145.200 (-) PL 127.3
Area 5 Ojai Valley – N6FL 145.400 Mhz (-) PL 114.8	ACS Portable – VCACS/p 144.930/147.585 Mhz PL 127.3

Other Good Area Frequencies ...

AA6DP 147.090 Mhz (+) No PL Catalina	K4NGL 145.360 Mhz (-) PL 156.7 Kimberly Peak
K0AKS 147.150 Mhz(-) PL 127.3 TOaks	N6EVC 146.850 Mhz (-) PL 94.8 Rasnow
K6CPT DCS 145.300 Mhz (-) PL 100.0 LA DCS	N6FDR 145.260 Mhz (-) PL 100.0 Malibu
K6CPT DCS 147.270 Mhz (-) PL 100.0 LA DCS	W6AAX 147.180 Mhz (+) PL 186.2 Verdugo Peak
K6DCS DCS22 147.225 Mhz (+) PL 94.8 LA DCS	W6GRG 146.940 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 Simi DSW Repeater
K6ERN 146.880 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 SMRA Red Mt.	W6YJO 145.180 Mhz (-) PL 131.8 Sta Ynez
K6ERN 147.765 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 Olivas Park / SMRA	WA6FGK 146.640 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 Simi Valley
K6TZ 146.790 Mhz (-) PL 131.8 SBARC	WA6PPS 147.300 Mhz (-) PL 110.9 L.A. City ACS
KB6C 147.735 Mhz (-) PL 100.0 Oat Mt / MMRA	WB6OBB 147.000 Mhz (+) PL 131.8 Sta Barbara
	WD6EBY 145.240 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 Chatsworth Pk

Due to assignment and coordination of several D-Star Repeaters, TASMA, the southern California Two meter amateur frequency coordination body, has had to re-align several frequencies. Among these changes are the channelization (15 KHz spacing) of the 145.5 - 145.6 simplex allocation and reassignment of several frequencies from simplex to other uses.

None of the local Ventura County repeaters are directly affected; however several previous simplex frequencies are now in use either as repeater inputs or outputs. **New County ARES Packet frequency is 145.050 Mhz;**

Ventura County ARES-ACS simplex frequencies have been re-assigned as follows:

Area 1 Simi Valley – 145.510 Mhz (S)	Area 6 Ventura City – 147.510Mhz (S)
Area 2 Conejo Valley, T.O., Newbury Pk – 146.445 Mhz (S)	Area 7 Santa Paula, Fillmore, Piru – 145.540 Mhz (S)
Area 3 Camarillo, Somis – 146.550Mhz (S)	Area 8 Moorpark – 146.535Mhz (S)
Area 4 Oxnard, Port Hueneme, NBVC – 146.595Mhz (S)	County ARES Simplex – 145.615 Mhz (S)
Area 5 Ojai Valley – 145.555Mhz (S)	National Simplex – 146.520Mhz(S)

Ventura County ARES / ACS Emergency Coordinators

ACS RO/ARES DEC: Rob Hansen, W6RH, Email: w6rh@arrl.net
Assist ACS RO/Deputy DEC: Rick Tate, KQ6NO Email: kq6no@arrl.net

Area 1 Simi Valley EC: Steve King, KE6WEZ Email: ke6wez@gmail.com
Area 2 TO, Conejo Valley EC: Zack Cohen, N6PK, Email: n6pk@arrl.net
Area 3 Camarillo, Somis EC: Avi Carmi, K6AVI Email: avi@carmi.us
Area 4 Oxnard, Hueneme, Mugu EC: Hovan Salibian, K6BQL Email: ki6bql@arrl.net
Area 5 Ojai EC: Wayne Francis, W6OEU Email: w6oeu@arrl.net
Area 6 City of Ventura EC (acting): Grant Mohr, KG6SFW, E-mail gmohr12@hotmail.com
Area 7 Santa Paula, Fillmore, Piru EC: Grant Mohr, KG6SFW, E-mail gmohr12@hotmail.com
Area 8 Moorpark, Santa Rosa Valley EC: Marc Hanley KM6B, Email: km6b@arrl.net

ARRL offers online training for hams who want to participate in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

The time for training is before a disaster...not during one.

The former Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (AREC) series of three training courses has been reconfigured into two courses: An introductory course and a course for leaders and managers.

Introduction to Emergency Communication (#EC-001)

Revised in 2018, this is an update of the former Level 1 course. It is designed to provide basic knowledge and tools for hams who want to serve as a Public Service volunteer. It provides an opportunity for non-hams who rely on communications in emergency situations to learn about Amateur Radio and its unique role in emergencies.

For start dates, registration deadlines and more visit www.arrl.org/online-course-catalog

Public Service and Emergency Communications Management for Radio Amateurs (#EC-016)

Launched in 2010, this course is designed for Amateur Radio operators who will be in leadership and managerial roles, organizing other volunteers to support public service activities and communications emergencies. Participants will learn how radio amateurs prepare to support local community events and, when working in coordination with governmental and emergency response organizations, how to deploy their services. This is a self-study course. For more information and to register visit www.arrl.org/online-course-catalog.

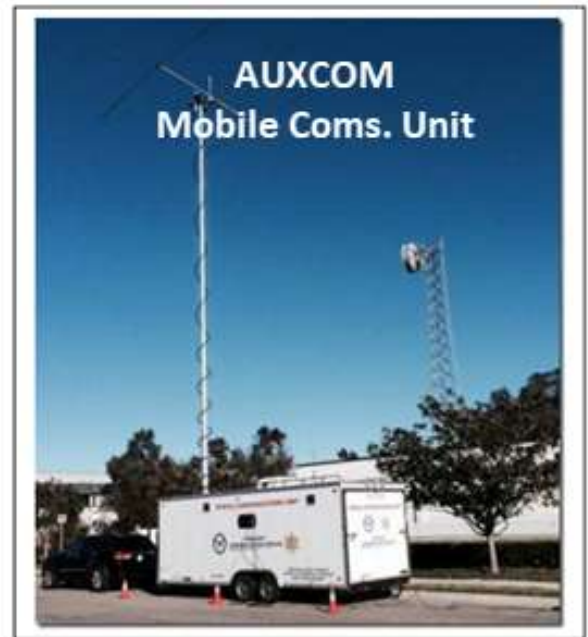
PR-101: ARRL Public Relations (EC-015)

This is a basic training course for PIOs and anyone interacting with the media and promoting Amateur Radio.

This course is designed to give hams a quick overview in public relations activities. It uses the skills of experts in various aspects of public relations to provide volunteer Public Information Officers with the basic skills and expectations that a PIO needs to know to be effective in their home region.

PR-101 covers everything from the basic news release to Web sites and video work.

This course is available--free! -- on-line, or can be purchased in CD format from the ARRL store.



Local Area Radio Nets Weekly Nets

Monday

Cuckoo Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL and 145.180 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL every weekday morning from 8:00 AM to about 8:20 AM

California Rescue ARES Net 7.25 Mhz MTWThF 8:30 AM

Santa Barbara South County ARES net 7:30 p.m. on **146.79 Mhz (-) PL 131.8.**

LA DCS-22 Net – 1930 Hrs. - **K6DCS - 147.225 MHz (+)** then on **7.235± MHz LSB**

K6MEP / VCARC Club Net – **145.200 Mhz (-) / 127.3 PL (WD6EBY linked system)** 8:00 PM

Southern California ACS NET MONDAY AT 2000 HOURS LOCAL TIME ON **3992, 3960 KHz LSB**

LA Section ARES Net - HF Every Monday following the VHF/UHF net (~2130 hrs) 1st, 3rd and 4th Monday - **75 meters 3.995 MHz (± 45 kHz)** / 2nd Monday - **10 meters 28.495 MHz**

Tuesday

Cuckoo Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL and 145.180 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL every weekday morning from 8:00 AM to about 8:20 AM

California Rescue ARES Net 7.250 Mhz MTWThF 8:30 AM

Ventura County ARES-ACS 6 Meter Net – between 6:45 PM to 7:00 PM **K6SMR 52.980 Mhz (-) PL 82.5** SMRA Red Mt

Ventura County ARES-ACS Simplex Net – 6:30pm on 147.510 Simplex

Ventura County ARES-ACS HF Net – between 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM 40M on **7.235 Mhz LSB +/-** ;

Ventura County ARES/ACS Nets between 7:00 and 8:00 PM, the Ventura County Amateur Radio Emergency Service / Auxiliary Communications Service holds their local and County-wide nets. Local Nets are by area and normally run from 7:00 to 7:30 PM. The County-wide Net starts at 7:30 PM and normally finishes by 8:00 PM on **WD6EBY 145.200 (-) / 127.3 PL**

SBARC Swap Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL and 145.180 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL 7:30-8:00 PM

West SB ARES HF Net (1st Tuesday, Monthly) **3822 Khz LSB** 2030 / 8:30 PM

6-Meter Roundtable - 50.125 Mhz USB First Tuesday of each month 2000 / 8:00 PM

2030 **ATV Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL K6TZ** repeater

SBARC Digital Communications Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL and 145.180 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL 8:00 – 10:00 PM

Wednesday –

Cuckoo Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL and 145.180 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL every weekday morning from 8:00 AM to about 8:20 AM

California Rescue ARES Net 7.25 Mhz MTWThF 8:30 AM

Southern California ACS NET 1000 Hours, 40 Meter Net **7230 KHz**

SMRA Tech Net 146.880 Mhz (-) / 127.3 PL (SMRA Red Mt) 8:00 PM

SBARC Swap Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL K6TZ 2000

Thursday

Cuckoo Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL and 145.180 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL every weekday morning from 8:00 AM to about 8:20 AM

California Rescue ARES Net 7.25 Mhz MTWThF 8:30 AM

So Cal 6 meter net, 51.940 Mhz – pl 82.5. 1900-2000 local Thursdays.

Southern Calif 6M SSB Technical Roundtable Net Thursday night at 8:00 PM on **50.2 MHz USB SSB**

SBARC / K6TZ Technical Mentoring Net -- Thursday nights 8:00-9:00 PM **146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL and 224.08 Mhz (-) 131.8 PL (linked)**

Friday

Cuckoo Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL and 145.180 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL every weekday morning from 8:00 AM to about 8:20 AM

California Rescue ARES Net 7.250 Mhz MTWThF 8:30 AM

Saturday

Military Radio Collector Net 1800 / 6:00PM 3985 Kc +/- AM
www.mrcgwest.org/mrcg-radio-nets/

Sunday

ARRL Southwestern Division Net 0800 / 8:00 AM 3965 MHz.

Newbie Net 7:00-7:30 pm Sundays; Bozo Repeater **147.885 Mhz (-) / PL127.3**

Rabbit Net 7:00- ??? pm Sundays Linked Rabbit repeaters

News from PVARC

Paul Strauss WD6EBY has some system updates he thought our club would like to hear about.

Sulphur Mtn:

On Friday February 21, 2020 Eric KG6WXC and Paul traveled to Sulphur Mtn for some maintenance and repairs which consisted of:

He had a Part-15 5.8GHz sector on the tower that was no longer being used. Eric made the climb to the top of the tower and redirected this sector antenna from the East to a South direction. Back on the ground Eric did his magic and reconfigured the sector for MESH operations. This sector antenna will provide some redundant coverage to the Oxnard planes area. Many thanks to Eric.

The site backup battery bank was serviced on 2/21/20 consisting of 8 (each) 6 volt golf cart batteries. Opening the battery caps and looking inside the reservoir, he found that the batteries really need a drink as the 24 cells took a total of 5 gallons of distilled water. The water in the cells was just to the point of exposing the plates. Paul is going to have to increase his maintenance schedule time.

The Ubiquiti 48 port network switch had a firmware update. This update had to be performed locally as it was a kernel update and required the switch to be power cycled for the new image to adjust memory allocations. Ubiquiti is calling this a Lite version of the operating software. This Lite version requires less memory resources and does lighten the load on the processor. The operational sacrifice for the Lite version is the switch can only accommodate 4096 VLAN's. This number is more than enough for our needs.

The HF radio system was reinstalled today. The system has been down due to a failed mountain top control computer. Ray Smith K16VED generously donated a very nice replacement computer for the HF station. The Dell computer and TS450 were interfaced and extensively tested on Paul's bench with great success. But there was a small "oops"; the South Mtn network hiccupped on Wednesday. Actually Paul messed up his network management control program and the South Mtn Ubiquiti network switch mistakenly pushed the update to the new Lite version of the software. On Monday Eric KG6WXC and Paul will travel to South Mtn to get the network operational again. So come Monday evening the HF station will be available.

Business Band Repeater available for use.

Paul is extending an invention to all PVARC members that they are free to use his VHF business band repeater located at the Sulphur Mtn Repeater Site, but they will need to contact him for the specifics. The transceiver is a Kenwood TKR-750 repeater running about 35 watts. The repeater is feeding a 4 bay open dipole antenna that is side mounted on the South side of the tower so the radiation pattern is favoring the Oxnard planes. This antenna is slightly out of band but Paul does have a replacement in-band antenna that will be installed when the weather gets a little warmer. This system should provide reasonable Base Station coverage, OK Mobile coverage and Oxnard planes Portable coverage. Remember your mileage may vary☺.

(cont. on page 20)

News from PVARC (cont. from page 19)

The FCC license allows for Base Station, Mobile and Portable operations through the repeater or simplex (direct mode) on the repeaters output frequency.

He has not yet created any unit or call signs designates for the channel. The best he has come up with so far is ' Jay this is Paul, are you there?' It's difficult for him NOT to use his Ham Radio Call Sign. If someone has any ideas on this he would appreciate hearing from them.

As this is a business band channel the operational rules are not the same as with Amateur Radio. The biggest difference is you CAN discuss business-related matters.

As always please be courteous and respectful on the system. If you have any questions or programming issues please do not hesitate to contact me.

73,

Paul Strauss

WD6EBY

pgstrauss@verizon.net

805-484-2985 h

Monday Update February 24, 2020

Today Eric KG6WXC and I drove to the South Mtn radio site. As we suspected, the Network Switch was stuck in a kernel update. After resetting the power on the Network Switch all came back to life. With the South Mtn network back on line, the MESH network is operational and the TS450 HF remote on Sulphur Mtn is fully functional and again available to members.

Thank you to Eric for his time and using his vehicle to transport us to the hilltop.

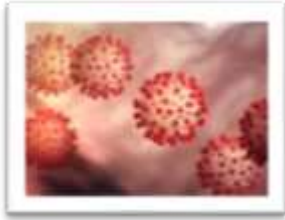
73, Paul ED6EBY



Meeting Location Maps



ARRL News (all photos and icons from ARRL.org or other specified sources)



Coronavirus Fears Postpone Another DXpedition

Alex Gromme, 5B4ALX, has postponed his March 18 – April 2 T30ET DXpedition to Tarawa (West Kiribati) because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The Kiribati Ministry of Health told Gromme that he would need to be quarantined for 14 days in Honiara, Solomon Islands, before getting medical approval to continue on to Kiribati. “T30ET is currently postponed, *not deleted*,” Gromme said on his [website](#). He’s now looking at October 2020, assuming the COVID-19 situation is resolved by then. Last week, travel restrictions imposed on individuals entering American Samoa as a result of the coronavirus outbreak caused Swains Island W8S DXpedition organizers to postpone that DXpedition until later in the year. The team members were unable to comply with a 14-day mandatory quarantine in Hawaii. The DXpedition announced tentative dates of September 23 – October 6.

Partially Submerged NEMO-1 WSPR Buoy Retrieved by Fishing Boat



The NEMO-1 WSPR buoy launched by AMSAT-Argentina (AMSAT-LU) on January 30 was retrieved 12 days later by a fishing vessel. The buoy transmitted WSPR on 14.095.6 MHz and APRS on VHF FM using the call sign LU7AA. The captain of the tuna vessel *Juan Pablo* // considered that the buoy was partially submerged, decided to retrieve it, and informed AMSAT-LU.

The NEMO-1 traveled another 8 days aboard the tuna vessel, arriving at Mar del Plata on February 19, where members of the Mar del Plata Radio Club were holding it until members of AMSAT-LU could recover it. The buoy will be reconditioned, and a new launch is planned, this time taking the buoy more than 200 kilometers (124 miles) offshore, so that it will navigate freely.

AMSAT Cites Need for Adequate Spectrum in Opposing Deletion of 3.4 GHz Band



AMSAT has [commented](#) on the FCC *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* in WT Docket 19-348 that proposes to delete the 3.3 – 3.5 GHz (9 centimeter) amateur band and relocate incumbent non-federal operations. The band includes the 3.40 – 3.41 GHz Amateur Satellite service allocation. In its remarks, AMSAT said it opposes deletion of the allocation and stressed the necessity of having adequate microwave spectrum available for future amateur satellite projects, including AMSAT’s GOLF program and the Lunar Gateway. AMSAT acknowledged that the 3.4 GHz Amateur Satellite service allocation is

not currently used by any amateur satellites and that it is unsuitable for worldwide

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ARRL News (cont. from page 23)

communication because it is not available in ITU Region 1. AMSAT said a number of potential future uses for the band remain, however, as worldwide usage of other available allocations increases. “These potential uses include a future amateur satellite in geostationary orbit above the Americas,” AMSAT said, explaining that the segment could support uplink or downlink frequencies for such a spacecraft without potential interference to worldwide activities involving space stations in high-earth or lunar orbit. The most-desirable allocations for use as uplinks are between 2.4 GHz and 5.67 GHz — 80 megahertz in all, AMSAT told the FCC. “As many of the proposed uses include amateur television and high-speed data transmission with satellites in high-earth orbit or lunar orbit, these allocations may quickly become inadequate,” AMSAT said.

AMSAT told the FCC the 3.40 – 3.41 GHz allocation could be utilized as a command channel or secondary data downlink for AMSAT ground stations in ITU Region 2 without interfering with the primary communications on the other allocations or other satellites utilizing those segments.

AMSAT said several non-amateur satellites use the broader 3.3 – 3.5 GHz amateur allocation, which also sees wide use for amateur radio mesh networking, EME communications, and contesting.

“The amateur satellite service continues to provide immense value to the growing field of small satellites,” AMSAT concluded. “Experiments conducted by amateur satellites...continue to inform the development of the commercial small satellite industry. Additionally, student participation in amateur satellite projects provides both inspiration for young men and women to pursue careers in the commercial satellite industry and practical experience for those careers.

“A strong and robust amateur satellite service will continue to benefit the public interest and inspire future developments in satellite technology,” AMSAT said. “Continued progress in achieving these goals requires adequate spectrum, especially in suitable microwave bands.” — *Thanks to AMSAT News Service via AMSAT Executive Vice President Paul Stoetzer, N8HM*



FCC Turns Down Amateur Licensee's Appeal

In a *Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O)* released on February 20, the FCC turned down an appeal by William F. Crowell, W6WBJ, of Diamond Springs, California, of an Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) dismissal of Crowell's amateur radio license renewal application. Chief ALJ Richard L. Sippel, ruled in 2018 that Crowell “failed to prosecute his application by refusing to attend a hearing scheduled by the judge,” and that this warranted dismissal of Crowell's 2007 renewal application. The FCC Wireless

Telecommunications Bureau had designated Crowell's renewal application for hearing based on allegations that he had violated the Communications Act and FCC rules by causing intentional interference and by transmitting one-way communications, indecent language, and music on amateur frequencies. The hearing was set to be held in Washington, DC, and Crowell filed a notice of appearance certifying that he would appear and present his case.

The case was interrupted by what the FCC in the *MO&O* called “a hiatus of several years, during which Crowell's petition to disqualify the Judge was pending.”

In August 2016, the FCC imposed a \$25,000 fine on Crowell for intentional interference and transmitting prohibited communications. The FCC said in a *Forfeiture Order (FO)* that the penalty “is (Cont. on page 25)

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based on the full base forfeiture amount as well as an upward adjustment reflecting Mr. Crowell's decision to continue his misconduct after being warned that his actions violated the Communications Act and the Commission's rules." The FCC noted that Crowell did not deny making the alleged transmissions but argued in large part that they were protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution," the *Forfeiture Order* said. The February 20 *MO&O* does not reference the *Forfeiture Order* nor its disposition.

When the renewal application litigation resumed in 2017, Crowell asked that the hearing be moved to the Sacramento, California, area, arguing that he could not afford to travel to Washington. Sippel denied the motion.

"In the *Dismissal Order*, the Judge responded to Crowell's refusal to attend a hearing in Washington, D.C., by granting the Enforcement Bureau's motion to dismiss Crowell's application," the FCC said in its *MO&O*. The ALJ held that Crowell's refusal to attend a hearing in Washington, DC, "constituted a failure to prosecute and thereby effectively violated Section 1.221(c) of the rules, which requires dismissal if an applicant fails to commit to appear on the date fixed for hearing." The Judge agreed with the Enforcement Bureau that many of the arguments Crowell raised on appeal "are not properly before us in reviewing the *Dismissal Order* and should be disregarded."

Crowell's amateur license expired in 2007, but he has been permitted, under FCC rules, to operate while his renewal application remains pending.



ARRL Opposes FCC Plan to Delete the 3.4 GHz Band

ARRL has filed comments opposing an FCC proposal to delete the 3.3 – 3.5 GHz secondary amateur allocation. The comments, filed on February 21, are in response to an FCC *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* () in WT Docket 19-348 in which the FCC put forward a plan to remove "existing non-federal secondary radiolocation and amateur

allocations" in the 3.3 – 3.55 GHz band and relocate incumbent non-federal operations. The FCC's proposal was in response to the MOBILE NOW [Making Opportunities for Broadband Investment and Limiting Excessive and Needless Obstacles to Wireless] Act, enacted in 2018 to make new spectrum available for mobile and fixed wireless broadband use. ARRL noted that amateur radio has a long history of successful coexistence with primary users of the band.

"There is no reason suggested by the Commission, or known to us, why the secondary status for amateur radio operations should not be continued for the indefinite future," ARRL said in its comments. "We understand that secondary commercial users are less flexible than amateur radio users and may desire to relocate to protect continued provision of services and service quality. Radio amateurs, by contrast, benefit from having technical knowledge and no customer demands for continuous service quality, more flexibility to make adjustments, and often have the technical abilities necessary to design and implement the means to coexist compatibly with the signals of primary users."

ARRL pointed to amateur radio's "decades-long experience observing and experimenting with radiowave propagation" in the 3.3 – 3.5 GHz band that includes mesh networks, amateur television networks, weak signal long-distance communication, Earth-Moon-Earth (moonbounce)

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communication, beacons used for propagation study, and amateur satellite communications. In its comments, ARRL argued that it would be “premature” to remove the current secondary amateur radio allocation.

“This spectrum should not be removed from the amateur radio secondary allocation and left unused,” ARRL told the FCC. “Only at a later time may an informed assessment of sharing opportunities be made in the specific spectrum slated for re-allocation.... This depends upon the Congressionally-mandated NTIA studies of sharing or relocation options that have yet to be completed and, if all or part of this spectrum is re-allocated, the nature and location of buildout by the non-federal users.” The NTIA oversees spectrum allocated to federal government users. ARRL noted that radio amateurs have established extensive infrastructure for the current band and are engaged in construction and experimentation that includes innovative “mesh networks” and amateur television networks that can be deployed to support public service activities.

With the NTIA report addressing the 3.1 – 3.55 GHz spectrum not expected until late March, ARRL said, “we do not yet know how much spectrum below and above the amateur secondary allocation may be reallocated to non-federal users and what opportunities may exist or be developed to share [that] spectrum” with new primary users and systems.

“Even if suitable new spectrum could be found for the existing amateur uses — which is difficult before the spectrum musical chairs activity is concluded — the costs to radio amateurs would be significant and be borne with no countervailing public benefit,” ARRL told the FCC.

“If the advent of new primary licensees forecloses some types of secondary operations, the amateur community will reevaluate the situation when some certainty exists,” ARRL concluded.



It's Never Too Late to Upgrade

George “Buck” Miner, K6RFE, of Sun City, Arizona, has been an active ham since earning his first license in 1956, upgrading to a General-class license 10 months later. It wasn’t until January 26, however, that he upgraded to Amateur Extra — at the age of 94.

Miner began losing his sight at a young age and became totally blind when he was 27. That never slowed him down, however. Over the intervening years, he repaired TVs and sold, repaired, and installed two-way radios. He even managed a 200-acre ranch on the northern California coast, where he fished and dived for abalone.

Miner was a local celebrity, too, producing and hosting a live radio show in Eureka, California — “Chuck Star and his Rambling Guitar” — on which he told stories, sang, and played guitar. To survive living alone, he learned to cook for himself and has produced several “Buck’s Miracle Kitchen” YouTube videos that humorously demonstrate how he cooks without sight.

Miner has written several books, including an autobiography, *My Darkness under the Sun*. He’s also composed hundreds of songs, including “CQ Boogie,” and he continues to play his guitar and sing for fun and profit. — *Thanks to Bob Ringwald, K6YBV*

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ARRL News (cont. from page 26)

New World Distance Record Claimed on 122 GHz



A new world distance record of 139 kilometers (86.2 miles) is being claimed by radio amateurs in northern California. This tops the record of 114 kilometers set in 2005 by WA1ZMS and W4WWQ, according to the **Distance Records** on the ARRL website.

The February 17, 2020, contact was between Mike Lavelle, K6ML, on Mount Vaca (CM88WJ75ON) at 835 meters (2,739.5 feet) above sea level, and Oliver Barrett, KB6BA (at 1225 UTC), and Jim Moss, N9JIM (at 1250 UTC), both on Mount Umunhum (CM97BD18VJ) at 1,016 meters (3333.3 feet) above sea level.

Lavell reports the dew point was -11°C , the air temperature was 15°C , the path loss was about 225 dB, and atmospheric loss was approximately 0.35 dB/kilometer.

“CW was used, 122 GHz signals were very weak (7 dB above the noise in 22 Hz; -13 in 2500 Hz equivalent) with [fading] down to the noise floor,” Lavelle told ARRL. “Dishes were aligned on 24 GHz (71 dB above the noise) prior to [moving] to 122 GHz; we heard signals right away on 122 GHz.” The stations employed 60-centimeter satellite TV dishes and ran “somewhat less than half a milliwatt” on 122 GHz, Lavelle said.

California CAL FIRE co-located Repeaters

From K6UDA on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJnr-ryEi5Q&feature=em-uploademail>)



Nathan Zellif Esq. is the attorney for the repeater group in Shasta County California, and was on the phone with me (Bob, K6UDA). Nathan said that “I did have a follow-up conversation with the legal counsel for CAL FIRE and the matter (removal of Ham repeaters from CAL FIRE vaults) continues being on the executive team agenda and is discussed at their meetings each month. Since our last update in December of 2019, one of the questions was ‘how many vaults in California have

equipment’? The answer came back ‘there are 21 of them in the entire State of California that have Ham equipment and few if any have the current agreements at this point in time’. My fax of December 16th, 2019, (full letter is on page 29) continues to properly reflect the facts of this situation; (Cont. on page 28)

ARRL News (cont. from page 27)

specifically there are zero plans to remove repeaters from California vaults, and there is to be no rent charges. Ham radio is to be part of and wrapped into the larger CAL FIRE communications network and Ham radio is staying. So I have confirmed this once again with legal counsel and the objective that is being worked on and, (it is a slow process), is that there's to be no charges for use of the Ham radios being in these vaults and the concern has been that we have to satisfy the gift of state funds prohibition and this can be accomplished either by having the department of governmental services waive the fees and/or have it tied into the Volunteer in Prevention (VIP) program so they're working on how to implement this aspect of it. Also they want to have (and so do I) an agreement to be drafted to formalize this process and CAL FIRE's legal counsel said that it would basically cover security, accessibility and oversight and the objective would be to have one, hopefully simple, short agreement for the entire State of California in these matters and my next contact is the last week of March 2020, to follow-up on these matters, so that's where we stand as of today"...

"We're moving forward in a very positive fashion" ... At this point in time my emphasis is to keep us moving. We're moving into fire season right now and that is my objective that our repeaters remain and have Ham radio operators join in to our Shingletown, California, emergency radio plan of action and hopefully other Hams throughout the State will duplicate these efforts."

(Cont. on page 29)



ARRL News (cont. from page 28)

TaxSOS.com

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December 16, 2019

Via E-Mail – as attachment.

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Attention: Bruce A. Crane, Chief Counsel CAL FIRE

Dear Mr. Crane:

I appreciate your speaking with me this afternoon. The existing CAL FIRE stay on eviction of ham radio operators (radio equipment) from vaults is very much appreciated.

By way of update since our last communications, this will confirm your advising me on December 16, 2019:

There are zero plans to remove any of the repeaters from CAL FIRE vaults and there will be no rent charges. Ham radio is to be part of, wrapped into, the larger CAL FIRE communications network. ... Ham radio is staying.


You advised that the above came from the Director of CAL FIRE, and that the Director got it from - very high up. Although you did not state the "very high up" source, I assume such reference to be the Governor's office.

We discussed having reference to Ham radio placed back into the VIP program documentation (the reference to Ham Radio having been recently removed from the CAL FIRE VIP documentation appearing on the Internet). We discussed how such would accomplish several positive aspects, with minimal effort.

I understand that we will again discuss these matters shortly after the 1st of January, 2020. Again, thank you for your positive and proactive assistance in working to resolve these matters.

I hope you and your family have a Merry Christmas, and a great New Year.

Very truly yours,


A. Nathan Zelif
Attorney at Law

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