



The May 8th physical club meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns and subsequently conducted via the Sulphur Mountain Repeater (19:00) and Zoom (20:00). The June 12th, 2020, 7pm (19:00) meeting will also be held on air by our club President Denney N6HV who will utilize the Sulphur Mountain Repeater, on 145.200 MHz with a minus offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz. He'll also schedule a Zoom meeting at 20:30. Check the K6MEP.groups.io website for updates. Please join your club members in attending and sharing your recent amateur radio experiences.



President	Denney Pistole	N6HV
Vice-President	Clem Alberts	KM6OKZ
Secretary	Phil Cohen	WA6BUZ
Treasurer	John Gartman	W6JPG
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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 and photos from the ARRL are reproduced with permission. Material submitted for inclusion is encouraged. Submit material by email 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,

It's almost June and lots of Field Day preparations are happening. For those that missed it we had a great presentation by Burt, KA6BJA on using the N3JFP logging software. We had planned to use the software at Oxnard College. Things have changed, but we are encouraging everyone that is serious about getting on during Field Day to get a copy of the N3JFP field day logging software. We will be using it next year and this will be a time to get in some practice using the software.

As I write this (5/28/2020) there has been 26 days without a sunspot on the earth facing solar disk. This is almost as many spotless days as all of 2019. The good news is there is an increasing number of cycle 25 bright regions on the face of the sun. Sunspots are dark spots in or near bright regions. Bright regions can cause flares and mass ejections that improve radio propagation.

In this time of low sun spots numbers and poor propagation you might consider using FT-8. FT-8 is a computer program that can pull signal out of the noise. The exchanges of a FT-8 contact is very basic, but the mode can get addictive.

If you are looking for more than a basic contact in the low point of the sunspot cycle try JSCALL. It's an off shoot of FT-8 and it allows for keyboard to keyboard contacts. There are limits on the amount of data that can be sent in a transmission, but hams can get creative and cram a lot of stuff into a short transmission.

If you want to know if a band (or frequency) is open try the web site DXmaps.com. Click on the tab for the band you want to conditions of and the site will show who is talking to whom. The contacts shown on the display are from operators that send their contact information to the DXmaps.com web site. There may be many more operators on than are shown on the maps.

We are planning many more Zoom meeting presentations. Look for the groups.io emails giving the date of the meeting and the subject of the presentation. If you are not getting groups.io emails from the club please send Phil Cohen your email address at K6MEP@qsl.net. We do not sell emails.

If you would like us to give a presentation on an amateur radio subject that interests you let us know. I am always looking for presentations and we could use your ideas for regular club meetings.

(Cont. on page 3)

Message from the President (Cont. from page 2)

The clubs in the county are planning to hold a Zoom meeting all Field Day long. Being that some of us need our beauty sleep the Zoom meeting may go quiet late at night. More information will be posted on the club web site and sent out on groups.io emails when it becomes available.

The clubs in the county are also going to be monitoring 146.52 MHz, 146.55 MHz, and 146.58 MHz FM for any technician class operators that would like to participate in Field Day. If you have the time you can volunteer to monitor the frequencies. Let us know and we will put you in contact with the organizer of the two meter Technician event.

The clubs in the county are also looking for Elmer's or hams that can help other hams with problems or with general techniques of operating ham radios during Field Day. You can help others either over the air or through the Zoom meeting or private emails or private Zoom meetings. Let us know if you are willing to help or give a call for Stu AG6AG on the bored net on 145.200 WD6EBY repeater. The bored net is held four times a day.
73 Denney N6HV



2020 Field Day Committee Report; Our goal is to make Field Day fun for everyone.



First I would like to thank Burt KA6BJA, Mark KD6ASL, and Clem KM6OKZ for their efforts in coordinating with other clubs and for generating presentations to support Field Day.

The committee is meeting weekly.

As I mentioned in Prez Says, we encourage everyone participating in Field Day to use the N3FJP logging software. In the past, after Field Day, someone has had to round up all the bits and pieces of paper that were used for logs, type information from the handwritten notes into a data base, then send the results to the ARRL. Next year, with the use of a common logging software the person stuck with consolidating the logs will have less work and typing to do. It will also go a long ways in reducing the errors and omissions in the logs. This year offers a good chance to try out the software and get ready or next year.

Burt KA6BJA developed and presented a slide show on using the N3FJP logging software. Here's is a link to a YouTube video on using the N3FJP software. It is not interactive or as personnal as Burt's presentation was;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJEIXuoKWqc> If you need further help contact us. Here's another link to a YouTube video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ojb8kj_qieY

It's really simple, all you have to do is enter the other stations call, class, and section. The software can handle the rest. It helps if you have a CAT connected radio.

Mark KD6ASL is hard at work developing a presentation on how to use Zoom and its many features. Some of these features are buried in the program. These features help members ask questions and point to areas in the presentations that they are having trouble with. This makes Zoom meetings come alive.

He also is working on a presentation on how club members might participate in Field Day while maintaining Social Distancing, including recommended station classes

The committee is coordinating with other clubs to have all day Zoom meeting during Field Day. There will be someone monitoring the meeting all day and times are been coordinated for group check-ins. You can join the Zoom, at any time and get help if you're having trouble getting on or if you would just like to talk to someone and see their face at the same time.

Stu AG6AG, among the many things he is doing for Field Day, is heading up a county wide effort to get technician class hams on the air during field day. We hope to have someone on 146.52, .55, and .58 MHz FM and someone should be on 28.200 MHz SSB.

The K6MEP committee is kicking around the idea of holding a Zoom meeting on how to build simple antennas. We would start with two meters antennas. Even simple antennas can increase the distance you can communicate. We're thinking about showing how to build either a simple ground plane or a tape measure antenna. If you are interested let us know.

73 Denney N6HV (FD News cont. on page 5)

THIS JUST IN: Temporary Rule Waivers Announced for 2020 ARRL Field Day (Cont. from page 4)

05/28/2020

With one month to go before 2020 **ARRL Field Day**, June 27 – 28, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee (PSC) has adopted two temporary rule waivers for the event:

1) For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points.

Field Day rule 4.6 defines Class D stations as “Home stations,” including stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations ordinarily may only count contacts made with Class A, B, C, E, and F Field Day stations, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows Class D stations to count contacts with other Class D stations for QSO credit.

2) In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).

Ordinarily, club names are only published in the results for Class A and Class F entries, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows participants from **any Class** to optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day.

For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2020 Field Day — Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station — both can include the radio club’s name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club.

The temporary rule waivers were adopted by the PSC on May 27, 2020.

ARRL Field Day is one of the biggest events on the amateur radio calendar, with over 36,000 participants in 2019, including entries from 3,113 radio clubs and emergency operations centers. In most years, Field Day is also the largest annual demonstration of ham radio, because many radio clubs organize their participation in public places such as parks and schools.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many radio clubs have made decisions to cancel their group participation in ARRL Field Day this year due to public health recommendations and/or requirements, or to significantly modify their participation for safe social distancing practices. The temporary rule waivers allow greater flexibility in recognizing the value of individual and club participation regardless of entry class.

ARRL is contacting logging program developers about the temporary rule waivers so developers can release updated versions of their software prior to Field Day weekend. Participants are reminded that the preferred method of submitting entries after Field Day is via the **web applet**. The ARRL Field Day rules include instructions for **submitting entries** after the event. Entries must be submitted or postmarked by Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

The ARRL Field Day **web page** includes a series of articles with ideas and advice for adapting participation this year.

Selected June 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.

- **6/01/2020 | Dog Island IOTA DXpedition to NA-085/EL79**
Jun 1-Jun 11, **0059Z-2359Z, K4D**, Caribbelle, FL. K5TEN. 14.074 7.074 14.235 7.190. QSL. Bruce Brady, 208 Mt Tabor Rd., Hot Springs National Park, AR 71913. Rare grid EL79. Rare IOTA NA-085. Paper QSL preferred, also LoTW and eQSL. See website for QSL details. rockradio1@aol.com or www.qrz.com/db/k4d
- **06/01/2020 | Monterey, CA 250th Anniversary 1770-2020**
Jun 1-Jun 7, **0001Z-2359Z, N6M**, Monterey, CA. West Coast DX Group. 14.250 7.250. QSL. G. Costello, WC6DX, P.O. Box 1332, Monterey, CA 93942-1332.
- **06/03/2020 | W2W - D-Day Commemoration**
Jun 3-Jun 10, **1300Z-2200Z, W2W**, Baltimore, MD. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum. 14.244 14.044 7.244 7.044; operation on 80 meters (3.544, 3.844) and digital modes possible during event.. Certificate & QSL. W2W D-Day, P.O. Box 1693, MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum (ARCNEM) will operate W2W in commemoration of the anniversary of D-Day and the role of electronics in WWII. Primary operation will be June 6-June 7 with additional operation possible during the June 3-5 and 8-10 periods as operator availability permits. Frequencies +/- according to QRM. QSL and Certificate available via SASE; details at ww-2.us
- **06/05/2020 | Salvation Army National Donut Day**
Jun 5, **1400Z-2200Z, KØSAL**, Lincoln, NE. Lincoln SATERN. 14.318. Certificate & QSL. Charles Bennett, P.O. Box 67181, Lincoln, NE 68506. kdOptk@gmail.com
- **06/06/2020 | Museum Ships Weekend**
Jun 6-Jun 7, **1630Z-2130Z, W5KID**, Baton Rouge, LA. Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 14.035 7.225 7.035. QSL. USS KIDD Amateur Radio Club, 305 S. River Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Operation onboard the USS KIDD (DD-661), WW II Fletcher class destroyer. qrz.com/db/w5kid
- **06/06/2020 | Museum Ships Weekend**
Jun 6-Jun 7, **1300Z-2100Z, K8E**, Toledo, OH. Toledo Mobile Radio Association. 14.260 14.039 7.260 7.039. Certificate. K8E Col. James M. Schoonmaker Team, P.O. Box 9673, Toledo, OH 43697. www.tmrahmradio.org
- **06/06/2020 | Museum Ships Weekend Event - THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED**
Jun 6-Jun 7, **0001Z-2359Z, NJ2BB**, Camden, NJ. Battle Ship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station. 14.262 14.040 7.262 7.040. Certificate & QSL. Margaret Burgess, KB2BRR, 150 Schooner Ave., Barnegat, NJ 08005. This is not a contest, just a fun operating event. All stations that work at least 15 different ships of those listed as participating will receive a certificate if they send a copy of their log entries showing these contacts. THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED. www.nj2bb.org
- **06/06/2020 | Nuclear Submarine USS Nautilus SSN 571**
Jun 6-Jun 7, **0000Z-2359Z, N1S**, Groton, CT. Generations Amateur Radio Club . 28.400 14.280 7.250 3.870. QSL. Bureau via K3LBD; direct to Generations Amateur Radio Club, 110 Vinegar Hill Road, Gales Ferry, CT 06335-1713. Details on QRZ N1S and K3LBD pages. NAUTILUS information <http://www.usснаutilus.org/>. www.qrz.com/db/n1s
- **06/06/2020 | Selfridge Air National Guard Base Open House & Air Show**
Jun 6-Jun 7, **0800Z-1800Z, N8S**, Harrison Township, MI. Utica Shelby Emergency Communication Association. 14.230 7.180. QSL. USECA c/o N8S, PO Box 46331, Mount Clemens, MI 48046.
- **06/06/2020 | WWII Sub USS Cobia On the Air**
Jun 6-Jun 7, **1400Z-2100Z, NB9QV**, Manitowoc, WI. USS Cobia Amateur Radio Club. 14.240 +/- 7.240 +/- . QSL. Fred Neuenfeldt, 4932 S. 10th St., Manitowoc, WI 54220-9121. For qsl send your qsl and a SASE #10 envelope to:W6BSF www.qrz.com/db/nb9qv
- **06/12/2020 | Whiskey Rebellion/Cumberland Heritage Days**
Jun 12-Jun 14, **1300Z-2359Z, W3W**, Cumberland, MD. Mountain Amateur Radio Club. 14.322 7.222 3.855. QSL. MARC, P.O. Box 234, Cumberland, MD 21501. www.hamtalk.org
- **06/13/2020 | WHOA/Scout Camps On the Air**
Jun 13, **1300Z-1900Z, W1M**, Russell, MA. Western Mass Council-BSA. 14.250 10.115 7.060 7.190. QSL. Thomas Barker, 329 Faraway Rd., Whitefield, NH 03598. (Cont. on page 7)

Selected June Contests & Special Events (Cont. from page 6)

- **06/14/2020 | Iowa State Parks On-the-Air Centennial – Cedar Rock**
Jun 14, 1500Z-1900Z, KCØRMS, Quasqueton, IA. Buchanan County Amateur Radio Club . 14.240 7.240. Certificate & QSL. Great River ARC, P.O. Box 1384, Dubuque, IA 52004. IASPOTA-2020 Lowell Walter residence by the famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright, the residence lies on a limestone bluff overlooking the Wapsipinicon River near Quasqueton in Buchanan County. Cedar Rock is one of nine Wright designed residences in Iowa. Certificate & QSL managed by Great River Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 1384, Dubuque, IA 52004. QSL for contact; certificate for 5 parks. See website for complete information, <http://www.w0dbq.org/rules> or www.bcarc.net
- **06/19/2020 | Crescent City Fireball Anniversary**
Jun 19-Jun 22, 1300Z-0100Z, W9C, Crescent City, IL. Metro DX Club. 14.280 14.050 7.280 7.050. Certificate & QSL. Jim Mornar N9TK, 8607 W. Kendall Ln. , Orland Park, IL 60462. A certificate to be returned by email may be requested by sending an email to n9tk@comcast.net. To receive a printed certificate and QSL card, please send a self-addressed 9x12 envelope with three (3) ounces postage (\$1.40) attached to N9TK, our QSL manager for W9C: Metro DX Club c/o Jim Mornar N9TK, 8607 W. Kendall Lane, Orland Park, IL 60462 USA. www.metrodxclub.com
- **06/20/2020 | Kids Day Lawton, OK**
Jun 20, 1800Z-2359Z, K1D, Lawton, OK. Frank Phillips Memorial Repeater Association, AB5J. 21.250 14.250 14.045 7.250. QSL. Ronald Grossman, 1308 SW Washington Ave., Lawton, OK 73501. Celebrating the ARRL Kids Day in Lawton, OK> Please contact us using Special Event Callsign K1D. QSL available SASE. We will be on FT-8, CW, SSB, DMR, etc. Lets support the Kids!!
- **06/20/2020 | Treasure Island**
Jun 20, 1200Z-2300Z, K5E, Bonham, TX. Fannin County Amateur Radio Club K5FRC. 28.415 14.265 7.265 3.815. QSL. Fannin County ARC, P.O. Box 553, Bonham, TX 75418. Join in on the voyage on Treasure Island, within Lake Texoma. We will experiment with FT4 Digital. SASE for QSL card. www.k5frc.org
- **06/22/2020 | BSA Camp Horseshoe Scout Reservation**
Jun 22-Aug 9, 1600Z-1600Z, K2BSA/3, Rising Sun, MD. Chester County Council BSA Camp Horseshoe Scout Reservation. 14.325. QSL. Walt Beattie, 2315 Bradley Way, Pottstown, PA 19464-2684. Chester County Council BSA Camp Horseshoe Scout Reservation will be operating from its new council owned camp radio station as K2BSA/3 during all seven weeks of summer camp which runs from June 22 to August 9, 2020. Licensed staff, scouts, and scouters will be using the station for educational purposes, radio merit badge, and to get the youth on the air. Operations will primarily be on 20 and 40 meters but the camp station is capable of operating from 80 meters and up. Modes will be SSB, digital PSK/RTTY, and CW when possible. QSL cards are welcomed. SASE for reply please. If possible, please ID operator you spoke with. Thank you for your support and working our youth at camp! <https://k2bsa.net/2020/02/camp-horseshoe-2019-summer-camp-k2bsa-3>
- **06/25/2020 | Vermontville TWP Fire & EMS 100th Annual Dance**
Jun 25-Jul 6, 0900Z-0900Z, W8S, Vermontville, MI. Rodney Harmon WK8H Fire/EMS Dance Committee. 446.200 MHz PL 74.4; 147.080 MHz PL 103.5; 145.560 MHz; IRLP Node 4868. QSL. Rodney L. Harmon, WK8H, 172 East Second St., Vermontville, MI 49096-9455. A Century of the Annual Fire EMS Dance wk8h_michigan@att.net
- **06/27/2020 | 38th Anniversary Jupiter Tequesta repeater Group/Field Day**
Jun 27-Jun 28, 0730Z-1700Z, AG4BV, Jupiter, FL. Jupiter Tequesta Repeater Group. 14.214 14.174 14.164 14.184. QSL. Albert Moreschi II, 11826 154 Rd N, Jupiter, FL 33478. 38th Anniversary Jupiter Tequesta Repeater Group and ARRL Field Day Event on the Beach in Jupiter, Fla www.jtrg.org
- **06/28/2020 | Boy Scouts of America Trail to Eagle XXVI**
Jun 28-Jul 3, 1300Z-0500Z, K2BSA/8, Metamora, MI. Garden City Amateur Radio Club. 14.330 7.270 3.840. QSL. Richard Zarczynski, AC8FJ, 7371 N. Farmington Road, Westland, MI 48185-6900. K2BSA/8 will operate at the D-Bar-A Scout Ranch during the week as time permits. We will also be teaching the Radio merit badge to our scouts. michiganscouting.org/event/trail-to-eagle-xxvi-2019-trail-to-eagle
- **06/29/2020 | The Brickyard 400**
Jun 29-Jul 5, 0400Z-0400Z, W9IMS, Indianapolis, IN. The Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club. 18.140 14.245 7.245 3.840. Certificate & QSL. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 30954, Indianapolis, IN 46230. See the website for ALL information! www.w9ims.org. (Cont. on page 8)

Selected June Contests & Special Events (Cont. from page 7)

• **06/30/2020 | Granite Mountain Hotshots Memorial**

Jun 30-Jul 1, 1500Z-0000Z, N7GMH, Prescott, AZ. Yavapai Amateur Radio Club. 18.119 14.319 7.219 3.819. Certificate. Don Bauer, 7150 E. Acre Way, Prescott Valley, AZ 86315. Remembering the 19 lost members of the Granite Mountain Hotshot firefighters in Yarnell, AZ, on June 30, 2013. w7yrc.org

Contest Corral

June 2020

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arri.org/contest-calendar.

Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start Date-Time	Finish Date-Time	Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
1 1900	1 2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
2 0100	2 0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqrp.blogspot.com
4 1700	4 2100	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nrau.net/activity-contests
4 1900	4 2100	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
5 1900	5 1959	3.5, 7	HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest	CW	RST, mbr or "NM"	radioamator.honlapepites.hu
6 0000	7 0200	1.8-28	PVRC Reunion	CW Ph	1st year of membership (for members), name, SPC, call sign when joined PVRC (for members)	pvrc.org/reunion/reunion.htm
6 0000	7 2359	28	10-10 International Open Season PSK Contest	Dig	Name, SPC, mbr	www.ten-ten.org
6 0400	7 2000	3.5-28	DigiFest	Dig	RST, 4-char grid square	rigexpert.com/digifest/rules
6 0600	6 0800	7, 14	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	RST, serial, suffix of previous QSO	qrp.ru/contest/wakeup
6 0600	7 0600	3.5-28	VK Shires Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), VK Shire or CQ zone	wia.org.au/members/contests/wavks
6 1300	7 1300	50	UKSMG Summer Contest	CW Ph Dig	RST, serial, 6-char grid square	uksmg.org/summer-contest-rules.php
6 1400	7 0200	1.8-144	Kentucky QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	www.kyqsoparty.org
6 1500	7 1500	7-50	Dutch Kingdom Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial	dkars.nl/index.php?page=rules
6 1500	7 1500	1.8-28	RSGB National Field Day	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
7 1700	7 2200	All (no WARC)	Cookie Crumble QRP Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), SPC, cookie #, name	w3atb.com/cookie-crumble
10 0030	10 0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
10 1900	10 2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
13 0000	14 1559	3.5-28	DRCG WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, CQ zone	www.drcg.de/drcgww
13 0000	14 2359	50	SMIRK Contest	CW Ph	4-char grid, mbr (optional)	smirk.org/contest.html
13 1100	13 1300	14, 21	Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt
13 1200	14 1200	3.5-28	Portugal Day Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), CT district or serial	portugaldaycontest.rep.pt
13 1200	14 2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
13 1400	13 1800	144, 432	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	CW	RST, serial, power class, 6-char grid	agcw.org/index.php/en
13 1500	14 1500	3.5-28	GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	CW	RST, CQ zone	contest.com.ar/gacw-wwsa
13 1600	14 1600	50	REF DDFM 6 Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, 4-char grid	concoeurs-e-f.org
13 1800	15 0259	50 and up	ARRL June VHF Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-character grid square	www.arri.org/june-vhf
15 0000	15 0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqr.com
15 1900	15 2030	3.5	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	Dig	4-char grid square	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
16 1200	16 1400	7	SARL Youth Sprint	Ph	RS, age	www.sarl.org.za
17 0030	17 0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
20 0000	20 2359	3.5-28	Battle of Carabobo International Contest	Ph	RS(T), YV state or serial	www.qrz.com/db/YV4VW
20 0000	21 2359	1.8-28	All Asian DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, 2-digit age	www.jar1.org/English
20 1200	21 1159	3.5-28	Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, 2-letter oblast or serial	urdx.org/rty/eng.htm
20 1400	21 1400	50, 70	IARU Region 1 50/70 MHz Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), serial, 6-char grid	www.iaru-r1.org
20 1500	21 1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-char grid square	www.kkn.net/stew
20 1600	21 0400	3.5-28	West Virginia QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	qsl.net/wvsarc/wvqp/wvqp.html
20 1800	20 1959	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, QTH, grid, power	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
20 1800	20 2359	3.5, 7, 14, 18, 21, 24, 28, 144 repeaters	ARRL Kids Day	Ph	Name, age, QTH, favorite color	www.arri.org/kids-day
21 0800	21 1400	50	WAB 50 MHz Phone	Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or country	wab.intermip.net
21 1900	21 2359	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
24 0000	24 0200	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
25 1900	25 2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
27 0600	27 1700	3.5-28	UFT QRP Contest	CW	RST, QRP/QRO, mbr or "NM"	uft.net/reglement/eng.pdf
27 1200	28 1200	3.5-28	Ukrainian DX D/GI Contest	Dig	RST, 2-letter oblast or serial	www.izmail-dx.com
27 1200	28 1200	1.8-28	His Majesty King of Spain Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, EA province or serial	concoeurs.ure.es/en
27 1800	28 2100	All (no WARC)	ARRL Field Day	CW Ph Dig	Number of transmitters, operating class, ARRL/RAC section or "DX"	www.arri.org/field-day
29 0001	5 2359	28	10-10 International Spirit of 76 QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Name, mbr or "D," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
29 1300	30 0400	1.8-28	QCX Challenge	CW	RST, name, SPC, rig	qrp-labs.com/party.html

All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar dates in North America. Contests are not conducted on the 60-, 30-, 17-, or 12-meter bands. Mbr = Membership number. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. SPC = State, Province, DXCC Entity. XE = Mexican state. Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or NCJ. The latest time to make a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column. Data for Contest Corral is maintained on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at www.contestcalendar.com and is extracted for publication in QST 2 months prior to the month of the contest. ARRL gratefully acknowledges the support of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, in providing this service.

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 / Yeasu and others. All are PDF format.

Stewart
KG6BOV@arrl.net



Upcoming FCC Exam Session Preparations (due to State and Local regulations, NO sessions are scheduled in the Ventura County. However, GLAARG is offering remote testing; see <https://glaarg.org/remote-sessions/> for details)

• 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.



Upcoming FCC Exam Preparation and Test Sites

(Due to State and local regulations, there are NO license preparation or test sites locations within 100 miles of Ventura County listed at the ARRL website)

Trivia for June 2020

Did you know???

1. The first modern bicycle was introduced in 1887?
2. The disposable paint roller was invented in Canada about 1940?
3. Christmas 1955, NORAD, started to track Santa Claus on Christmas Eve?

de Dana

kg6wx@us

Calendar

June 2020

- 1: K6MEP Monday Night Net
- 2: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net
- 8: K6MEP Monday Night Net
- 9: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net
- 12: Club Meeting (held on the Sulphur Mountain repeater, on 145.200 MHz with a minus offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz. Please join us at 19:00 (7:00 pm) and say hello to your fellow club members and tell us about what you have been doing on amateur radio. There will be a Zoom video meeting at 20:30 (see groups.io)
- 15: K6MEP Monday Night Net
- 16: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net
- 22: K6MEP Monday Night Net
- 23: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net
- 26: Field Day Preparation (at home)
- 27: Field Day (at home)
- 28: Field Day (at home)
- 29: K6MEP Monday Night Net
- 30: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net



Repeated from May's Keyer

From: main@vc-ac@groups.io

[mailto:main@vc-ac@groups.io] On Behalf Of Sheldon, Stuart - AG6AG

Just wanted to update everyone about the Auxiliary _Bored_ Meeting. The participation in these gatherings has been remarkable. To date we have almost 600 check-ins with over 100 individual operators participating over the last week. We now link the Bozo Repeater with Paul's (WD6EBY) repeater network for the 09:00 and the 21:00 meetup. Many thanks to Paul and the PVARC repeater group.

The gatherings take place 7 days a week at 09:00, 12:00, 18:00 and 21:00 local time _except_ Sundays and Tuesdays at 18:00 to avoid conflicts with networks on Bozo.

The Bozo Repeater operates with the following settings:

Frequency: 147.885MHz

Offset: -

PL: 127.3

Please join the crowd!

Stu

AG6AG

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

Due to State and local regulations, NO Southwestern State's Hamfests or Conventions currently show on the ARRL Calendar

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)
ERVs: 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 2 Conejo Valley, T. Oaks, Newbury Park – N6JMI 147.885 Mhz (-) PL127.3 BOZO

Area 3 Camarillo, Somis – K6ERN 147.915 Mhz (-) PL 127.3

Area 4 Oxnard, Port Hueneme, NBVC – WB6YQN 146.970 Mhz (-) PL 127.3

Area 5 Ojai Valley – N6FL 145.400 Mhz (-) PL 114.8

Area 6 Ventura City – WA6ZSN 146.385 Mhz (+) PL 127.3

Area 7 Santa Paula, Fillmore, Piru – WA6ZSN 146.385 Mhz (+) PL 127.3

Area 8 Moorpark, Santa Rosa Valley – K6ERN 145.460 Mhz (-) PL 127.3

County-Wide – WD6EBY 145.200 (-) PL 127.3

ACS Portable – VCACS/p 144.930/147.585 Mhz PL 127.3

Other Good Area Frequencies ...

AA6DP 147.090 Mhz (+) No PL Catalina

K0AKS 147.150 Mhz(-) PL127.3 TOaks

K6CPT DCS 145.300 Mhz (-) PL100.0 LA DCS

K6CPT DCS 147.270 Mhz (-) PL100.0 LA DCS

K6DCS DCS22 147.225 Mhz (+) PL 94.8 LA DCS

K6ERN 146.880 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 SMRA Red Mt.

K6ERN 147.765 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 Olivias Park / SMRA

K6TZ 146.790 Mhz (-)PL131.8 SBARC

KB6C 147.735 Mhz (-) PL 100.0 Oat Mt / MMRA

K4INGL 145.360 Mhz (-) PL 156.7 Kimberly Peak

N6EVC 146.850 Mhz (-) PL 94.8 Rasnow

N6FDR 145.260 Mhz (-) PL 100.0 Malibu

W6AAX 147.180 Mhz (+) PL 186.2 Verdugo Peak

W6GRG 146.940 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 Simi DSW Repeater

W6YJO 145.180 Mhz (-) PL 131.8 Sta Ynez

WA6FGK 146.640 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 Simi Valley

WA6PPS 147.300 Mhz (-) PL 110.9 L.A. City ACS

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 2 Conejo Valley, T.O., Newbury Pk – 146.445 Mhz (S)

Area 3 Camarillo, Somis – 146.550Mhz (S)

Area 4 Oxnard, Port Hueneme, NBVC – 146.595Mhz (S)

Area 5 Ojai Valley – 145.555Mhz (S)

Area 6 Ventura City – 147.510Mhz (S)

Area 7 Santa Paula, Fillmore, Piru – 145.540 Mhz (S)

Area 8 Moorpark – 146.535Mhz (S)

County ARES Simplex – 145.615 Mhz (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.

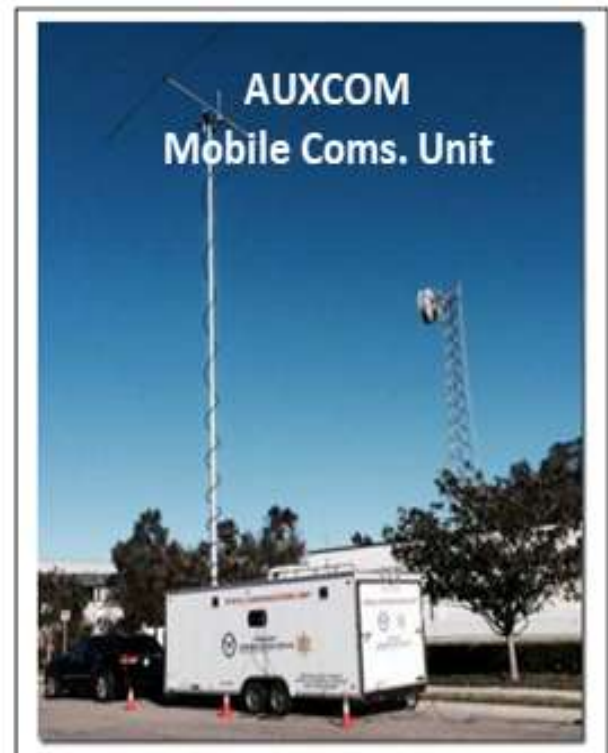
PR-101: ARRL Public Relations (EC-015)

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 Weekly Nets

Monday

Cuckoo Net **146.790 MHz (-) 131.8 Hz PL and 145.180 MHz (-) 131.8 Hz PL** MTWThF from 08:00 Hrs

Auxiliary Bored Meeting: MTWThF at 09:00, 12:00, 18:00 and 21:00 Hrs except Sundays and Tuesdays, held at 18:00: Bozo Repeater
Frequency: **147.885 MHz Offset: -PL: 127.3**

California Rescue ARES Net **7.25 MHz** MTWThF 08:30 Hrs

Santa Barbara South County ARES net 19:30 Hrs on **146.79 MHz (-) PL 131.8.**

Southwest ACS Nets Every Monday at 18:30 Hrs, on a local station on the Cactus Intertye Network. Check-in by roll call. 4th Monday "grid test" 20:30 Hrs

LA DCS-22 Net – 19:30 Hrs - **K6DCS - 147.225 MHz (+)** then on **7.2353 MHz LSB**

K6MEP Net -20:00 Hrs **145.200 MHz (-) 127.3 PL**

CESN (California Emergency Services Net) at 20:00 Hrs **Primary frequency - 3992 kHz, Backup frequency - 3960 kHz.** All free to listen, check-in by membership only.

LA Section ARES Net - HF Every Monday following the VHF/UHF net (21:30 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** MTWThF from 08:00 Hrs

California Rescue ARES Net **7.250 MHz** MTWThF 08:30 Hrs

Ventura County ARES-ACS 6 Meter Net - between 18:45 Hrs to 19:00 Hrs
K6SMR 52.980 MHz (-) PL 82.5 SMRA Red Mt

Ventura County ARES-ACS Simplex Net - 18:30 Hrs on **147.510 MHz Simplex** ORT schedule only

Ventura County ARES-ACS HF Net - between 18:30 Hrs to 19:00 Hrs
40M on **7.235 MHz LSB +/-**

Ventura County ARES/ACS Nets between 19:00 and 20:00 Hrs. The County-wide net starts at 19:30 Hrs and normally finishes by 20:00 Hrs on
WD6EBY 145.200 MHz (-) /127.3 PL

SBARC Swap Net **146.790 MHz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL and 145.180 MHz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL** 19:30-20:00 Hrs

West SB ARES HF Net (1" Tuesday, Monthly) **3822 kHz LSB** 20:30 Hrs

6-Meter Roundtable - **50.125 MHz USB** First Tuesday of each month 20:00 Hrs

ATV Net 20:30 Hrs **148.790 MHz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL RITZ** 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** MTWThF from 08:00 Hrs

California Rescue ARES Net **7.25 MHz** MTWThF 08:30 Hrs

CESN (California Emergency Services Net) 10:00 Hours, Primary frequency 7192 kHz, Backup frequency - 7230 kHz All free to listen, check-in by membership only.

SMRA Tech Net **146.880 MHz (-) / 127.3 PL** (SMRA Red Mt) 20:00 Hrs

SBARC Swap Net **146.790 MHz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL** K872 20:00 Hrs

Teamtalk Voice Net.20:00 Hrs k6pvr-svr.local.mesh server
<http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/>

Thursday

Cuckoo Net **146.790 MHz (-) 131.8 Hz PL and 145.180 MHz (-) 131.8 Hz PL** MTWThF from 08:00 Hrs

California Rescue ARES Net **7.25 MHz** MTWThF 08:30 Hrs

So Cal 6 meter net. **51.940 MHz - pl 82.5.** 19:00-20:00 Hrs

Southern Calif 6M SSB Technical Roundtable Net 20:00 Hrs on **50.2 MHz USB SSB**

SBARC / K6TZ Technical Mentoring Net 20:00-21:00 Hrs **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** MTWThF from 08:00 Hrs

California Rescue ARES Net **7.250 MHz** MTWThF 08:30 Hrs

Saturday

Military Radio Collector Net 18:00 Hrs **3985 kHz AM**
vavw.mrcuwestord/mrca-radio-nets/

Sunday

ARRL Southwestern Division Net 08:00 Hrs 3965 MHz.

Newbie Net 19:00-19:30 Hrs Bozo Repeater **147.885 MHz (-) PL127.3**

Rabbit Net 19:00 Hrs Linked Rabbit repeaters

NEWS FROM PVARC

A call for assistance

Hello All,

Date: Saturday June 6, 2020

Time: Start 8:30 am; both projects should be complete no later than 1:00pm

Location: Chatsworth Peak Repeater Site

Project-1: Annual weed clearing of the site, 3-4 people with trimmers plus additional operators

Project-2: Retrieving a donated tower mounted antenna, 2 tower climbers plus 2 ground support

On Saturday June 6, 2020 we have scheduled two projects for the Chatsworth Peak Repeater Site.

Project-1 is our annual weed clearing project at the repeater site. We are looking to have three to four (3-4) gasoline string trimmers (weed whackers) with operators, with additional people to relieve operators.

The weed clearing around the site goes a long way in providing a defensible perimeter from wildfires. We depend on these sites to provide communications during times of need and helping with this project will go a long way to assuring our communications sites remain operational.

Project-2 is to remove a VHF 4 bay open dipole antenna from a tower. We are looking for two (2) climbers and two (2) ground support personnel.

This project was attempted last fall but was canceled due to high wind conditions. I am looking for calm winds for this day.

This antenna is being donated with the understanding that we have remove it from the tower. This antenna was installed less than 5 years ago and is in excellent condition. When reinstalled, it will provide years of service to the community. If purchased new this antenna would cost around \$2,000 dollars so for the donation of a bit of time, the community gains a valuable asset. Amateur radio communications systems depend on donations like this antenna to keep these systems in operation. If we did not have the community support our communications systems would not be where they are today.

The plan is to meetup at the house of Orv Beach W6BI in Simi Valley and then caravan to Chatsworth Peak. orv.beach@gmail.com Please communicate with Orv as he is coordinating the volunteers. Although the Covid19 restrictions have been highly relaxed for Ventura (Cont. on page 19)

NEWS FROM PVARC (Cont. from page 18)

County I strongly suggest you be self-sufficient with your own water, food/snacks also gasoline and string for your trimmers. You will be reimbursed for gasoline and trimmer string.

I know these are not glorious projects but are they are a big part of maintaining a communications site.

Your donation of time for these above projects will help to insure these mountain-top systems will be operational during times of emergency.

Thank you for your time.

Paul Strauss 805-484-2985

WD6EBY

pgstrauss@verizon.net



Meeting Location Maps (meetings may be on-the-air, please check K6MEP.org)



K6MEP Membership Application.

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

ARRL Field Day 2020 -- A Time to Adapt (reprinted from May Keyer)

Many individuals and groups organizing events for ARRL [Field Day](#) 2020 have been contacting ARRL for guidance on how to adapt their planned activities in this unprecedented time of social distancing and uncertainty.

"Due to the unique situation presented this year, this can be an opportunity for you, your club, or your group to try something new," ARRL Contest Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, said. "Field Day isn't about doing things the same way year after year. Use this year to develop and employ a new approach that is in line with the current circumstances."



Social distancing and state and local requirements very likely will impact just how -- and even whether -- you are able to participate in Field Day this year. ARRL continues monitoring the coronavirus situation, paying close attention to information and guidance offered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If social distancing means that Class A with a 30-member team set up in a city park won't work this year, then it's time for a Plan B. Part of the Field Day concept has always been adapting your operation to the situation at hand. At its heart, Field Day is an emergency communication demonstration. Field Day rules are flexible enough to allow individuals and groups to adjust their participation and strategies in a way that still addresses their needs while being fun. Some possibilities include:

- Encouraging club members to operate from their home stations on emergency power (Class E).
- Using the club's repeater as a means for individual participants to keep in touch during the event.
- Setting up a portable station in the backyard with a temporary antenna for family members interested in operating Field Day, who are now unable to participate as part of a larger group.

One big impact this year will be a decline in public visibility and any interaction with the visitors. Prudence may dictate dispensing with the ham radio PR table to attract passersby, should you set up in a more public location. It's okay not to score all the bonus points you may have attempted in the past. Local and served agency officials may be unwilling to visit, which is understandable under the circumstances. (Cont. on page 23)

ARRL News (Cont. from page 22)

Do be sure to reach out to them as part of your preparations and remind them that you look forward to continuing your working relationship with them in the future.

The impact will differ from place to place, so ARRL recommends that all amateur radio clubs participating in Field Day stay in regular contact with local or state public health officials for their advice and guidance on hosting Field Day activities.

"With any emergency preparedness exercise, it's not about adapting the situation to your operation; it's about adapting your operation to the situation that presents itself," Bourque said. "Try something different." Read [more](#). -- *Thanks to Paul Bourque, N1SFE, and Dan Henderson, N1ND*



Venerable AO-7 Satellite Continues to Deliver

The nearly 46-year-old AO-7 amateur satellite made a remarkable contact possible on May 4 between Diego Feil, LW2DAF, in Buenos Aires, Argentina (GF05rk), and Tom Ambrose, ZS1TA, in Cape Town, South Africa (JF95fx). The contact spanned 4,329 miles across the South Atlantic, with both stations aiming at only 2 or 3 degrees above the horizon.

Both stations had been watching orbital predictions for several weeks, and times when both stations could "see" AO-7 at the same time occurred only occasionally. Electrical noise, particularly in Cape Town, had hampered earlier efforts, but on the morning of May 4, noise levels were low, and a perfect contact was possible with full call signs and reports exchanged.

In 2016, Dave Swanson, KG5CCI, in Arkansas, and Eduardo Erlemann, PY2RN, in Brazil, achieved a distance milestone on AO-7, completing a scheduled contact that covered a calculated distance of approximately 4,979.2 miles, which Swanson said was "way beyond the theoretical range of AO-7" and a feat that "the math said shouldn't be possible." — *Thanks to AMSAT News Service*



Federal Judge Okays Retrieval of Titanic Marconi Wireless Equipment

A US federal judge in Virginia has given permission to retrieve the ill-fated RMS *Titanic's* Marconi wireless gear, which transmitted distress calls from the sinking ocean liner during its maiden voyage. Judge Rebecca Beach Smith of the US District Court in Norfolk ruled that the radio gear is historically and culturally important and could soon be lost within the rapidly decaying wreck. The *Titanic* sank after striking an iceberg some 370 miles off the coast of Newfoundland in 1912. (Cont. on page 24)

Federal Judge Okays Retrieval of Titanic Marconi Wireless Equipment (cont. from page 23)

“The Marconi device has significant historical, educational, scientific, and cultural value as the device used to make distress calls while the *Titanic* was sinking,” Judge Smith wrote in her ruling. She said the company would be permitted “minimally to cut into the wreck” to access the radio room. David Concannon, a lawyer for R.M.S Titanic Inc., which the court has recognized as the steward of the vessel’s artifacts, said the company would try to avoid cutting into the ship, noting that the radio room may be reachable via a skylight that was already open. More legal wrangling may lie ahead. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) contends that the retrieval expedition is still prohibited under US law and under an international agreement between the US and the UK. R.M.S Titanic has said the radio transmitter could unlock some of the secrets about a missed warning message and distress calls sent from the ship. “It tells an important story,” Concannon said. “It tells of the heroism of the operators that saved the lives of 705 people. They worked until water was lapping at their feet.” In an April court filing, NOAA argued against the salvage effort, saying that any benefit to be realized from cutting into the vessel to recover the Marconi equipment would not be “worth the cost to the resource and not in the public interest.” RMS *Titanic* sought permission to carry out what it called a “surgical removal and retrieval” of the Marconi radio equipment. As might be expected, the deteriorating Marconi equipment is in poor shape after more than a century under water. The undersea retrieval would mark the first time an artifact was collected from within the *Titanic*, which many believe should remain undisturbed as the final resting place of some 1,500 victims of the maritime disaster. The wreck sits on the ocean floor some 2 1/2 miles beneath the surface, and remained undiscovered until 1985. R.M.S. Titanic said it plans to use a manned submarine to reach the wreck and then deploy a remotely controlled sub to retrieve the radio equipment.



The K7RA Solar Update

Still no sunspots to report. Spaceweather.com reported that the current stretch of days with no sunspots has now reached 18. And with that the 2020 percentage of days with no sunspots has risen to 77%, equal to 2019. Until May 15 that statistic stood at 76%.

Average daily solar flux for the week rose to 69, marginally higher than last week’s average of 68.5. Average planetary A index declined from 4.1 to 3.7, while average mid-latitude A index shifted from 4.7 to 4.

Predicted solar flux for the next 45 days is 70, every day from May 22 through July 5. Predicted planetary A index is 5 on May 22 until June 14, 8 on June 15-16, and 5 on June 17 through July 5.

Geomagnetic activity forecast for the period June 1 until June 16, 2020 from F.K. Janda, OK1HH.

Geomagnetic field will be

quiet on: June 2-5, 9-13

quiet to unsettled on: June 14

quiet to active on: (June 1, 6-8, 15-16)

unsettled to active on: - none predicted! (cont. on page 25)

The K7RA Solar Update (Cont. From page 24)

active to disturbed: - none predicted!

Solar wind will intensify on: May (23,) 24, June (6-7)

- Parenthesis means lower probability of activity enhancement.

- The predictability of changes remains lower as there are no indicators.

Scotty, W7PSK, in Everett, Washington wrote on May 21, "Six-meter E Skip for me blew open with a bang. I've rarely heard USA stations as it is on 6 since I've been on it (about 3 years). I was just on and with my pipsqueak station (SteppIR 3-element beam with a 4th passive element). I just worked J68, KP4 and FG8."

AA8WH reports from Dearborn Heights, Michigan, "I been listening over the last few days. Yesterday, May 20, 6 meters has been open at various times all day. Sometimes, FT8 would be up, stay up for a while, and then a few minutes later would fade back into the noise. "I figured that must've been sporadic E. I went down to 10 meters and it was quiet, but 12 meters was open, as was 15. Seventeen and 20 meters were hopping most of the day. I was able to hear the W1AW broadcasts up to 15 meters and sometimes even 10 meters."

Dave, W5BU, reported on May 16, "Yesterday, here in central Texas (EM11), 6 meters was really booming, and the waterfall was filled with signals. Most of the signals were within the continental US and down south into Mexico and Caribbean. I quickly fired up the rig and amp and proceeded to work almost 20 new grids and six new grids in Mexico. The most notable contact was with XCE2IF at the southern tip of Mexico's Baja California Sur Peninsula (Cabo San Lucas). Additionally, there were multiple contacts into Canada. The amp was needed to complete the contact with the Baja station as he must have had difficulty in copying my signals. I kept hoping that the propagation would extend into Hawaii/Alaska, but no such luck.

"My present antenna is a US Army OE-254 bi-conical vertical at 30 feet as my 4-element loop-fed Yagi is still waiting for a tower climber for installation on my tower. My goal is the Worked All States award on six meters, but I am presently stuck at 39 states and six countries confirmed with my modest antenna setup. I pulled the plug about 9:30PM local time and uploaded my log."

It is nice to read a good science-based article about solar activity in the popular press. I subscribe to a service that sends me every news article that mentions "sunspot" and some of them are quite bad, and not exactly fact based. The worst offenders in my opinion are the British tabloids. But this article is a good one: <https://bit.ly/36IXID1>

Jeff, N8II, in West Virginia reported on May 18, "The last week has been amazing for 28 MHz Es with multi hop openings to Europe, Africa the Caribbean, South America, Central American, Mexico, California, and Colorado from here!

"The first opening I noticed was May 8 on 10-meter SSB into Pensacola, Florida, and to KP3JL in Puerto Rico at about 1520Z. Then, on the evening of May 9, I worked HI8AT and HI8RD in the Dominican Republic, KP4TF and WP4IRV in Puerto Rico, and all with signals well over S9 on SSB except Iceland on CW. It sounded more like F2, although that's impossible with our very low SFI. On May 11 there was a good opening to the southern and southwest US from 2227-2300Z. At 2339Z, FG4SO in Guadeloupe was an easy contact on SSB; he was S7 here. Then, I worked WP4OCB and KP3JL, then TI2GBB, Costa Rica, and HI8AT -- all on 10-meter SSB.

The 14th was amazing, starting off with a couple of contacts with Maine on SSB. At 2207 CT3MD, Madeira Island was S9 and easily worked on CW, followed at 2232Z by HK1MW, in Columbia at (Cont. on page 26)

The K7RA Solar Update (Cont. From page 25)

S9+, CT1GFK and CT1EWX, both weak from Portugal, with KP4TF booming in again as well -- all on CW. This is probably the earliest in the Es season that I have ever worked Europe on 10 meters. From then until 2300Z, I contacted NP4ET, KP4CQ, and KP4ARR -- all better than S9. I heard Brazil and Argentina on CW calling stations, too. Returning at 2334Z, I found Steve, HP9SAM, in Panama at S9+. HC5DX from Ecuador on SSB, and YY4RCT, in Venezuela answered my SSB CQ about S5. I also worked 9Z4Y in Trinidad on CW and a loud HC5RF on SSB.

"On the 15th, I caught up with HH2AA in Haiti who had been spotted earlier in the week. He had an S9 signal at 1931Z on CW. Then at 2110Z, K6BIG in Pasadena, California answered my CQ on SSB. At 2237Z, CT3MD was logged as an S9 signal on 12-meter CW. Starting 2337Z, HK1ANP was S7 on 10-meter CW and he kindly moved to 12-meter CW and was also S7 there. XE1HON in Mexico called me on SSB, and then I found XE1XR on CW and 4A60I (also Mexico) at 0011Z, both on SSB and both S9."

Tom Scott, N5GIT, reported from San Antonio (EL09), "Made an impressive run on 6-meter FT8 on Mother's Day evening (May 10). Out of 133 stations that heard me according to Pskreporter, I contacted 41 stations during a 4-hour stint well into the midnight hour from Canada to Cuba!"

Here is the latest video from Dr. Skov: <https://bit.ly/3cOUV7X>

ARISS Multipoint Telebridge Contact via Amateur Radio Concept Proving Successful



Judging by the outcome of two tests so far, the new Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Multipoint Telebridge Contact via Amateur Radio concept appears to be a winner. ARISS completed the second test of the new-style radio contact called Multipoint Telebridge Contact via Amateur Radio on May 15, when Airdrie Space Science Club members in Airdrie, Alberta, Canada, interviewed International Space Station Commander Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR, via

ham radio.

"What makes this contact a little different from the usual ARISS contact is [that] everyone involved will be speaking from their homes in Canada, as we all shelter in place," said the contact moderator John Kludt, K4SQC, in introducing the event. The multipoint telebridge concept was developed to make it possible for students — now at home and engaged in distance learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic — to take part in scheduled ARISS contacts. An ARISS telebridge ground station operated by John Sygo, ZS6JON, near Johannesburg, South Africa, made direct contact with NA1SS onboard the ISS, then passing overhead. Sygo then patched two-way audio into the telebridge network for distribution to each student's home by telephone.

Each student then took turns asking questions of Cassidy, and their families, faculty members, and the public could also listen from home. One of the participants, Lucas, wanted to know how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected life aboard the space station.

"The pandemic has affected us because it's affected our families," Cassidy responded. "Our daily life here on the space station is largely the same, with or without the pandemic." (Cont. on page 27)

ARISS Multipoint Telebridge Contact via Amateur Radio Concept Proving Successful (Cont. from page 26)

The initial multipoint telebridge contact earlier this month, while successful, suffered from some issues on the space station that were unrelated to the new multipoint system. During the more-than 11-minute contact on May 15, some of the students got to ask more than one question.

Prior to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Canadian students had engaged in lessons about space and radio communication, such as launching balloons carrying ham radio payloads and building model rockets to launch.

One of the Airdrie Space Science Club leaders — Brian Jackson, VE6JBJ — said the pandemic had interrupted opportunities to develop the students' interest in space. "This ARISS contact gets them looking back up, towards the sky, and imagining themselves as an astronaut one day," he observed. — *Thanks to ARISS*

Islands On The Air Users May Obtain Award Credits via Logbook of The World



Islands On The Air (IOTA) users may now obtain contact credits via ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW). A similar arrangement is already in place with Club Log.

"Islands On The Air (IOTA) Ltd. is delighted to announce the implementation of the ARRL application which allows the use of QSO-matching via LoTW," IOTA's Roger Balister, G3KMA, said. "We wish to thank ARRL for having made their application available."

Balister said an initial list of operations extending from the arrangement with LoTW has been added to the IOTA database, and these will become available for contact-matching starting on May 21. "We are sure that the IOTA community will welcome this development for which they have long been pressing," Balister added.

ARRL Director of Operations Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, points out that LoTW has, for years, allowed award sponsors access to a utility that lets them verify contacts in LoTW. "The IOTA folks have begun using this utility, but still check the QSOs against known IOTA operations," he explained, noting that applicants cannot apply for IOTA awards through LoTW.

To claim a new island group from matched LoTW contacts, users would click on "Retrieve QSOs from LoTW" to retrieve matching records. Within 30 minutes, IOTA users will receive an email listing the matches added to a list of pending contacts.

Use the "Submit HF application" or "Submit VHF application" utilities to go through the steps necessary to ensure that your application is complete before submitting it. Once IOTA has accepted the LoTW-matched contacts and any others in an application supported by QSL cards, IOTA will credit the contacts to your IOTA Award account and issue any appropriate awards or certificates.

See [Instructions for LoTW QSO Matching](#) for details. [Direct correspondence](#) to the IOTA Support Desk.
(Cont. on page 28)

Barry J. Shelley, N1VXY, n1vxy@arrl.org

Second Century



What We Can Do

Because of the lead time for sending QST to the printer, this is being written in early April. We've been told to stay in our homes, isolating and "social distancing." Hopefully, by the time you read this, we will be past the worst of the situation and seeing a light at the end of the tunnel. We're all facing many questions at this time, and among them is, how should amateur radio — and, specifically, ARRL — respond in the current health crisis and the limitations it has placed on all our lives?

Two months ago, as Interim CEO, I opened this column with the thought that you should hear from the management team at ARRL — the people who are working to shape the future of the organization. Now, looking back 2 months, I can't believe how much the world has changed. Just 2 months ago, we moved freely about the country, connected with friends and family in person, and engaged in all our professional and personal interests relatively unfettered. What an entirely different place we are in now; one we never could have imagined. As a result of all the changes, I thought it was important for you to hear from me regarding what is going on at ARRL Headquarters and across the amateur radio community.

First, and most importantly, amateur radio is in a unique position to serve not only our community of licensed operators, but the broader communities in which we all live and work. Opportunities exist to help keep people connected and provide support where and when we're needed. That's what amateur radio operators do. It's what they've always done, although certainly in different circumstances. Even something as simple as getting on the air and calling CQ can be uplifting for someone on the other end of the contact. Connecting with people is important in this time of isolation and social distancing, and this tried-and-true method is one of the best. Who knows? You might make a new friend.

There are even more opportunities to make contacts coming up on the calendar. ARRL Field Day is fast approaching and, although it will likely be very different this year, it still presents an opportunity to showcase our skills and make contacts. I recommend the article on the ARRL website, which talks about Field Day 2020 as being "A Time to Adapt" (www.arrl.org/news/field-day-2020-a-time-to-adapt). It provides suggestions on how to participate this year, and I encourage everyone to do so. If you're looking for opportunities to be active on the air, take a look at the Special Events search page on the

ARRL website (www.arrl.org/special-event-stations) to find more localized events in which to participate.

As for ARRL, late on March 20, the Governor of the State of Connecticut ordered all non-essential and non-profit businesses to reduce their in-person workforce by 100% by the close of business on Monday, March 23, except for a very few specific functions. We scrambled during the weekend leading up to the 23rd, but with an amazing effort by the staff, by the morning of Tuesday, March 24, we had almost 80% of the staff working remotely. Our goal was to maintain as many of the member services as we could, while keeping within the spirit and the letter of the Governor's edict. In the end, our phones are being answered and your questions and concerns are being addressed as they always were. Our magazines are being produced, and are on schedule to be distributed as usual, and we are processing membership applications and publication orders. I would recommend that you use email to contact us (many addresses for the various departments are on pages 14 and 15 in QST) so we can process your request more efficiently. W1AW transmission schedules are mostly intact. Most other departments are working as normal, too. However, manual processing of award applications and awards is being delayed.

I'm especially proud of what the staff and membership of ARRL have been able to accomplish in this time of unbelievable turmoil. I've asked everyone to keep in mind two words in times like this: *patience* and *flexibility*. Everything we know is constantly changing, and we all need to be patient with all our interactions and be flexible to adapt to the ever-changing conditions.

We at ARRL hope the entire amateur radio community is safe and healthy. As always, you can contact me at ceo@arrl.org.