



The December 11th club meeting was held on the air by club President Denney N6HV used the Sulphur Mountain Repeater, on 145.200 MHz with a minus offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz. Eighteen members and guests checked in. Normally our DecemberFest meeting is held at a local restaurant. However, due to COVID restrictions putting Ventura County into the “Purple Tier” (e.g. nearly all businesses have to keep indoor operations closed or severely limited), the dinner meeting was held on Zoom.

The January 8th club meeting will be held on the air by club President Denney N6HV using the Sulphur Mountain Repeater, on 145.200 MHz with a minus offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz. A Zoom meeting will follow the on-the-air net. Our president will announce the topic and presenter soon. Please check our website, K6MEP.org, for any announcements.



Club Officers	And Keyer	Contributors
President	Denney Pistole	N6HV
Vice-President	Clem Alberts	KM6OKZ
Interim Secretary	Pedro Morillas	KE6MIL
Treasurer	John Gartman	W6JPG
Board Member	Stewart Stone	KG6BOV
Board Member	Robert Shank	KM6RSS
Board Member	Richard Abbey	WB6AEW
Photographer	Denney Pistole	N6HV
Facilities	Richard Abbey	WB6AEW
Keyer Editor	Robert Shank	KM6RSS
Webmaster	Robert Shank	KM6RSS
Domain	Phil Cohen	WA6BUZ
Membership	Bob Brodie	KJ6AAE
License Trustee	Stewart Stone	KG6BOV
QSL Manager	Ben Holmes	K6QV
Safety Officer	Bob Brodie	KJ6AAE
Local Area Net	Wayne Woodhams	N6WIX
ACS/ARES	Rob Hanson	W6RH
SB Section	John Kitchens	NS6X
The Inside Story		
Message from the President		2-3
K6MEP Monday Night Net		4
December 11 th Minutes and Zoom Meeting		5-7
Selected January Contests & Special Events		8
Contest Corral		9
Available Gear		10
Upcoming FCC News & Exam Session Prep.		11-16
Upcoming FCC Exam Testing Sites		17
Trivia and Calendar		18
K6MEP Monday Night Net Script		19
Convention and Hamfest Calendar		20-22
Emergency and Volunteer Training		23-24
ARES-ACS Frequency Updates		25
ACS/ARES Training & News Rob Hanson W6RH		26-30
ARRL Public Service Classes		31
Is Static a Good Thing? Wayne N6WIX		32-33
Local Area Nets		34
News from PVARC/MESH		35-43
SB Section Mgr. John Kitchens NS6X		44-48
Meeting Local Maps		49
Updated K6MEP Membership Application		50
ARRL News		51-56

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.

The Prez Sez,

Happy New Year! During the holidays I went and helped a friend with his EME setup. After years of working on it he had almost given up. He is a mechanical type and his antenna array is much more impressive than mine. Impressive or not, he was not hearing anyone. I hauled a load of equipment down to check out the RF part of the system.

Except for a run to the grocery store during the senior early morning hour, we did not leave his house while I was down there.

After two days and nights of working on the system we got decodes. There were a lot of tweaks and small changes. Nothing that I can put my finger on that made the difference between not hearing anyone and hearing them. I did find that during the day there is a lot of noise and signals on two meter EME section of the band when his antennas are pointed at the horizon. I am not sure what the interference is from. Of course it was partly that the moon conditions were very good for us the night that we got readable signals. In addition it may be that the noise sources were quieter at night. Now we know that all his hard work was not a waste and the system works.

He's out of moping about the system and back to improving it.

Have you made ham radio plans for the New Year? I'm not talking about resolutions or goals. I'm talking about getting a good idea of what you want to do, like put up a new antenna, work a certain country, or upgrade your license.

The last solar report I saw said that we were just below the good to great level for High Frequency band conditions. Many new hams have not been on the air long enough to have experienced great openings. Working a new country always makes me feels good.

The recent rains reminded me of when I moved to Ventura County in the late 1970s. The rains lasted for days. The Red Cross activated several centers. This was before cell phones and the Internet.

Bridges were almost washed out and channels overflowed. The ground got so water logged that the trees were being uprooted and blowing over. Cell phones and the Internet will not stop it from happening again. Trees, brush, and debris got caught by the **(Cont. on page 3)**

Message from the President (Cont. from page 2)

bridge supports and formed a dam that could have taken down the bridge.

Over the years more and more farm land has been covered by housing and paved streets. The water will not soak through that pavement. All that water has to go somewhere, it will become run off and it can get deep. If you have ever been in a flash flood in the desert then you know run off is your enemy.

It will be different with cell phones and personal computers, but even with working cell phones, organizations like the Red Cross need trained personnel to be their eyes and ears. If you're out helping flood victims you need to know that your loved ones are prepared and safe.

A side story from one of the floods; my boss was a navy commander and was living in the base housing at Point Mugu. Very early in the morning someone was pounding on his front door. He swung out of bed and his feet landed in 12 inches of water. Not a good thing to have happen in your bedroom. The base was built in a marsh and not built very high. Stu had a great story about having a pair of shoes by the bed side so he doesn't walk on sharp plastic toys in the dark after an earthquake. If you live in a low spot, should you have a pair of waders by your bed?

My boss told us that he ended up in the back of a dump truck rounding up all the dogs and cats in the base housing. He said the truck was loaded with dogs and cats and they didn't bother each other. They knew something was wrong.

In 2020 I sat out to improve my EME system. I wanted to go from a tiny station working maybe, maybe one station during a good three day weekend to a small station working a couple of stations on a good three day weekend or contest. In 2020 I went through two sets of antenna, different feed lines, and some equipment changes. A big change is I started using new software. Everyone recommended the software. I later found that the software was holding me back. One piece of the software doesn't even have a manual. After weeks, months of beating my head against a wall of software I was in a groups.io chat asking for help. I had asked for help before and hadn't gotten anything useful. I saw a post from a ham, Paul WG0G. He also needed help, but had the same equipment I was using, and he was further along than I was. I looked up his email address on the ARRL web site and sent him an email asking for help.

Wonder of wonders; he emailed me back. In a following phone call he was able to tell me how to overcome a software problem that had me stumped. It took him less than ten minutes to solve my problem. I had scoured Google and the chat/groups.io sites looking for the answer he came up with. It's still a rough road. I had to call him again the other day and he came up with another answer in no time at all. This is paying it forward. This is a part of Ham radio that does get mentioned much, I got help and I made a friend. 73, Happy New Year, and if you get a chance pay it forward.



K6MEP Monday Night Net by Denney N6HV

We had 19 operators check-in to the 12-28-2020 net; that includes three visitors. I did not include a new ham that was having trouble getting into the repeater. Hopefully we can help him get on the repeater. It may be as simple as getting the PL or CTCSS (Continuous Tone-Coded Squelch System) tone on his radio correct.

Mark KB6ASL talked about going to the top of Mount Pinos with a telescope and viewing the conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn.

Burt KA6BJA has made progress and had just made a voice connection using VERA on two meter FM. He has a hit or miss path to Rob's node in thousand Oaks.

Clem KM6OKZ is hard at work on the microscope he plans on using when working on surface mount components. He has ordered a transformer for the light source and has questions about using a light dimmer through the transformer.

Dave AI6VX is hard at work on his recently acquired VW diesel car. It brought back memories of my time replacing Macpherson strut type shocks and how dangerous it can be.

Bob KD6UDA has some time off work and is making time to arrange his shack to make it more comfortable while operating.

Paul WD6EBY joined the net and asked if anyone had experience with Fire Stick antennas for 10 meters. He wants to install a ten meter antenna but has a severe space restriction. Several members offered to lend him an antenna to try.

73 Denney N6HV

Here is a quick summary of the 12-28-2020 Zoom get together.

Our latest Zoom get-together turned into an Elmer session, and that's a good thing. We had two very new hams and a serious prospective ham join us. (If you're not a Ham or hold an Amateur Radio license send a request to k6mep@qsl.net for an invite and for help in getting into the zoom get together). Members attending the get together out did themselves trying to help the visitors. You don't need to be a member of the club to get help.

We talked about what would be a good starter radio. The need for a better antenna. What repeater can be used and from where? How to keep track of all the repeaters as you travel down the road? We tried to direct them to the repeater directory.

It was a fire hose of information and the new guys may have been overwhelmed by it all. Like one newbie said "Hams speak a different language." Part of that, I feel, is the young are in a hurry and "things take time" (a quote from attributed to John Wooden, Matshona Dhliwayo, and a host of others). I had to butt in and remind everyone that there is a lot more to Ham Radio than 2 meters, or repeaters or hand held radios. When you talk to someone about ham radio try to tell them that there are satellites you can talk through, there's the High Frequency bands that you can use to talk all over the world with and the HF bands are coming back, you can do TV, set up a teletype radio, bounce signals off meteor trails in the sky, and a dozen more things.

We started the get together by talking about telescopes and the recent conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn. Mount Pinos is a dark and good spot to look at the stars and planets, but don't forget extra socks, it gets cold on top of the mountain.

The new guys even enjoyed the discussion about telescopes.

Come join the group next Monday, January 4th, after the two meter net on zoom. You can just listen in if you want.

73 Denney N6HV

VCARC 12/11/20 On-The-Air Club Meeting

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

MEETING LOCATION: The December 11th club meeting was held on the air by club President Denney N6HV used the Sulphur Mountain Repeater, on 145.200 MHz with a minus offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz.

Normally our DecemberFest meeting is held at a local restaurant. However, due to COVID restrictions putting Ventura County into the "Purple Tier" (e.g. nearly all businesses have to keep indoor operations closed or severely limited); the dinner meeting was held on Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER: 19:00

ATTENDANCE: There were 15 members and three guests checking in; recorded on the President's Check-In Sheet

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The club is continuing to observe the Health Department's rules and regulations concerning sheltering in place and limiting the numbers of people in any one place as well as wearing masks indoors and outdoors.

MEETING MINUTES:

Denney opened meeting

Introductions; Denney read the standard club's Net Meeting script with modifications for the Friday Night Club meeting.

Denney asked each person about any Ham radio activity that they were involved in during the week.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

The Monday night net contest completed on December 7th. The board will review the data and discuss presenting the awards at a later date.

Richard Abbey had sent an email stating that the Dudley House will allow the club members to use the site for outdoor activities.

Events:

Denney announced that our next Monday Night Net will be held at 20:00 hrs. on December 14, 2020.

The on-the-air meeting adjourned at 19:44 and the Zoom meeting was started.

Denney welcomed all attending the Zoom meeting; many in festive clothing and enjoying food and drink.

The Zoom meeting continued for some time and many Ham and holiday-related topics were discussed. The Zoom meeting was closed at 20:44.

VCARC Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday December 13, 2020 19:00 (Via ZOOM)

Attendees:

Denney Pistole President

Clem Roberts Vice President

John Gartman Treasurer

Steward Stone At Large Board Member

(Cont. on page 6)

VCARC 12/11/20 On-The-Air Club Meeting (Cont. from page 5)

Robert Shank At Large Board Member
Bob Brodie Membership Chairman
Pedro Morillas Member

Not Present:

Phil Cohen Secretary
Richard Abbey At Large Board Member

Agenda

1. New Member procedures
2. Acceptance of Club Secretary's Resignation
3. Appointing of Interim Club Secretary

Minutes

1. Three new applicants to the club were named and approval discussed. Motion by Robert Shank to vote on acceptance, seconded by Stewart. The board approved unanimously.
2. Discussion about the resignation of the Club's Secretary. Motion by Robert Shank to vote on acceptance, seconded by John. The board approved unanimously to accept the resignation. Stewart requested a Letter of Appreciation be sent (see action items).
3. The board was asked to nominate an interim secretary. Various member's names were discussed. Denney suggested that Pedro Morillas be nominated as interim secretary until the next in-person club meeting can be held where all of the board's positions will be open for the general membership to select the new board. Motion by Robert Shank to vote on Pedro's acceptance, seconded by Stewart. The board approved unanimously. Pedro Morillas is the interim secretary.
4. The treasurer's report was given by John and was accepted by the board.
5. There was a discussion led by Denney concerning reporting of the clubs status to meet federal and state filing requirements

Action Items

The vice president has negotiated the return of the club's PO Box key and club documents and any other club property from our former club secretary, by Wednesday 12/16/2020.

The treasurer will deposit the membership dues checks and once they have cleared the bank, will send the application/renewal documentation to the secretary so that the membership roster is updated and promulgated to the board and the membership chairman.

The membership chairman will prepare a "New Member Welcoming Kit" list (document) for review by the board at the next board meeting on January 3rd, 2021.

The membership chairman will create and send a "railroad document", outlining the membership/renewing membership process currently in force, to the board members. The president will review and make any suggestions to the board in advance of the next board meeting, currently scheduled for January 3, 2021. The board will discuss the issue and vote on any changes to the process and/or specific club bylaws. If a bylaw needs to be changed, a vote by the full membership (25% or more of the current voting members) will be required.

After review and comments by the board, an action item will be added to the next board meeting to review the current process, as written in the bylaws that states "Members in arrears 30 days will be notified where possible by a valid e-mail address or other means of contact on file with the club secretary. Any member in arrears more than 90 days will be considered inactive and dropped from the membership rolls."

Robert Shank will redirect correspondence from K6MEP.org's website to Pedro's Gmail account (complete 12/14/20)

Robert Shank has sent Pedro the business calendar and many other club documents from past years. Along with our former Club Secretary's materials, and Johns' input concerning the club bills and payments already transacted, Pedro will consolidate a list of issues to be addressed during the January 3rd, 2021 board meeting. **(Cont. on page 7)**

VCARC 12/11/20 On-The-Air Club Meeting (Cont. from page 6)

Next Meeting Agenda Items

All board members should review the bylaws, specifically the duties of the Treasurer concerning “maintain an inventory of all Club property and retain a current estimate of the reasonable value of said property, and keep the Board informed of all current fiscal information.

Current methods of communication to the general membership. Who should have access to the K6MEP.groups.io website, Facebook and MeWe? Discussion: We need to write up a process. It's not something to put into the bylaws. The real worry is making someone upset that they got put on groups.io or that someone sends out too many groups.io emails. Do you think the entire board needs to vet someone before they are given access to groups.io or what process do we need to go through? We do not think everyone on the groups.io distribution has to be a member, like ARRL officers, ARES officers and Stu Sheldon. What privileged information will a non-member be able to access?

Discussion on updated membership payment procedures. Go over the Membership Chairman's new member approval fast track.

Secretary's and Treasurer's reports on taxes, insurance and other financial issues

Adds for equipment in Keyer by non-members. This should include; services, and regular businesses. Possibly charge for regular businesses.

Announce the winners of the K6MEP Monday Night Net contest. Get board to approve disbursement of the winner's awards.

Start another Monday night net contest.

Call for vote to donate \$100 to QSL.net for 2021.

Next Meeting Time/Date:

1900 hours, January 3, 2021 via ZOOM



Selected January 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.

Maty Weinberg, KB1EIB, events@arrl.org; www.arrl.org/special-event-stations

Special Event Stations

Working special event stations is an enjoyable way to help commemorate history. Many provide a special QSL card or certificate!

Dec. 10 – Dec. 20, 1700Z – 1700Z, K9Z, Rochester, IL. Sangamon Valley Radio Club. **Commemoration of the Birth of PSK31.** 14.070 7.070; all bands, all modes. QSL J. Mitch Hopper, K9ZXO, 536 E. Mill St., Rochester, IL 62563. *All conversational modes will be used.* www.qrz.com/db/k9z

Jan. 2 – Jan. 31, 0000Z – 2359Z, K3Y, Ellicott City, MD. Straight Key Century Club. **15th Annual Straight Key Month.** 21.050 14.050 7.055 3.550. Certificate & QSL. Jeremy Downard, KDBVSQ, 511 W. Pottawatomie St., Tecumseh, MI 49286, K3Y/Ø through 9 plus KH6, KL7, KP4 and DX member stations in six WAC areas operating straight key, bug, and cootie keys. QSL card confirms one QSO per area, up to 19 for all-area sweep. See URL for schedule, map, stats, etc. www.skccgroup.com/k3y

Jan. 8 – Jan. 9, 1800Z – 0000Z, W5IR, Metairie, LA. The Mystic Knights of the Louisiana Roundtable. **206th Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans.** 18.145 14.275 7.270 7.045. QSL. Dale F. Budenski, 4713 Neyrey Dr., Metairie, LA 70002. FT8 on the usual frequencies. See website for more details. www.qrz.com/db/w5ir or harry504@outlook.com

Jan. 15 – Feb. 15, 0000Z – 2359Z, KL7RST, various, AK. North Country DX Association. **Alaska "RST" QSO Party.** 28.450 21.350 14.250 7.250. QSL. John F. Reisenauer, Jr., 2573 Old Georgetown Rd. W., Kershaw, SC 29067. KL7RST, KL7RST/KL7, VY1RST/KL7, VE8RST/KL7, and VY0RST/KL7. Certificate by email for working any three stations when you QSL. www.qrz.com/db/k7ice

Jan. 16, 1300Z – 1900Z, W1M, Russell, MA. Western Mass. Council BSA. **Woronoco Heights Outdoor Adventure/SCOTA.** 14.290 14.060 10.115 7.190. QSL Tom Barker, 329 Faraway Rd., Whitefield, NH 03598. *All logging is done on paper, then uploaded to LoTW and eQSL.*

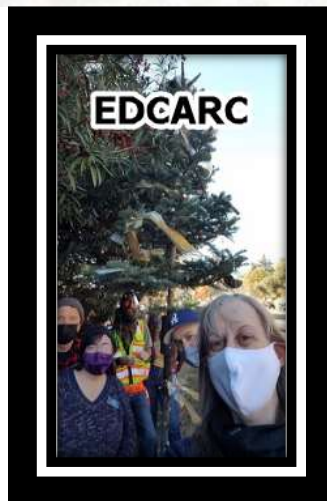
Jan. 23 – Jan. 25, 1700Z-0000Z, AG6AU, Placerville, CA. El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club. **California Discovery of Gold.** 21.348 14.248 7.248. QSL. El Dorado County ARC, P.O. Box 451, Placerville, CA 95667. www.edcarc.net

Certificates and QSL cards: To obtain a certificate from any of the special event stations offering them, send your QSO information along with a 9 × 12 inch self-addressed, stamped envelope (three units of postage) to the address listed in the announcement. To receive a special event QSL card (when offered), be sure to include a self-addressed, stamped business envelope along with your QSL card and QSO information. *Note: Some clubs may ask for a nominal fee to cover the cost of the certificate or QSL. Request will be made on air during the event or on the club's website.

Special Events Announcements: For items to be listed in this column, use the ARRL Special Events Listing Form at www.arrl.org/special-events-application. A plain-text version of the form is available at that site. You may also request a copy by mail or email. Off-line completed forms can be mailed, faxed (Attn: Special Events), or emailed.

Submissions must be received by ARRL HQ no later than the 1st of the second month preceding the publication date; a special event listing for April QST would have to be received by February 1. In addition to being listed in QST, your event will be listed on the ARRL Web Special Events page. Note: All received events are acknowledged. If you do not receive an acknowledgment within a few days, please contact us. ARRL reserves the right to exclude events of a commercial or political nature.

You can view all received Special Events at www.arrl.org/special-event-stations.



Bruce Draper, AA5B, aa5b.corral@gmail.com

Contest Corral

January 2021

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.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 0000	1 0100	3.5	AGB New Year Snowball Contest	CW Ph Dig	RST, serial, mbr (if any)	qsl.net/eu1eu/agnb_nysb.htm
1 0800	1 1100	3.5, 7	SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial, name, happy new year in native language	sartg.com/contest/nyrules.htm
1 1500	1 1800	3.5-28	QRP ARCI New Years Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrparci.org
2 0000	2 2359	3.5-28	PODXS 070 Club PSKFest	Dig	RST, SPC	www.podxs070.com
2 1200	3 1200	1.8-28	WW PMC Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), PMC abbreviation or CQ zone	www.s59dcd.si/index.php/si
2 1500	3 1500	3.5-14	Original QRP Contest	CW	RST, serial, power category	qrcc.de/contestrules/oqrrp.html
2 1800	2 2359	3.5-14, 18, 21, 24, 28, 2 repeaters	ARRL Kids Day	Ph	Name, age, QTH, favorite color	www.arrl.org/kids-day
2 1800	3 2359	3.5-28	ARRL RTTY Roundup	Dig	W/V/E: RST, state/province. Non-W/V/E: RST, serial	www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup
2 2000	3 0700	1.8	EUCW 160-Meter Contest	CW	RST, name, EUCW club info or "NM"	www.eucw.org/eu160.html
4 0000	4 0100	3.5-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Name, SPC, 20 WPM max.	k1usn.com/sst.html
5 0200	5 0400	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqrp.blogspot.com
6 1300	6 1400	1.8-28	CWops Mini-CWT Test	CW	Name, mbr or SPC	cwops.org/cwops-tests
6 1700	6 2000	144	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-character grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
6 1900	6 2000	1.8-28	CWops Mini-CWT Test	CW	Name, mbr or SPC	cwops.org/cwops-tests
6 2000	6 2100	3.5	UKEICC 80-Meter Contest	Ph	6-char grid square	www.ukaicc.com
6 2300	10 2300	1.8-7	AWA Linc Cundall Memorial CW Contest	CW	RST, eqpt year, input power	antiquewireless.org
7 0300	7 0400	1.8-28	CWops Mini-CWT Test	CW	Name, mbr or SPC	cwops.org/cwops-tests
7 1800	7 2200	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nrriccontest.no
7 2000	7 2200	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
9 0000	9 2359	3.5-28	YB DX Contest	Ph	RS, serial	ybdxcontest.com
9 0500	9 0900	3.5-28	Old New Year Contest	CW Ph	RST, sum of operator age and years on the air	radio.ru/cq/contest/rule-results
9 1200	10 1200	3.5-28	UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest	Dig	RSQ, UBA section or serial	uba.be/en/htf/contest-rules
9 1200	10 2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
9 1800	10 0559	1.8-28	North American QSO Party, CW	CW	Name, state/DC/province/country	www.ncjweb.com
10 0630	10 0830	3.5, 7	NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	Ph	RST, serial, 2-letter Fylke/Lan/Province/Region	www.nraubaltic.eu
10 0900	10 1059	28	DARC 10-Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, DOK (if DOK)	www.darc.de
10 0900	10 1100	3.5, 7	NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, 2-letter Fylke/Lan/Province/Region	www.nraubaltic.eu
11 0000	11 0100	3.5-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Name, SPC, 20 WPM max.	k1usn.com/sst.html
11 0100	11 0300	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqrp.com
13 1700	13 2000	432	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
16 1200	17 1159	1.8-28	Hungarian DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 2-letter HA county or serial	ha-dx.com/en/contest-rules
16 1200	17 1159	3.5-28	PRO Digi Contest	Dig	RST, serial, "M" if member	procontestclub.ro/PDC%20Rules.html
16 1800	17 0559	1.8-28	North American QSO Party, SSB	Ph	Name, state/DC/province/country	www.ncjweb.com
16 1800	17 0559	1.8-28	NA Collegiate Championship, SSB	Ph	Name, state/DC/province/country	w9smc.com/nacc
16 1900	16 2300	1.8	WAB 1.8 MHz Phone/CW	CW Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or serial	wab.intermp.net
16 1900	18 0359	50 and up	ARRL January VHF Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-character grid square	www.arrl.org/january-vhf
16 2000	17 0559	1.8-7	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
17 2300	18 0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrcontest.com/pigrun
18 0000	18 0100	3.5-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Name, SPC, 20 WPM max.	k1usn.com/sst.html
21 0130	21 0330	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
23 1200	24 1200	3.5-28	BARTG RTTY Sprint	Dig	Serial	bartg.org.uk
23 1200	24 1200	3.5-28	UK/EI DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, district code (if UK/EI)	www.ukaicc.com
25 0000	25 0100	3.5-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Name, SPC, 20 WPM max.	k1usn.com/sst.html
27 0000	27 0200	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
27 2000	27 2100	3.5	UKEICC 80-Meter Contest	CW	6-char grid square	www.ukaicc.com
28 0130	28 0330	1.8	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
29 2200	31 2200	1.8	CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	CW	RST, SP or CQ zone	www.cq160.com
30 0600	31 1800	3.5-28	REF Contest, CW	CW	RST, French dept/prefix or serial	concours.r-e-f.org/contest/
30 1300	31 1300	3.5-28	UBA DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RST, serial, ON province (if ON)	uba.be/en/htf/contest-rules
30 1900	31 1900	All	Winter Field Day	No FT4/8	Category, ARRL section (or "DX")	winterfieldday.com

There are a number of weekly contests not included in the table above. For more info, visit: www.qrpfhoxhunt.org, www.ncccsprint.com, and www.cwops.org. 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

Denney N6HV: One roll, 250 feet 14/2 clear speaker wire \$30.00, [new, still in wrapper, old stock]. Various rolls of wire, big rolls; 8 gauge, shielded single pair and other gauges, good prices. Three-quarter-inch wide, flat, heavy, copper-braid, \$1.00/ft; great for grounding.

Items Given to the Club for Donations: Multimeter, Micronta brand \$5.00. HP 1706A oscilloscope, as is, \$50. Various lengths of Ethernet cables, \$0.25 each. Radio Shack Power Supply, 13.8 volt at 3 amps, \$3.00. Swing arm desk lamp includes light bulb and other various items; \$5.00 to \$25.00. Vacuum tubes donated by Scott Vilander with delivery by Dave A16VX. Kenwood TL-922A Linear Amplifier AS IS: All items as shown below: Contact Denney for price.

Yaesu FT-4 and accessories for sale
Please contact Kenney
kenney@arrl.net



Free the WTB Donations
Yaesu VR 2B HT Dual Band Control System
IC charger manual
3 HT Dual Band Rubber Duck antenna
4 external speaker magnetron
Magnum system for portable HF antenna
Aircor handheld Tag Out Band Loops
Please contact Stewart G8BOV
stg8bov@arrl.net



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
KG8BOV@arrl.net



Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, ww1me@arrl.org

Happenings

ARRL Asks FCC to Waive Proposed Amateur Application Fees

Commenting in November on an FCC proposal to impose a \$50 fee for every amateur radio application, ARRL urged the Commission to waive the fee schedule, spelled out in a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* in MD 20-270. The fees, directed by Congress, affect all FCC services, not just amateur radio. They are intended to recover the FCC's costs of handling and processing applications. ARRL noted that the FCC has explicit authority to waive the fees if it would be in the public interest, and maintained that is the case for the Amateur Radio Service. ARRL argued that the Amateur Radio Service is all volunteer and largely self-governing, with tasks



such as exam preparation, administration, and grading — once handled by the FCC — now performed by volunteers. Amateur volunteers and organizations also administer club station licenses and call signs for special events. ARRL noted that amateur radio volunteers also support FCC enforcement through the Volunteer Monitor program.

"By these volunteer services, the amateur community is directly involved in lessening the regulatory burden — including the application burden — on the Commission's resources and budget in ways that other services are not," ARRL said. ARRL further argued that the public interest in amateur radio-provided emergency and disaster communication, STEM education, and other volunteer services justifies the requested fee exemption.

"The FCC should exercise [its] authority and exempt amateur applications from application fees generally," ARRL said. Failing that, ARRL said, the FCC should waive fees for applicants age 26 or younger.

ARLB041 FCC Reduces Proposed Amateur Radio Application Fee to \$35

ZCZC AG41

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 41 ARLB041

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT December 31, 2020

To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB041

ARLB041 FCC Reduces Proposed Amateur Radio Application Fee to \$35

The FCC has agreed with ARRL and other commenters that its proposed \$50 fee for certain amateur radio applications was "too high to account for the minimal staff involvement in these applications."

In a Report and Order (R&O), released on December 29, the FCC scaled back to \$35 the fee for a new license application, a special temporary authority (STA) request, a rule waiver request, a license renewal application, and a vanity call sign application. All fees are per application. There will be no fee for administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address. The R&O can be found online in PDF format at, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-184A1.pdf> . (Cont. on page 12)

ARLB041 FCC Reduces Proposed Amateur Radio Application Fee to \$35 (Cont. from page 11)

This fall, ARRL filed comments in firm opposition to the FCC proposal to impose a \$50 fee on amateur radio license and application fees and urged its members to follow suit.

As the FCC noted in its R&O, although some commenters supported the proposed \$50 fee as reasonable and fair, "ARRL and many individual commenters argued that there was no cost-based justification for application fees in the Amateur Radio Service." The fee proposal was contained in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the "Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act" of 2018 - the so-called "Ray Baum's Act."

Information on Ray Baum's Act can be found online in PDF format at, <https://www.congress.gov/115/plaws/publ141/PLAW-115publ141.pdf>.

"After reviewing the record, including the extensive comments filed by amateur radio licensees and based on our revised analysis of the cost of processing mostly automated processes discussed in our methodology section, we adopt a \$35 application fee, a lower application fee than the Commission proposed in the NPRM for personal licenses, in recognition of the fact that the application process is mostly automated," the FCC said in the R&O. "We adopt the proposal from the NPRM to assess no additional application fee for minor modifications or administrative updates, which also are highly automated."

The FCC said it received more than 197,000 personal license applications in 2019, which includes not only ham radio license applications but commercial radio operator licenses and General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) licenses.

The FCC turned away the arguments of some commenters that the FCC should exempt amateur radio licensees. The FCC stated that it has no authority to create an exemption "where none presently exists."

The FCC also disagreed with those who argued that amateur radio licensees should be exempt from fees because of their public service contribution during emergencies and disasters.

"[W]e are very much aware of these laudable and important services amateur radio licensees provide to the American public," the FCC said, but noted that specific exemptions provided under Section 8 of the so-called "Ray Baum's Act" requiring the FCC to assess the fees do not apply to amateur radio personal licenses. "Emergency communications, for example, are voluntary and are not required by our rules," the FCC noted. "As we have noted previously, '[w]hile the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communications service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications, is one of the underlying principles of the amateur service, the amateur service is not an emergency radio service.'

The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally-mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. The FCC proposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service, which had been excluded previously. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees. **(Cont. on page 13)**

ARLB041 FCC Reduces Proposed Amateur Radio Application Fee to \$35 (Cont. from page 12)

"While the Ray Baum's Act amended Section 9 and retained the regulatory fee exemption for amateur radio station licensees, Congress did not include a comparable exemption among the amendments it made to Section 8 of the Act," the FCC R&O explained.

The effective date of the fee schedule has not been established, but it will be announced at least 30 days in advance. The FCC has directed the Office of Managing Director, in consultation with relevant offices and bureaus, to draft a notice for publication in the Federal Register announcing when rule change(s) will become effective, "once the relevant databases, guides, and internal procedures have been updated."

Oregon ARRL VEC Testing Group Offers Testing from the Comfort of Your Car

Volunteer Examiners in Grant County, Oregon, affiliated with the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC), put their heads together to overcome adversity and hold a safe and secure drive-in



exam session that took pandemic precautions into account. Current health regulations in Oregon precluded both indoor and outdoor gatherings, so the Grant County Amateur Radio Club, the local ARES Group, and the Grant County Emergency Radio Infrastructure Coalition (ERIC)

combined forces to offer five candidates the chance to obtain their first license or to upgrade their existing license, all from the comfort of their vehicles.

"Many amateur radio clubs have experimented with exams via the internet," said Steve Fletcher, K7AA, who is the ARES Emergency Coordinator for Grant County. "In eastern Oregon, with the cooperation of the County Roads Department, we chose to hold a 'drive-up' exam session on Saturday, December 12. Under the circumstances, we used four ARRL VEs for the exam instead of the required three." Wheeler County ARES loaned Stuart Bottom, K7FG, to help as the third required Amateur Extra-class Volunteer Examiner.

Fletcher reports three new Technician-class licensees and two new General-class radio amateurs resulted from the session.

Required ARRL VEC forms contained pre-printed data – including the FCC Registration Number (FRN) – were given to the candidates on a clipboard.



Each candidate took the exam in the front seat of their own vehicle. Cell phones, papers, and anything not required for the exam were removed.

"Everyone dressed warmly, and most candidates had their heaters running," Fletcher reported. A camper owned by Ronda Metler, KB5LAX, and a communications van owned by Fletcher served as sites to check results and sign forms.

The Grant County Roads Department loaned its parking area for the exam session. *Thanks to Steve Fletcher, K7AA; photos courtesy of Thomas Dekany*

Upcoming FCC Exam Session Preparation (Physical Location)

Sites (As per listing on ARRL; None scheduled within 250 mi of 93001 in December)

ON EXAM DAY BRING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS (When COVID restrictions are lifted):

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.



Maria Somma, AB1FM, ab1fm@arrrl.org

Exam Info

FRNs at Exam Sessions

The FCC has indicated VEC organizations and their VE teams should discontinue the practice of accepting Social Security numbers at exam sessions. Examinees should register in the FCC Commission Registration System (CORES) and receive a Federal Registration Number (FRN) before exam day.

The FCC also advised VE teams to make it clear to candidates that some information about them will be made publicly available on the FCC's website, including their name, mailing address, and felony conviction status.

Dorothy Stifflemire, the Associate Division Chief of the WTB Technologies, Systems, and Innovation Division, told VECs that new license applicants should create an FCC user account and register their Social Security number in the FCC CORES system before attending

exam sessions. Registrants will be assigned an FRN, which will be used in all license transactions with the FCC.

She explained that auto-registration in CORES for examinees using a Social Security number will be going away. In addition, because no mail is being sent due to the COVID-19 pandemic, applicants will not receive their auto-created password and FCC FRN information and will not be able to access their personal license record in the FCC Universal Licensing System database or their FRN record in CORES. Going forward, she said, VECs should make sure all applicants have an FRN before the day of the exam.

Additionally, FCC Mobility Division (MD) Deputy Chief Tom Derenge recommended that VECs make it clear to applicants that their address will be

public information when the new license is issued. He suggested advising examinees that an alternative address, such as a PO Box or work address, would be acceptable. Derenge pointed out that once an address is in the FCC database, it's nearly impossible to be permanently removed.

We urge our VE teams to change procedures before the FCC turns off the Social Security number auto-registration feature. Otherwise, this could cause a delay in processing applications to the FCC later. Examinees can be directed to this information on our website, at www.arrrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session (see item 4), or directly to the FCC website, at www.arrrl.org/fcc-licensee-privacy. To register on the FCC CORES site, visit <https://apps.fcc.gov/corets/userLogin.do>.

ARRL VE Exam Maker Software Being Phased Out

The *ARRL VE Exam Maker* test-generating software will no longer be supported after December 2020. Adobe Flash Player was discontinued at the end of 2020, which was the software's installation platform.

An already downloaded and installed copy of *Exam Maker* should continue to work on users' computers. The program runs in its own environment on the computer, whereas the Flash Player problem is in web browsers during download. Even though the program will continue to function, the ARRL VEC will not be able to push out any important updates to the software, question pools, or questions. Current *Exam Maker* users should contact ARRL VEC at vec@arrrl.org for alternative software system information.

Video-Supervised Online Examinations

Remote video exam sessions are conducted using an online videoconferencing platform and a web-based examination system with on-screen tests.

To be selected to participate in the remote video sessions program,

Resources for ARRL VEs

Information discussed in Exam Info columns or VE Newsletters can always be found on the ARRL VEC VE Resources page at www.arrrl.org/resources-for-ves. The support page offers easy access to instructions and information needed to conduct exam session business.

ARRL VE teams must be long-standing, well established teams with a history of adhering to the highest degree of examination integrity, that consistently submit accurate exam documents consistent with ARRL VEC standards, and follow FCC rules and VEC policies.

Time and experience with in-person exam sessions is invaluable when transitioning to video sessions. Team leader experience at in-person sessions and/or training with an established team as a team leader for video sessions is required.

Interested ARRL VE team leaders must contact the VEC department at vec@arrrl.org for approval and to receive the complete video-supervised online testing procedures and instructions.

Session Documents Upload Web Page

Due to delays with the US Postal Service, some exam session packages have been unexpectedly delayed. Uploading completed sessions as a PDF file (scanned documents) via the web allows for quicker processing to the FCC. Please email vec@arrl.org for information on e-filing exam session documents through our secure upload page. Authorized VEs will be sent the upload page URL, which is hidden from the public.

The VE team must only accept FRNs at the session. Social Security numbers are not permitted on any exam documents or session files that are uploaded. Candidates will have to be registered in the FCC system and have FRNs already issued.

FCC Basic Qualification Question (Felony Question)

Applicants are required to answer the FCC basic qualification question if they are filing for any of the following purposes: New, Amendment, Modification (upgrade or call sign change), Renewal, or Renewal/Modification. Applicants filing for any other purpose (ie, address change) are not required to answer this question.

If an applicant answers "Yes" to the basic qualification question (felony question), they must submit the required documentation directly to the FCC. Follow the outlined FCC procedures at www.arrl.org/fcc-qualification-question and reference the application file number.

2021 ARRL VEC Examination Fee Remains at \$15

Visit the ARRL VEC exam fee page at www.arrl.org/arrl-vec-exam-fees for exam fee and VE reimbursement information.

Applicants must take action within 14 days of the application filing date, or the application will be dismissed by the FCC. An examinee that answers "Yes" at an exam session should not communicate any information or documents to the Volunteer Examiner team or the VEC.



Upcoming FCC Exam Test (Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, please **verify** with your **VE** team that the exam session is being held.)

GLAARG is offering remote testing; see <https://glaarg.org/remote-sessions/> for details)

Pine Mountain Club CA 93222

01/02/2021
Sponsor: Pine Mountain ARC
Date: Jan 02 2021
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Donald Quick
(818) 383-2624
Email: clearskies001@gmail.com
VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)
Location: Pine Mountain Club
2524 Beechwood Way
Pre-Register
Pine Mountain Club CA 93222

Goleta CA 93117-3271

01/09/2021
Sponsor: Santa Barbara ARC
Date: Jan 09 2021
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

Calabasas CA 91302

01/10/2021
Sponsor: WB[^]OHW
Date: Jan 10 2021
Time: 10:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact:
(818) 222-7013
VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#)
Location: On Line Exams Tools
On Line
<http://hamstudy.org/session>
Calabasas CA 91302

Calabasas CA 91302

01/24/2021
Sponsor: WB[^]OHW
Date: Jan 24 2021
Time: 10:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact:
(818) 222-7013
VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#)
Location: On Line Exams Tools
On Line
<http://hamstudy.org/session>
Calabasas CA 91302

Calabasas CA 91302

01/31/2021
Sponsor: WB[^]OHW
Date: Jan 31 2021
Time: 10:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact:
(818) 222-7013
VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#)
Location: On Line Exams Tools
On Line
<http://hamstudy.org/session>
Calabasas CA 91302



Trivia for January 2021

Did you know???

1. In 1812, a patent was filed for a power mower.
2. Americans spend over 1 billion dollars a year for fireworks.
3. Orange is the only name in English language that can't be rhymed.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

de

Dana kg6wx

Calendar January 2020

1: New Year's Day

3: K6MEP Board Meeting (Zoom)

**4: K6MEP Monday Night Net,
ACS/ARES District Meeting**

5: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net

**8: K6MEP Monthly Meeting at
1900 (held on the Sulphur
Mountain repeater, on 145.200
MHz with a minus offset and a PL
of 127.3 Hz). Zoom video meeting
at 19:30.**

11: K6MEP Monday Night Net

12: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net

18: K6MEP Monday Night Net

19: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net

25: K6MEP Monday Night Net

26: ACS/ARES Tuesday Night Net

30-31: ARRL Winter Field Day 1900 UTC (11:00 PST) Saturday to 1900 UTC Sunday

(Repeated from the CVARC website). The wildly successful "Auxiliary Bored Meetings" will continue on a new schedule beginning Monday, June 29, 2020. The informal nets have been running four times daily on the Bozo repeater. Over 7,500 calls from 275 unique hams have been logged on the nets. Under the new schedule, the net will be called to order at 9 A.M. Monday through Saturday. The Saturday morning net will run 9 A.M. to noon with a swap and the repeater will link with Paul Strauss' (WD6EBY) repeater network for full Ventura County coverage. Starting July 11, 2020, there will be a second Saturday net at 9 P.M.

The Bozo Repeater operates with the following settings:

Frequency: 147.885 MHz

Offset: -

PL: 127.3

Stu AG6AG

<http://www.cvarc.org/event/auxiliary-bored-meetings-on-bozo-2/all/>



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. However, due to government health restrictions, we meet "virtually" on 145.200 MHz with a minus offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz followed by a Zoom meeting afterwards. The next virtual meeting date is Friday _____ (insert date). We urge any non-members interested in the VCARC to contact us 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.

Eric Casey, KC2ERC, ecasey@arrl.org; www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar

Convention and Hamfest Calendar

Abbreviations

Spr = Sponsor
TI = Talk-in frequency
Adm = Admission

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION CONVENTION

December 11 – 12, Plant City, FL

DFHQ RSTV

Fri. 1 – 6 PM, Sat. 8 AM – 4 PM. *Spr*: Florida Gulf Coast ARC. Florida Strawberry Festival Grounds, Expo Building, 301 Berryfest St. Tampa Bay Hamfest. *Adm*: Advanced \$9, door \$10. www.tampabayhamfest.com

Maryland (Cheltenham) — Dec. 12 DFHRTV

8:30 AM – noon. *Spr*: American Legion and Prince George's ERA. American Legion Youth Camp, 9201 Surratts Rd. *TI*: 145.23 (110.9 Hz). *Adm*: \$6. www.pgares.org

New York (Marathon) — Jan. 9 FHRV

7 AM – noon. *Spr*: Skyline ARC of Cortland, NY. Marathon NY Civic Center, 16 Brink St. *TI*: 147.18 (71.9 Hz). *Adm*: \$5. www.skylineradioclub.org

NEW YORK CITY – LONG ISLAND SECTION CONVENTION

January 9, Brookville, NY

S

7:30 AM, forums start at 9 AM. *Spr*: Ham Radio University ARC. Ham Radio University, Virtual Hamfest. *Adm*: free. www.hamradiouniversity.org

To All Event Sponsors

Before making a final decision on a date for your event, you are encouraged to check the Hamfest and Convention Database (www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar) for events that may already be scheduled in your area on that date. You are also encouraged to register your event with HQ as far in advance as your planning permits. See www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application for an online registration form. Dates may be recorded up to 2 years in advance.

Events that are sanctioned by ARRL receive special benefits, including an announcement in these listings and online. Sanctioned conventions are also listed in *The ARRL Letter*. In addition, events receive donated ARRL prize certificates and handouts. Once the form has been submitted, your ARRL Director will decide whether to approve the date and provide ARRL sanction.

The deadline for receipt of items for this column is the **1st of the second month preceding publication date**. For example, your information must arrive at HQ by **January 1** to be listed in the **March** issue. Information in this column is accurate as of our deadline; contact the sponsor or check the sponsor's website for possible late changes, driving directions, and other event details. Please note that postal regulations prohibit mention in *QST* of games of chance, such as raffles or bingo.

Promoting your event is guaranteed to increase attendance. As an approved event sponsor, you are entitled to special discounted rates on *QST* display advertising and ARRL web banner advertising. Call ARRL's toll-free number at 1-800-243-7768, or email ads@arrl.org.



COVID-19 Convention and Hamfest Cancellations (some still listed as occurring) For more ARRL COVID-19 information see <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-news-coronavirus-covid-19>



HAMFEST/CONVENTION
01/02/2021 - BCARC Freezefest
Location: Locust Fork, AL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Blount County Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://w4blt.org>
[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION
01/08/2021 - 01/09/2021
CANCELED - Radio Fiesta 2021
Location: Schertz, TX
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: San Antonio Radio Club
Website: w5sc.org
[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION
01/09/2021 - CANCELED - 49th Annual Midwinter Swapfest
Location: Racine, WI
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc.
Website: <http://warac.org/swap/index.htm>
[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION
01/09/2021 - CANCELED - Marathon Winter'fest
Location: Marathon, NY
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Skyline Amateur Radio Club of Cortland, NY
Website: <http://skylineradioclub.org>
[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION
01/09/2021 - Online - Ham Radio University, ARRL New York City-Long Island Section Convention
Location: n/a, NY
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Ham Radio University Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://hamradiouniversity.org/>
[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION
01/16/2021 - 30th Annual SELARC Hammond HamFest
Location: Hammond, LA
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Southeast La. ARC, Inc.
Website: <http://selarc.org>
[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION
01/16/2021 - CANCELED - GARS TechFest
Location: Lawrenceville, GA
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS)
Website: <http://www.techfest.info>
[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION
01/16/2021 - K4KDI WINTER TAILGATE 2021
Location: ORLANDO, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: SOUTH CONWAY BAPTIST CHURCH
[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION
01/23/2021 - DeSoto County Hamfest
Location: Arcadia, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: DeSoto Amateur Radio Club, INC.
Website: <http://desotoarc.org>
[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION
01/29/2021 - 01/31/2021 ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
Location: Hatillo, Puerto Rico,
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: ARRL Puerto Rico Section, Caribbean Amateur Radio Group
Website: <http://www.arrlpr.org>
[Learn More](#)

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 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

WD6EBY SP 145.420 Mhz (-) PL 127.3

WD6EBY 447.480 (-) PL 156.7 Hz South Mtn.

K1NGL 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

Other Good Area Frequencies ...

AA6DP 147.090 Mhz (+) No PL Catalina

K0AKS 147.150 Mhz(-) PL 127.3 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 Olivas Park / SMRA

K6TZ 146.790 Mhz (-) PL131.8 SBARC

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

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 Hanson, 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 Salbian, K6BQL Email: k6bql@arrl.net

Area 5 Ojai EC: Wayne Francis, W6OEU Email: w6oEU@arrl.net

Area 6 City of Ventura EC (acting): James (Jim) Aguirre KM6GUE Email: KM6GUE@gmail.com

Area 7 Santa Paula, Fillmore, Piru EC: James (Jim) Aguirre KM6GUE Email: KM6GUE@gmail.com

Area 8 Moorpark, Santa Rosa Valley EC: Marc Hanley KM6B, Email: km6b@arrl.net

ACS/ARES Training and News

Rob Hanson Ventura County ACS Radio Officer, Ventura County ARES District Emergency Coordinator

From: main@vc-acs.groups.io [mailto:main@vc-acs.groups.io] On Behalf Of Hanson, Robert - W6RH
Sent: Sunday, December 27, 2020 7:46 PM
Subject: [vc-acs] Tennessee Bombing

This was sent out yesterday to request help from HAM operators after the Nashville Tennessee bombing attack on communications infrastructure.

A wakeup call for all to be ready when needed.

AUXCOMM TN – Action requested – tracking status of Tennessee communications infrastructure status – WCARES

The Nashville vehicle-borne improvised explosive device explosion directly impacted AT&T's communication systems across the state of Tennessee, with additional impacts across Kentucky and northern Alabama.

The impact included residential phones, cell service, and over 20 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP/911 Call Centers).

FirstNet is also experiencing parallel issues to the GSM cellular network. There is no restoration timeline at this point.

From: main@vc-acs.groups.io [mailto:main@vc-acs.groups.io] On Behalf Of Hanson, Robert - W6RH
Sent: Saturday, December 19, 2020 8:26 AM
To: Main ACS
Subject: [vc-acs] FEMA Exams and SIDs Unavailable

I received the information below from the Nevada Section Emergency Coordinator on the NV ARES HF net this morning. For an as-yet-undetermined period, those wishing to take FEMA online classes will not be able to take the online exams, although course material will be available. Further, anyone who does not already have a FEMA student ID will not be able to get one.

Marty N6VI
Training Officer
LAFD ACS
(Cont. on page 27)

ACS/ARES Training and News (Cont. from page 26)

On Dec. 13, the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency issued a directive for all federal civilian agencies to review their networks for indicators of compromise and disconnect or power down SolarWinds Orion products immediately.

To comply with the directive and ensure the data stored on FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness network is secure, a key network system will be temporarily taken offline.

This impacts FEMA's ability to create FEMA Student Identification Numbers needed to apply for training at:

- The Center for Domestic Preparedness.
- FEMA's Emergency Management Institute.
- FEMA's Incident Workforce Academy.
- FEMA's National Training and Education Division training partners such as the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium and Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium.
- Communities and organizations supported by Continuing Training Grants.
- The DHS' Office for Bombing Prevention.

Further, the Training Administration System used in the training application process and training administration will be impacted.

Please contact the following for information about training opportunities still available during this unexpected brief service interruption and guidance on how to apply for each:

Center for Domestic Preparedness –

Eastern Region: fema-eastregioncdp@fema.dhs.gov or 866-213-9546.

Central Region: fema-centralregioncdp@fema.dhs.gov or 866-213-9547.

West Region: fema-westregioncdp@fema.dhs.gov or 866-213-9548.

Emergency Management Institute – matthew.prager@fema.dhs.gov

Federal Incident Workforce Academy – fema-fqs-training@fema.dhs.gov

Office for Bombing Prevention – john.mckenzie@cisa.dhs.gov or 256-847-2111.

National Training and Education Division – Samuel.phillips@fema.dhs.gov

While we do not know the duration of this outage, FEMA will issue a notification when the system is returned to service.

The Center for Domestic Preparedness will alert you soonest regarding temporary registration services via paper.

David Hall, Resident Training, West Region and Tribal Nations Training Coordinator

Center for Domestic Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S.

Department of Homeland Security

P.O. Box 5100, 61 Responder Drive, Anniston, AL 36205

Phone 256-847-2081; Toll Free 866-213-9548 Website <http://cdp.dhs.gov>

Hello everyone,

As you are probably aware, the Center for Domestic Preparedness removed the student identification number (SID) server from the network on December 15. This action occurred in response to an emergency directive from the Cyber and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to address potential SolarWinds Orion Code Compromise. If you've been following the news, the (Cont. on page 28)

ACS/ARES Training and News (Cont. from page 27)

SolarWinds compromise has been widely reported in the media. We don't have an estimate for when the SID server may be back online.

This directly impacts EMI, since EMI verifies student ID numbers via an interface to the CDP SID server. The following EMI online services are currently offline and will not be available until CDP SID server is operational:

- Independent Study (IS) course exams. Independent Study courses can still be accessed/reviewed.
- Instructor Materials Download Application (IMDA)
- Student Training Asset Repository (STAR)
- NETC Online Admissions

We will e-mail instructor or student materials if needed to support field course delivery. We are also prepared to process course applications manually as needed for virtual delivery or field courses taking place in the next few weeks. We strongly recommend that individuals do not attempt to apply for any courses in February 2021 or beyond until the situation is resolved or additional guidance provided.

Thank you for your understanding of this challenging situation. We will advise you of any updates and also keep the training.fema.gov websites updated with the latest information. Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you,
Dan Lubman

National Training Liaison | Preparedness Branch | Emergency Management Institute
301-447-1364 (phone) 301-980-7929 (cell)
daniel.lubman@fema.dhs.gov

Federal Emergency Management Agency
[fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov)

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John Abrott
KD7NHC
Nevada ARES Section Emergency Coordinator
Nevada State RACES Officer
ARRL OES
775 790-1739



FEMA

ACS/ARES Training and News (Cont. from page 28)

Upgrade your ticket challenge (sent by W6RH)

As many of us spend the holidays at home we would like to encourage you to challenge yourself to upgrade your ticket.

Upgrading your ticket from Technician to General will allow you to explore HF and give you access to almost all of the amateur radio spectrum. Plus the material between those two is very similar.

Upgrading from General to Amateur Extra will give you access to all the amateur radio spectrum and you may VE exams for all license classes.

Taking remote exams is quick and easy, especially if you follow the recommended study method below, and choose GLAARG as the VEC.

Based on experience, if you do an hour of study every day it will take you about 7-10 days to cover all the material for General. Studying for the Amateur Extra will take a additional time.

It is a three step process:

- 1) Sign up for an exam session ca. 10 -14 days from the day you will begin studying.
- 2) Study using the recommended Study Method below. Study for about 1 hour a day and until you consistently score 90%+ on the practice exams.
- 3) Take the exam in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

Recommended Study Method by NOJI

Go to HamStudy.org and register for a free account (confirm by email)

Log in as yourself (not as Guest)

Select Technician (or General or Extra)

Click Study Mode

At the top of the page click the All Questions dropdown and select T1

Answer each question in the flash cards for T1 until you've mastered the material

Simply guess at the answers if you need to, but resist the temptation to click I don't know

Move on to T2, etc.

Once you've mastered all ten sub-elements, click the return arrow in the upper-left corner (not your browser Back button)

Select Practice Test, and start taking the practice exams until you've achieved at least 92% on several in a row

Many licensing exam sessions are listed here if you don't already know where to take the exam

When you go to take the actual exam, and after you pass the Technician exam, you'll be offered

to take the General exam free-of-charge, so it might be in your best interest to go over the

General exam questions as well. After you pass the General exam, you'll be offered to take the

Amateur Extra exam free-of-charge. **(Cont. on page 30)**

Page 29 of 56

K6MEP Keyer January 2021 / K6MEP.org / www.gsl.net/k6mep/ K6MEP@groups.io

www.facebook.com/pg/K6MEP <https://mewe.com/group/5c3a7611268c652cbe76709a>

Upgrade your ticket challenge (sent by W6RH) (Cont. from page 29)

The test is straight forward. After you sign up and have paid for your exam you are issued a PIN and receive Zoom instructions. On the day of the test you will go to the Zoom link to a welcome room, where volunteers will answer any questions you may have.

You are then assigned to a virtual exam room where a team of VEs will verify your ID, check that your work area is clear of any distractions, instruct you to log in to exam.tools using your PIN and then you take your exam under their supervision.

(Note: non-amateurs looking to test for their Technician exams - and higher - should obtain an FRN before their exam session)

We recommend GLAARG for remote testing:

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/glaarg>

But there are a plethora of sessions and session providers available:

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/>

Special thanks to Norm K6YXH and Naomi WB6OHW for their guidance and support.

--

73,

Oliver K6OLI

District Emergency Coordinator

ARES LAX Northeast District



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.

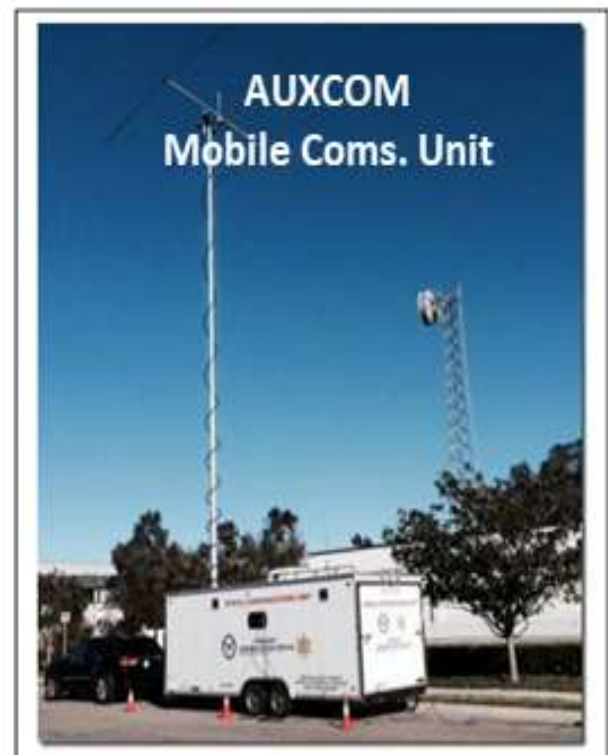
PR-101: ARRL Public Relations (EC-015)

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.



“Is Static a Good Thing?” – By Wayne Woodhams N6WIX

Before I get into my subject matter and contribution for this month, I want to share a couple of updates regarding me, and my contributions. To start, I truly believe that this newsletter is one of the best I have ever seen, and the contributions other than mine are outstanding, full of facts and information, and a great resource for the members of this great activity from all points of interests. My contributions are primarily opinion, based on what I have seen, heard, and experienced in 45 years in this marvelous activity. If anyone doubts my passion and love of this activity, I would forever put that one to rest. My second item in this introduction has to do specifically with me, and these specific articles. This January, 2021 submission by me on the subject matter of “nets” **will be my last submission for the newsletter for two reasons**. First, I have covered most, if not all, of the critical thoughts on the subject, and secondly, my further loss of vision makes it incredibly difficult to even type anything on the keyboard. I see well enough to get around, and live life in general, but keeping track of lots of lights, magnifying glasses and “large print” setups is very, very, difficult. I have enjoyed sharing ideas, and will do some of that in the future. I plan to still oversee the listing of nets section for the newsletter, and hope that I can still share an “open subject matter” contribution once in a while in the future, if it is acceptable by those who edit this great newsletter. So, now let me get into my final thought on nets for this issue.

Here’s the question for today. **Is static a good thing?** If your mind focused on the ugly noise of “static” within a signal you are trying to copy, then the answer is obviously “NO”. Perhaps even “Hell NO”. That’s not my focus.

I’m referring to static in the sense of status, or perspective of condition, or how things are. In life, there are some things that need to stay the same, as in “static”, while others need to move on, and progress. How does this apply to Amateur Radio, in general, and specifically to “nets”. Here’s my perspective of many years.

When we each start involvement in something brand new, static is a very good thing. We need to learn new knowledge, new things, new habits, new behaviors, new relationships, and just about everything else....NEW. That’s a good time to stay focused and “static”, so that we can adjust, fit in, get in step with, and above all...cooperate with the bigger picture of a particular net. That’s why we have net scripts, protocols, standardized phonetic usage (as opposed to your own creative phonetics), and instructions such as “don’t talk until requested to do so” rules. So, static is a marvelous component of great beginnings.

However, static can become your worst enemy as time and experience move on. We all enjoyed first grade in school. When finished with first, we went on to second grade. And third. And Fourth. Some satisfied that growth demand with High School. Some with College. Some with Graduate Work. And some with Post Graduate Work. And yes, some are students all their lives. I’m not highlighting one level or another, but just pointing out that growth, or not static, is part of the human experience. Does that same component of growth apply to Amateur Radio and Nets? My perspective is absolutely yes, yes, and more yes. **(Cont. on page 33)**

“Is Static a Good Thing?” – By Wayne Woodhams N6WIX (Cont. from page 32)

Nets need to grow. In number. In subject matter. And in effect. There is nothing more important for nets, or more sacred, than their growth, expansion, importance, and benefit and help to those who participate or benefit from such.

On the flip of that, there is nothing more boring, ugly, non-useful, or waste of time of nets that do the same thing over and over and over and over again, and then thinking that they are doing something great. Pursuing excellence and growing is the place where I want to always be. I’d feel really privileged if each person reading this would like to join in this company. It would be a blessing, and my best wishes to all.

73, Wayne Woodhams N6WIX



Wayne Woodhams (from QRZ)



Local Area Radio Weekly Nets by Wayne Woodhams, N6WIX

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 and on Saturday at 21:00 Hrs : 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 (1st 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. ARRL Officers check in first. All visitors welcome at end of that net

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

Rabbit Net 19:00 Hrs Linked Rabbit repeater.

NEWS FROM PVARC

Pleasant Valley Amateur Radio Club Update December 29, 2020

Hello All,

It's been a while and I would like to update you all on the PVARC projects.

The construction of the new South Mtn repeater system is well underway taking most of my time. Racking equipment, installing antennas, fixing electrical, but more of this in a bit. I would first like to bring you up to date on the other radio site projects.

Sulphur Mtn

The 24 volt battery bank (8 each 6v golf cart batteries) are no longer holding a charge are scheduled to be replaced. I am happy to report that new batteries (8 each 130ah AGM) have been purchased and will be installed in the first quarter of 2021. The donation of these batteries came from the generous folks of the Ojai Valley Amateur Radio Club. Thank you OVARC.

Of the 12 each 130ah battery's purchased, 8 each will be installed at the Sulphur Mtn radio site and 4 each were recently installed at the 145.40 Ojai Valley Black Mtn radio site. These batteries came out of a commercial battery backup system with the batteries in float service for less than one year.



The 4 each 420 MHz link radio trays, duplexers and bandpass cavities have been removed and will be reinstalled into the new South Mtn repeater system. Currently the Sulphur Mtn 145.20 and 445.56 repeaters are only linked to the Santa Ynez Peak 145.16 repeater. I have managed to manually manipulate the system to support the Sunday night news casts and interfacing to Bozo for the Newbie net. (Cont. on page 36)

NEWS FROM PVARC (Cont. from page 35)

The next step towards this reconfiguration is to replace the existing 8 port controller with a 4 port controller. The controller is back ordered and once received and programmed it will be installed.

Camarillo Hills

Two additional 145ah batteries were purchased in December and are waiting to be connected to the existing battery bank. Once installed the battery system will provide the site with 580ah's of backup power. The site solar system will maintain the battery charge during times of commercial power outages.

Chatsworth Peak

The 445.84 UHF repeater noise issue is still unresolved. I have spent many hours of trouble shooting and replacing equipment but after a day or so the noise returns. I look forward to resolving this issue.

South Mtn.

The new South Mtn repeater system is well under construction. When installed the site will support a VHF repeater, UHF repeater, 4 each 420 MHz duplex links, and updated MESH network equipment.

The planning and construction of this system is as expected is taking a good deal of time. The best way to proceed with this project is to break them up into their major components. Site acquisition, multiple site survey's, site cleanup of building – generator and power, antenna instillation, system construction, system testing - programming and alignment, move completed system to site, on site performance verification.

Initial contact with the South Mtn. site owners began summer of 2019. Late summer 2020 site access was granted. The initial trips involved site surveys to determine where to install our antennas, where to install our equipment, and site access.

As reported earlier, the first trip with the crew of Eric KE6MLF, Eric KG6WXC, Rob W6RH, Orv W6BI, Rich W7KI and me, was to clean up the site and to see if we could use any of the existing antennas. Cleanup removed over 1500 lbs of old equipment, cleaned up the generator area and hooked up to two donor antennas both of which had performance issues.

Within three months I had all but one antenna in stock, I had in stock the required lengths of ½" hardline for the eight antennas. In the next month we had purchased and received the hardline connectors, tower antenna clamps and cross over plates, antenna masts, seal tape, and the in-building transition termination. With all antenna instillation parts in hand I (Cont on page 37)

NEWS FROM PVARC (Cont. from page 36)

did as much preassemble as possible. Build and installed 3 three foot RG214 pigtail transitions from antennas to hardline, built-up all clamps and brackets onto the mast assemblies. With the on ground antenna preparations complete we scheduled a tower instillation for October 31, 2020

The antenna instillation day came, the crew of Eric KE6MLF, Eric KG6WXC, Rob W6RH and me assembled and headed up the hill. The vehicles were unloaded and staged near the building. Rob and Eric KE6MLF put on their climbing belts and with ropes and pulleys ascended the tower, Eric KG6WXC and I were the ground support.



(Cont. on page 38)

NEWS FROM PVARC (Cont. from page 37)

The day went well; all planned antennas and ½” feedlines were installed and brought into the building. Due to the lateness in the day the cables inside the building will be terminated at a later date.

December 2020, the outstanding antenna was delivered to the Vendor in East LA. Orv W6BI made the trip to East LA and delivered the antenna to my house. On Saturday December 12, 2020 the team of Jay WB6YQN, Rob W6RH and I made another trip to the mountain top. With Rob on the tower again, I roped the outstanding antenna up the tower for Rob to install. The tower clamps, mast section and hardline were previously installed waiting for the antenna, Rob connected the pigtail to the feedline and with the sealing the RF connectors completed the tower work. Jay cleaned up some of the buildings power issues mainly replacing receptacles. After 30 years of use the receptacles would no longer support a plug, they just fell out. Circuits were identified and a schedule was attached to the panel. Rob and Jay went down the hill and I remained for an hour to reprogram some of the temporarily installed equipment.

While the hilltop preparations were taking place construction of the repeater rack has been underway. After several layouts all equipment has been installed within the seven foot deep rack. I managed to install 4 each repeaters, 4 each duplex link radios, 1 each 220MHz packet system. Supporting the radio systems are 8 each duplexers, 8 bandpass cavities and 2 each repeater controllers. The system also includes additions and upgrades to the MESH network.

The system is powered by a pair of IOTA Engineering DLS-30 amp power supplies. These power supplies are designed that they can be run in parallel. If I did not have these two 30A units in stock I would have looked towards purchasing a single 60 amp unit. This power supply tray included circuit breakers for the power supplies, load to the electronics and a CB supporting a battery connection; the tray also included a Low Voltage Disconnect. If the system loses power and has to run off of the batteries the LVD will insure the batteries will not discharge below their 50% level, 11.7 volts. Any lower discharge will damage the battery life.

Power Supply Tray

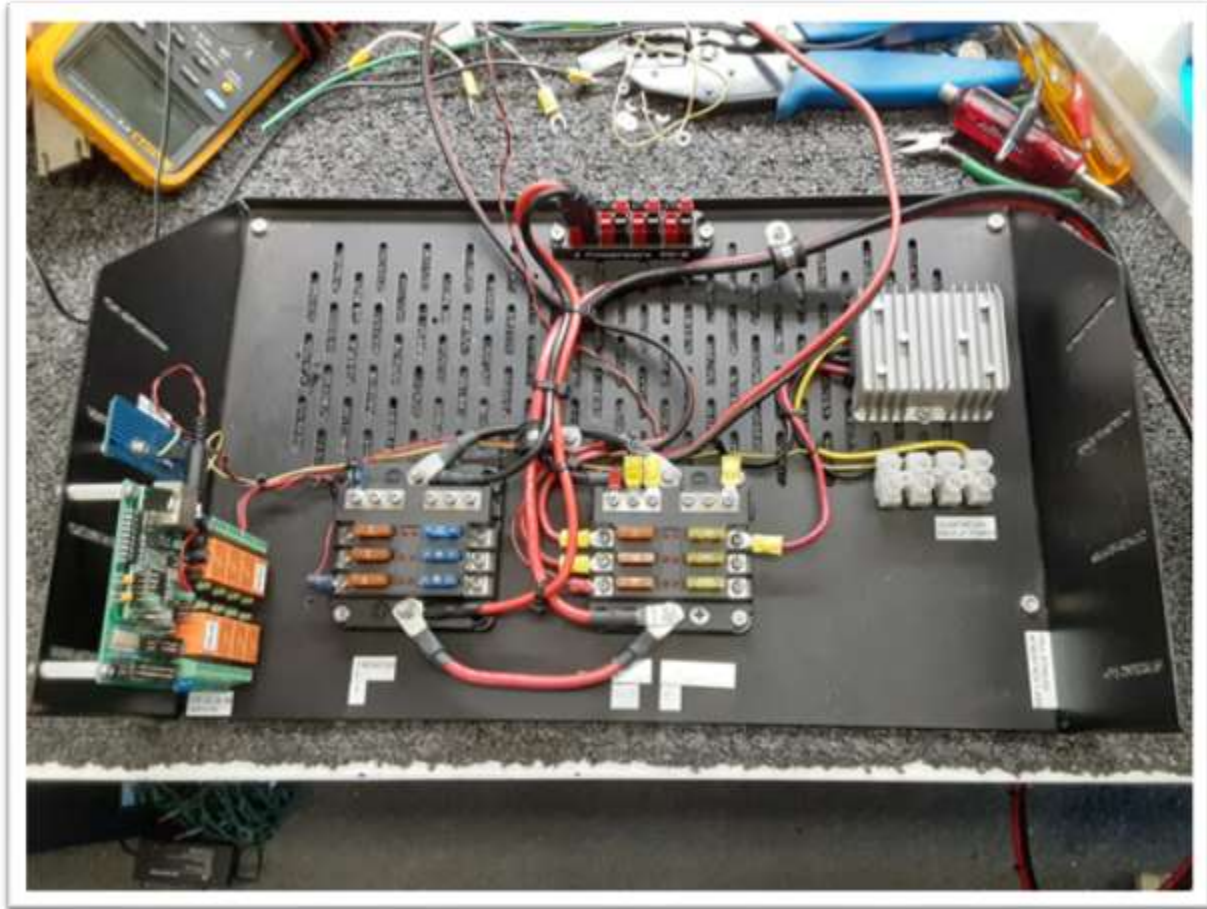


(Cont. on page 39)

NEWS FROM PVARC (Cont. from page 38)

There is a separate power distribution tray that routes power the many radios.

The tray is shown under construction.



As mentioned the rack is well under construction, with the layout established I have started to wire the cabinet. The 12V DC power system has just been completed and power brought to all radios. Appropriate repeaters and links radios have been connected to the repeater controller and are now repeating audio. Controller programming and audio alignment is underway. The two other special purpose repeaters still need to be wired to their controllers. Half of the RF cabling is complete with another 18ea RG141 RF cable still needing to be built and installed.

(Cont. on page 40)

NEWS FROM PVARC (Cont. from page 39)

View of the rear of the cabinet



The new PBX system programming has been completed with telephone extension transfers now underway. The MESH Linux and Windows WinLink servers are installed and operational with just a few adjustments still needed.



The primary repeater system controller is made by Sierra Radio Systems (pictured). The controller's eight ports are configurable use as repeaters, link or remote base. The second
(Cont. on page 41)

NEWS FROM PVARC (Cont. from page 40)

controller is an Arcom RC210 and the third controller is a Zetron Model 37-max. All controllers have the latest firmware loads and are waiting programming.



Once the system is operational the 420MHz links will interconnect South Mtn. to Chatsworth Peak, Sulphur Mtn., Camarillo Hills and Santa Ynez Peak. Since it was established the link to Santa Ynez Peak has been through a Radio Over Internet Protocol (ROIP) link. When the 420 link comes online there will no longer be a dependency of the public Internet to maintain this link.

The radio site has a generator which is under repair. I will be installing a small battery backup system to maintain system operation during times of transition from shore power to generator power. Should the need arise the system has the capacity for a larger battery backup system to be installed.

Finances

To date our 501C3 organization PVTAC.org has received contributions to maintain system operations, repair, site rental and limited new construction. We continue to spend at a minimum level and are very grateful in the contributions we have received. If you would like assist with a donation to the organization please contact me (Paul Strauss). (Cont. on page 42)

NEWS FROM PVARC (Cont. from page 41)

PVARC Status

The fall of 2018 was the official start of the PVTAC organization. In December 2019 I tried to bring everyone together for a meeting but it was too close to the holidays to bring in the membership at large. As we have all been dealing with the Covid this 2020, hopefully in 2021 we all meet and formally restart the PVARC organization.

I want thank you all for your continued support.

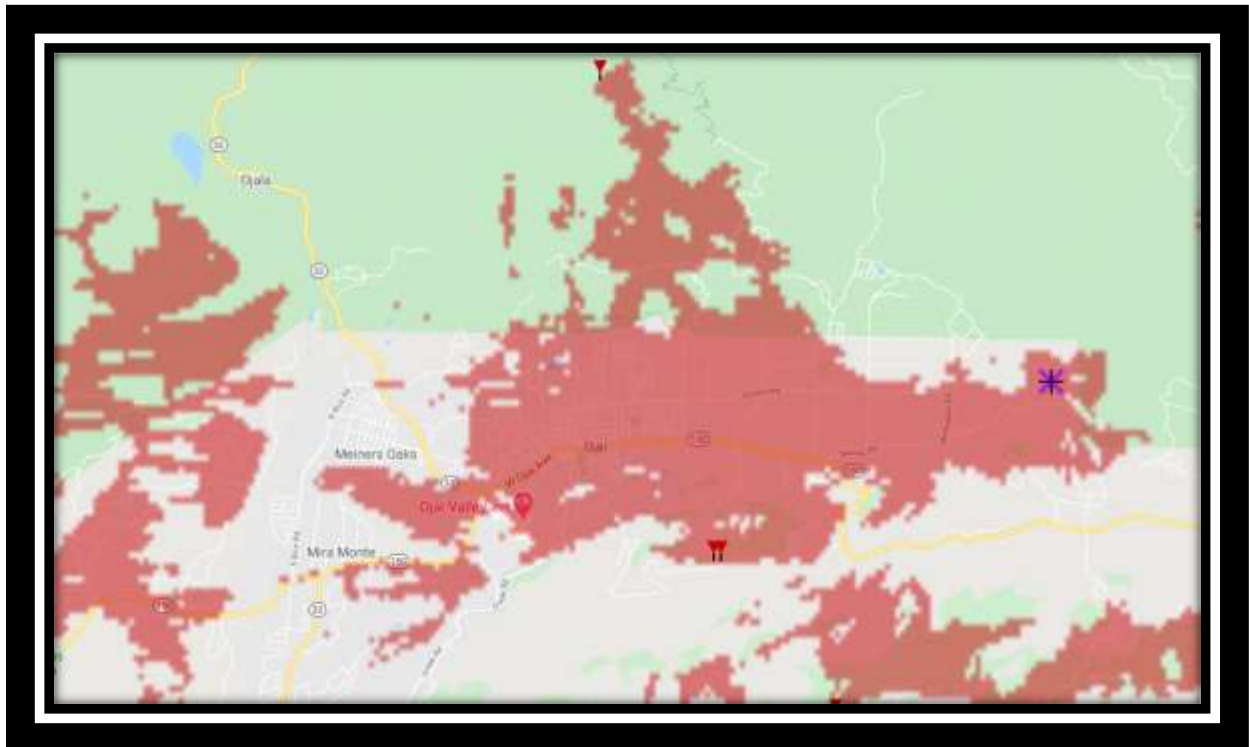
If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Paul Strauss WD6EBY

pgstrauss@verizon.net

www.pvarc.club

805-484-2985 home



Reeves Road coverage

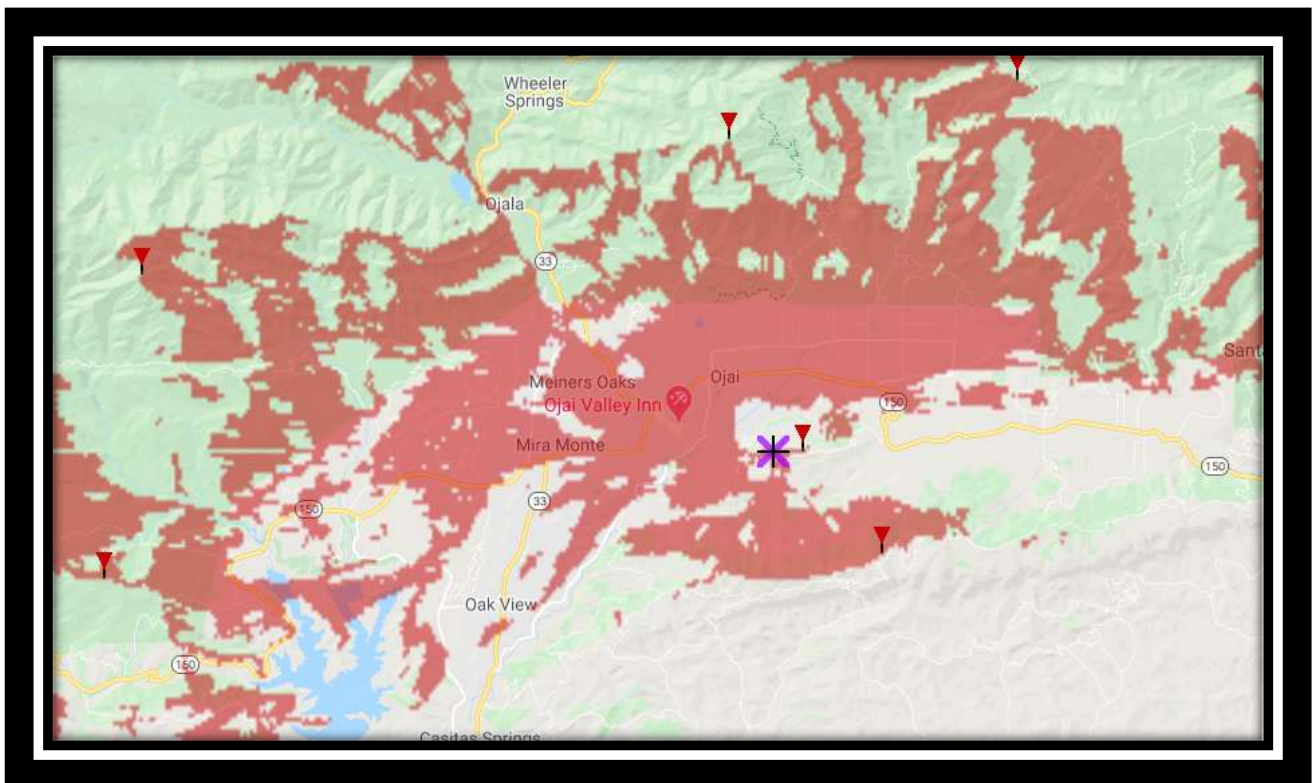
PVARC Network News

OVARC (Ojai Valley ARC) has made good progress in modernizing their mesh network. A backbone link was established between their Reeves Road site on the east end of Ojai Valley and their site on Black Mountain. While the Reeves Road site provides good coverage of the eastern 2/3 of the valley, Black Mountain can cover the western third pretty well.

Also at each site are 5 GHz and 2 GHz user access points, all using 120 degree sector antennas for good ground level coverage.

With this arrangement, Ojai Valley has good coverage from west to east

I've been working on getting my Winlink Express up on the mesh network and have finally figured out how it's done. If you have mesh connectivity and your Winlink station has an IP address from your network node, you're almost set! Contact me if you're interested. Being able to move 5-7 Megabits/second between stations on the mesh network is nice, and way



faster than the VHF protocols. And you don't have to worry about digipeating :-)

73

Orv W6BI

ARRL Santa Barbara Section Mgr. John Kitchens NS6X

(repeated from the last three months as John still has positions to fill)

Hello all,

I have been trying to fill Section volunteer positions for a while. I am giving another push. I am pleased to let you know that our Section Emergency Coordinator is Richard Tate, KQ6NO from Santa Paula. (Congratulations and thanks to Rick for taking on this position in addition to his ACS/ARES assignment as Assistant ACS Radio Officer/ARES Assistant DEC.

Richard will be contacting you to see how each county operates emergency communications, and to see how the ARES SEC role will be able to assist and coordinate between the 3 counties in the Section. I have been the SEC for about 3 years. I should not be both the Section Manager and SEC. We need to have more focus on each position.

I am looking forward to spending more time on being SM. One of the tasks that I have passed off to Rick, among others, is the EmComm and volunteer hours reporting to ARRL headquarters.

Additionally, Andy Ludlum, K6AGL, member of the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club, has been appointed as the first Assistant Section Manager in the Santa Barbara Section. The SM position will be a club liaison for me, the Section Manager, to have a person in the know hopefully at each club. I really have little to no secret ARRL information, but when I am aware of issues, successes, opportunities, we can work together to accomplish our goals.

There are many volunteer positions to fill in the Section. The one that I am focusing on right now is the Section Traffic Manager. The STM will manage the Section's involvement in the National Traffic System. We need to work on and develop the NTS in the Section. There is quite a bit of work to do, but there are several dedicated volunteers in the Section, working within the NTS, who will make the system work.

Let me know if you would like to volunteer for the STM position, or any volunteer position. I'll be talking about specific positions in the coming months.

Santa Barbara Section Volunteers

Right now, we have 2 Section email systems. That is partly why we need volunteers to help rectify (electrical term) this issue. To make sure that everyone is getting the information, I will be sending emails through both systems. This email is for hams registered at the ARRL website as being in the Santa Barbara Section.

So, what do you get for being a volunteer? A special name/callsign badge and a certificate. And the satisfaction of helping ham radio in many aspects. I am still looking for volunteers to fill the remaining Section Leadership positions. The jobs are: **(Cont. on page 45)**

ARRL SB Section Mgr. John Kitchens NS6X (Cont. from page 44)

Assistant Section Manager (essentially a club liaison - one from each club, preferably)

Local Government Liaison (a person to be the contact for the local government, could be a city or county - to understand the local issues. Not to be a political operative or community organizer, but to be a positive contact for the local government, answer the government leader's questions, be aware of whom the players are)

Traffic manager - (the traffic system in the Section runs well, but needs a bit of coordination throughout the Section, and most importantly, finding new bodies to join the traffic system. Maybe the various Morse groups could provide people to be trained as traffic messengers).

Public Information Coordinators - (We have an excellent PIO, but each club should have someone who handles public information contacts, such as social media, print media, video (television, cable, YouTube etc.) media and more.)

Section Youth Coordinator (Doesn't need to be a teenager, but it could be. Someone who will focus ham radio toward the youth - schools, makers etc. Someone to help clubs do so, if they are so inclined.)

Club Coordinator (help get clubs active, motivated and working in the general support for ham radio. Some other type of groups will bring in a speaker to talk at all clubs for a reduced cost. We would like to have a Santa Barbara Section conference again. Need someone to help make it happen - just a small conference/Hamfest - look at the Yuma Arizona Hamfest.

Technical Specialist (working with the Technical Coordinator, maybe have experts "Elmers" for various aspects and specialties. How to get on FT8 (why won't my computer key my KX3; I can decode signals, just not key the radio), contesting, setting up a station, RFI solutions, use of chokes and why, homebrewing, how to solder - or crimping - how to install a coax connector, what is DMR/etc. and how to make my radio work - what is a hotspot, and more. We could use a dozen or more people.

Webmaster (I am not a web guy. Who is, or what groups of people are, who could help us? We need a Section website)

Special Event coordinator (We have a small Section budget that can cover some costs such as website hosting). The following clubs are ARRL affiliated:

Conejo Valley ARC (Andy Ludlum, K6AGL Assistant Section Manager)

Ventura County ARC (K6MEP)

Ventura County ARS

Simi Settlers ARC

Santa Barbara ARC

UC Santa Barbara ARC

Paso Robles ARC

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo ARC

Satellite ARC

And hopefully Pleasant Valley ARC soon.

(Cont. on page 46)

ARRL SB Section Mgr. John Kitchens NS6X (Cont. from page 45)

There are more groups and clubs, which should not be ignored, but these are the "affiliated" clubs. The Section includes the counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura. More schools, middle, high, community college and college/university should have a radio club.

Let me know if you would like to help, or get more information. Get one of those pretty, special color ARRL badges. No membership is required.



John Kitchens, NS6X
PO Box 178
Somis, CA 93066
805.216.2569
NS6X@ARRL.org
NS6X@ARRL.net

From: John Kitchens [mailto:ns6x.john@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, October 18, 2020 7:31 PM
To: arrlsb@mailman.qth.net
Subject: [ARRLSB] Andy Ludlum, Assistant Section Manager

Andy Ludlum, K6AGL, member of the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club, has been appointed as the first Assistant Section Manager in the Santa Barbara Section in a few years. The SM position will be a club liaison for me, the Section Manager, to have a person in the know hopefully at each club. I really have little to no secret ARRL information, but when I am aware of issues, successes, opportunities, we can work together to accomplish our goals.

There are many volunteer positions to fill in the Section. The one that I am focusing on right now is the Section Traffic Manager. The STM will manage the Section's involvement in the National Traffic System. We need to work on and develop the NTS in the Section. There is quite a bit of work to do, but there are several dedicated volunteers in the Section, working within the NTS, who will make the system work.

(Cont. on page 47)

ARRL SB Section Mgr. John Kitchens NS6X (Cont. from page 46)

Let me know if you would like to volunteer for the STM position, or any volunteer position. I'll be talking about specific positions in the coming months.

73,

John, NS6X

--

72/73

John Kitchens, NS6X
PO Box 178
Somis, CA 93066
805.216.2569
NS6X@ARRL.org
NS6X@ARRL.net

ARRL Santa Barbara Section Manager
From: Jeff Reinhardt [mailto:jmreinhardt@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2020 1:50 PM
To: arrlsb@mailman.qth.net
Subject: [ARRLSB] Support for House Resolution 1201

Santa Barbara Section Volunteers:

Attached please find an acknowledgement letter from Congressional Representative Julia Brownley, whose district includes much of Ventura County.

While letters like this in response to a request for support are fairly routine, it helps to demonstrate the effectiveness of speaking out on regulatory and/or legislative matters of concern to Amateur Radio.

It should also be noted that Rep. Brownley has attended multiple Field Day sites during her tenure, so her support of Amateur Radio has been well established.

Please consider expressing your support for H Res 1201 with your representative and sharing info like this with fellow hams and club members.

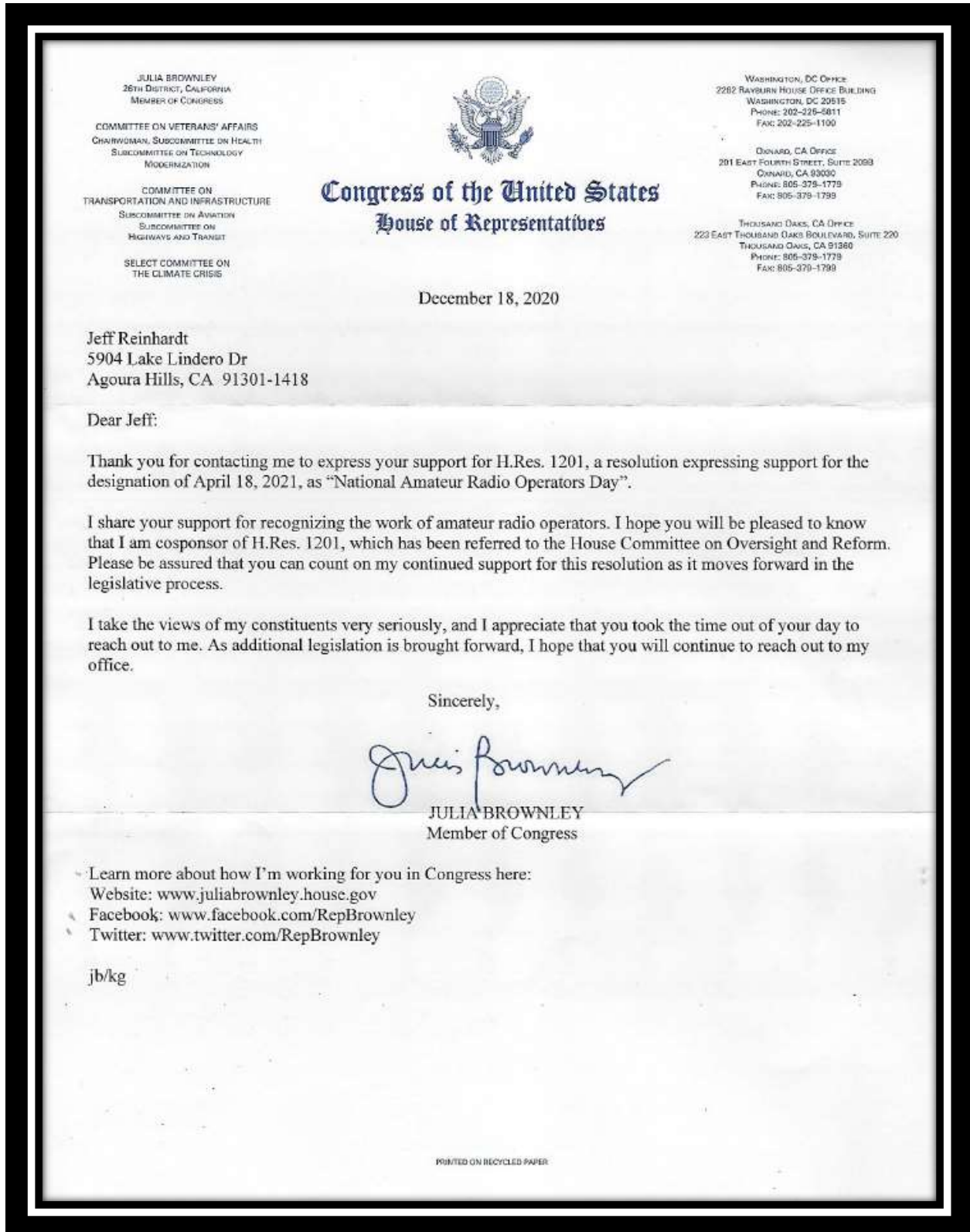
Best wishes for a happy new year!

Jeff Reinhardt AA6JR

Page 47 of 56

K6MEP Keyer January 2021 / K6MEP.org / www.qsl.net/k6mep/ K6MEP@groups.io
www.facebook.com/pg/K6MEP <https://mewe.com/group/5c3a7611268c652cbe76709a>

ARRL Public Information Coordinator -Santa Barbara Section



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



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



Registration Is Open for Online Ham Radio University on January 9

With COVID-19 restrictions precluding an in-person gathering, the 22nd annual Ham Radio University (HRU) educational conference will be held as a virtual event on Saturday, January 9, 2021, from 8 AM to 4 PM EST (1300 – 2100 UTC) as a GoToWebinar online video conference.

Individual registration is now open for HRU's 14 informational presentations covering a broad range of amateur radio activities. Topics include amateur radio emergency communications; the basics of HF operating; communicating through amateur radio Earth satellites; remote station operating over the internet; software defined radios; HF and UHF digital communications, and using Raspberry Pi computers in amateur radio.

HRU 2021 will also serve as the online convention of the ARRL NYC-Long Island Section.

Participation in HRU 2021 will be free, with a suggested donation of \$5. Advance registration is required for each presentation.



Contest University to Host Propagation Summit

Several radio propagation experts will share their knowledge during a Propagation Summit via Zoom, sponsored by Contest University (CTU). The event is scheduled for January 23, 2021. The presentation schedule includes:

“Update on the Personal Space Weather Station Project and HamSCI Activities for 2021” with Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, at 11 AM EST (1600 UTC)

“Solar Cycle 25 Predictions and Progress” with Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, at noon (1700 UTC)

“Maximizing Performance of HF Antennas with Irregular Terrain” with Jim Breakall, WA3FET, at 1 PM EST (1800 UTC)

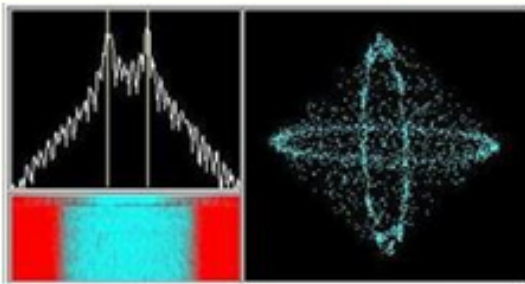
“HF Ionospheric Propagation” with Frank Donovan, W3LPL, at 2 PM EST (1900 UTC).

Registration is free. An Icom IC-705 will be raffled off as a “door” prize. The winner must be present on Zoom to win. — Thanks to CTU Chair Tim Duffy, K3LR

The ARRL RTTY Roundup is January 2 - 3

The 2021 [ARRL RTTY Roundup](#) on January 2 - 3 features two new multioperator categories: multi-two (M2) and multi-multi (MM). Because M2 and MM are new categories, there are no existing records, so the high scores for these categories will, by default, become the new records. High scores are kept by US call area, ARRL Division, ARRL Section, Canadian Province, and DX entity. Visit the ARRL Contest web page to see the current ARRL RTTY Roundup [all-time records](#).

If you're new to RTTY or digital modes, in the RTTY Roundup, operators worldwide contact and exchange QSO information with other amateurs using Baudot RTTY, PSK, FT8/FT4, ASCII, AMTOR, and Packet. Automated operation is not permitted; each claimed contact must include contemporaneous direct initiation by the operator on both sides of the contact.



If you have to look outside your immediate household for M2 or MM operators and you're already set up for RTTY or FT8/FT4, consider staying safe and letting other team members access your station remotely via [AnyDesk](#)

or another sharing technology. The key to making this easy and frustration-free for all involved is that all aspects of your station's operation be controllable from your logging computer's desktop, and that the RTTY audio be audible to the remote operator (if using RTTY) via the sharing software.

It is possible to do RTTY without listening to the receiver and just by watching the decode and X - Y or waterfall, but it's not recommended. Many, if not most, RTTY operators prefer low-level audio to signal when other stations are transmitting. For those using FTx modes, all you really need is the screen display.

Contacts must be made on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Any station may work any other station. Stations may be worked once per band, regardless of mode. The ARRL RTTY Roundup begins at 1800 UTC on January 2 and wraps at 2359 UTC on January --
Thanks to Brian Moran, N9ADG, and Paul Bourque, N1SFE

Reverse Beacon Network Leveraging Yasme Foundation Grant for Expansion

The [Reverse Beacon Network](#) (RBN) is taking advantage of a grant from the [Yasme Foundation](#), in cooperation with Amateur Radio Digital Communications ([ARDC](#)), to add 15 more nodes. RBN is a



global system of software-defined radio receivers that monitor amateur radio bands and report CW, RTTY, and FT4/FT8 signals to a central, searchable database. In October, a Yasme-funded node was successfully installed in Tunisia, bolstering RBN representation in northern Africa. Additional nodes are planned for Algeria and Libya.

The success of this small program led to the global 15-node project to expand the RBN into such under-represented areas as the Caribbean, the South Pacific, Central Asia, the Middle East, and South America. Selections were guided by the research community at [HamSCI](#), whose website provides a forum for researchers and amateurs to interact and conduct studies and experiments.

"By adding stations in these areas, the network's data quality and coverage are improved to allow better analysis of events and openings beyond what was previously available," Yasme Foundation President Ward Silver, N0AX, said. "This large and growing database of records supports scientific research and allows hams to be more effective on the air and in planning operations and station design."



Silver said researchers are particularly interested in the RBN data because it covers such a wide area with so many stations, a capability unusual in research. Silver also noted that the RBN project has resulted in many volunteers working together around the globe. "The RBN team deserves a lot of credit for creating an important asset that combines amateur radio and science in the best traditions of both," he said. "We look forward to helping keep that spirit alive and well."
— Thanks to Ward Silver, N0AX, and DX Engineering



- The [WINTERHEAT](#) VHF/UHF simplex event will take place during January. The event is open to participants in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, and Wisconsin. -- Thanks to Jesse Hunter, W9ABS



WINTERHEAT 2021

WINTERHEAT COUNTDOWN:
11d 7h 46m 13s

WINTERHEAT 2021 is a month long amateur radio simplex event.
The goal and purpose is for amateur radio operators to make as many contacts as possible over a month long period of time using only designated simplex frequencies.

Sign Up Here

When you sign up, you will be receiving an e-mail to confirm your submission.
If you fail to confirm your submission, your account profile will not be activated and you will not be able to log-in to the system.

Log In

WINTERHEAT Facebook & Log In has been created.
Please see this to get in.

PLEASE NOTE: Some features are still being implemented which may cause some issues. LOG IN HERE

- This is the second year for this event. In 2020 the event participants made a 300+ contacts with 1000+ hours.
- The event is open to all licensed amateur radio operators regardless of geographical location.
 - Contact made across state lines will be acceptable this year.
 - Radio Operators in the adjacent states will be allowed to participate and log contacts within their own states as well.
- This year the event will begin at 10:01 on January 1, 2021 (CST) and conclude at 23:59 (CST) on January 31, 2021.
- All contacts shall be via [w9abs](#) but can be either analog or digital. For more information please see the event operating [guidelines](#) page.

QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 39 ARLB039
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT December 22, 2020

To all radio amateurs
ARLB039 FCC Posts Email Address Reminder On ULS Landing Page

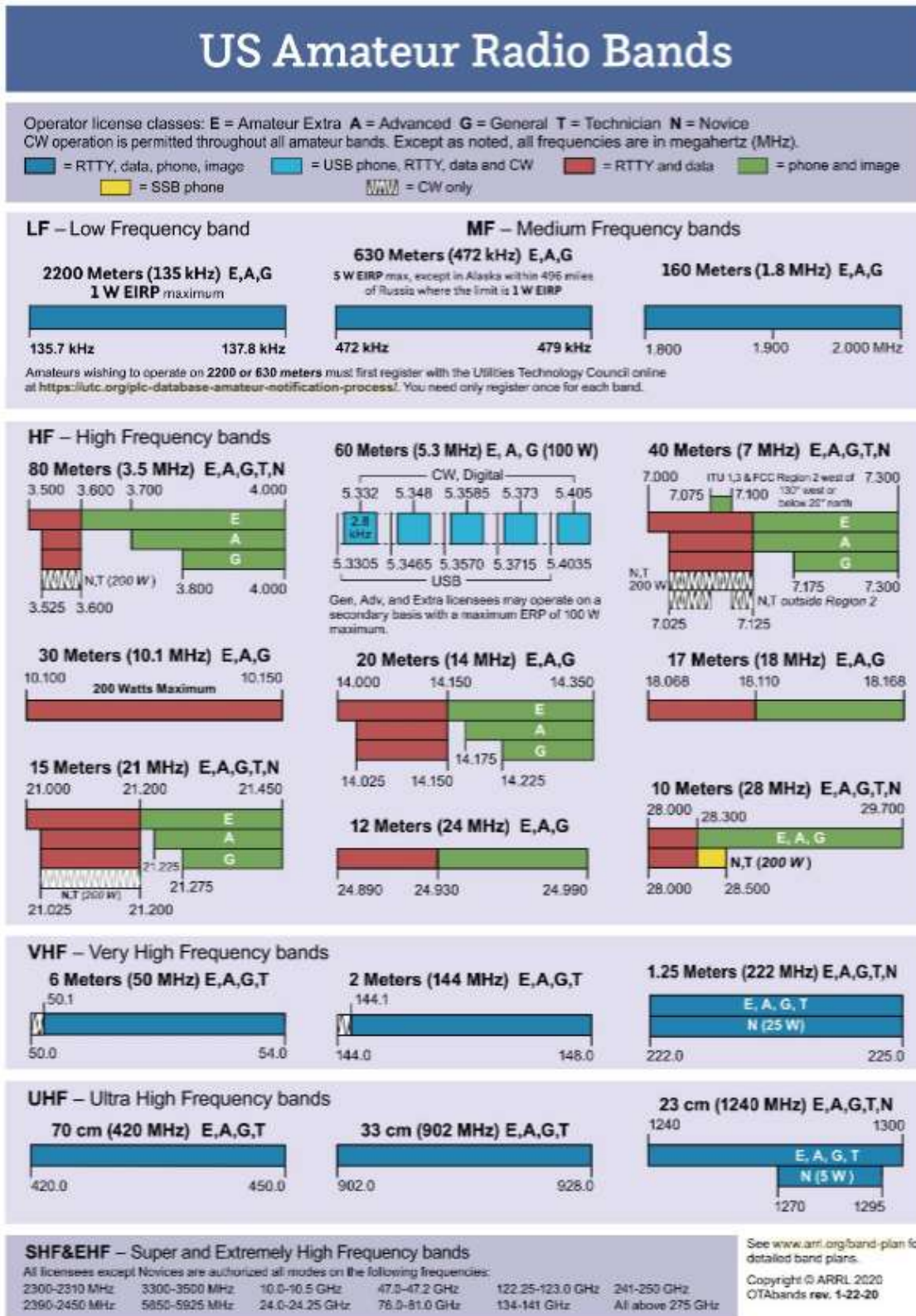
The FCC is encouraging users of the Universal Licensing Service (ULS) to have an email address on file with the FCC.

The ULS Landing Page can be found at,
<https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/systems-utilities/universal-licensing-system>

"Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide an email address on their license application(s), which will trigger the electronic issuance of an official copy of their license(s) to the email provided upon application grant. Per the timing specified in Rulemaking FCC 20-126, the FCC will no longer print, and licensees will no longer be able to request, hard copy license authorizations sent by mail."

The Rulemaking can be found online in PDF format at,
<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-126A1.pdf> .

The FCC has not yet established the date by which an email address will be required on all applications. ARRL VEC already has begun including email addresses on FCC applications for as many applicants as possible.



W1AW Schedule

PAC	MTN	CENT	EAST	UTC	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
6 AM	7 AM	8 AM	9 AM	1400		FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE
7 AM- 1 PM	8 AM- 2 PM	9 AM- 3 PM	10 AM- 4 PM	1500-1700 1800-2045	VISITING OPERATOR TIME (12 PM-1 PM CLOSED FOR LUNCH)				
1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	2100	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE
2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	2200	CODE BULLETIN				
3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	2300	DIGITAL BULLETIN				
4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	0000	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE
5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	0100	CODE BULLETIN				
6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	0200	DIGITAL BULLETIN				
6 th PM	7 th PM	8 th PM	9 th PM	0245	VOICE BULLETIN				
7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	0300	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE
8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	0400	CODE BULLETIN				

W1AW's schedule is at the same local time throughout the year. From the second Sunday in March to the first Sunday in November, UTC = Eastern US time + 4 hours. For the rest of the year, UTC = Eastern US time + 5 hours.

♦ Morse code transmissions: Frequencies are 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, and 147.555 MHz.

Slow Code = practice sent at 5, 7½, 10, 13, and 15 WPM.

Fast Code = practice sent at 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13, and 10 WPM.

Code bulletins are sent at 18 WPM.

For more information, visit us at

www.arri.org/w1aw

♦ W1AW Qualifying Runs are sent on the same frequencies as the Morse code transmissions. West Coast qualifying runs are transmitted by various West Coast stations on CW frequencies that are normally used by W1AW, in addition to 3590 kHz, at various times. Underline 1 minute of the highest speed you copied, certify that your copy was made without aid, and send it to ARRL for grading. Please include your name, call sign (if any), and complete mailing address. Fees: \$10 for a certificate, \$7.50 for endorsements.

♦ Digital transmissions: Frequencies are 3.5975, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095, 50.350, and 147.555 MHz.

Bulletins are sent using 45.45-baud Baudot, PSK31 in BPSK mode, and MFSK16 on a daily revolving schedule.

Keplerian elements for many amateur satellites will be sent on the regular digital frequencies on Tuesdays and Fridays at 6:30 PM Eastern time using Baudot and PSK31.

♦ Voice transmissions: Frequencies are 1.855, 3.99, 7.29, 14.29, 18.16, 21.39, 28.59, 50.350, and 147.555 MHz. Voice transmissions on 7.290 MHz are in AM double sideband, full carrier.

♦ Notes: On Fridays, UTC, a DX bulletin replaces the regular bulletins. W1AW is open to visitors 10 AM to noon and 1 PM to 3:45 PM Monday through Friday. FCC-licensed amateurs may operate the station during that time. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy. In a communication emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: voice on the hour, teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

W1AW code practice and CW/digital/phone bulletin transmission audio is also available real-time via the *EchoLink Conference Server* W1AWBDCT. The conference server runs concurrently with the regularly scheduled station transmissions. The W1AW Qualifying Run texts can also be copied via the *EchoLink Conference Server*.

During 2020, Headquarters and W1AW are closed on New Year's Day, Presidents Day (February 17), Memorial Day (May 25), Independence Day (July 4), Labor Day (September 7), Veterans Day (November 11), Thanksgiving and the following day (November 26 and 27), and Christmas (December 25).

