



Happy New Year 2014

The next regular meeting will be at 7:30 PM on Friday the 10th of January 2014 at the **Ventura County Port Authority** 1603 Anchors Way Ventura, CA 93001 . 34°15.11' N, 119°16.01' W, grid DM04IG. (see map pg 16). DecemberFest pictures on pg 15. Board Meeting precedes the General Meeting.



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K6MEP KEYER -- The VCARC Journal

First Class Mail

HAM RADIO:
*It works when nothing
else does!*

Ventura County Amateur Radio Club 2013 Officers and Chairs

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The Inside Story

Message from the President.....	2
Meeting Notes.....	2
Contests & Spec Events.....	3
6 Meter Technical Roundtable Net.....	3
Gear Available.....	4
Upcoming FCC Exam Sessions.....	5 & 6
Trivia.....	6
Upcoming HamFests.....	7
Net Script.....	8
K6MEP Calendar.....	8
Volunteer Training Classes.....	9 & 10
ARES & Frequency information.....	11
ARRL Public Service Classes.....	12
Local Area Nets.....	13
WD6EBY Repeater Update.....	14
Military Radio Collector's Group Activity.....	14
DecemberFest Dinner Meeting Pictures.....	15
Meeting Maps.....	16
ARRL Files Comments on Its "Symbol Rate" Petition.....	17
Medium-Frequency Experiment Continues.....	18
Spanish Radio Amateurs Given Access to 60 M Freqs.....	18

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.

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Material submitted for inclusion is encouraged. Submit material on IBM(tm) PC diskettes, USB sticks, or by e-mail to kg6bov@arrl.net. MS Word, WordPerfect or ASCII is preferred. Send all submissions directly to the club mailing address at **K6MEP, PO Box 2103 Oxnard, CA 93034-2103** or deliver to the editor at any time mutually convenient.

K6MEP holds general membership meetings at 7:30 p.m on the 2nd Friday of each month at The Ventura Port Authority building, 1603 Anchors Way Ventura 93001

Dues are \$20 per year.

Message from the President

Greetings Members:

Happy New Year, welcome to VCARC for another year of fun, events, projects, and so forth. Remember the Henry 2K-d Classic amplifier? Well, it is fully functional, and the new owner is Priscilla Hivner, KE6RQQ. Priscilla has taken the stance of "Why Not?" to having ample power available when needed. More power to her at age 90!



Priscilla KE6RQQ and the Henry Amp

DecemberFest 2013 at Brenden's is in the books with a smaller group than 2012, due to certain excuses, such as "moved away", "had to work", and what have you; I guess we will forgive them. A few requests have been voiced for a different 2014 selection, perhaps "a few dB down", or just different.

It is with great sadness I report the passing of KA6WZR, George Myers on Jan. 2. George was many times president of Pointsettia ARC, or PARC, which shut down 12/2005. George was a CW operator, an idea man, to the end an antenna experimenter, and frequent contributor to Overmodulation, the PARC newsletter.

(cont pg 15)

Secretary's Column and Meeting Minutes

There are no minutes from the DecemberFest Dinner meeting other than comments that good food was had by all.

See some pics from the dinner on pg 15.

-- Ed.

(cont pg 15)

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.

12/29/2013 | Ham Radio University / NLI Section Convention Dec 29-Jan 5, 0000Z-1800Z, W2V, Bethpage, NY. Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club. 21.260 18.130 14.260 7.260; digital and CW. QSL. N2MUN. QSL with SASE to N2MUN, W2 QSL buro or LoTW. hamradiouniversity.org

01/01/2014 | European Handball Championship for Men January 12th – 26th, 2014 Jan 1-Jan 31, 0001Z-2359Z, 5P14EHC, Copenhagen, DENMARK. EDR. 21.015 14.015 7,015 3.515. Certificate & QSL OZ0J. Danish radio amateurs will be QRV with a special event call, 5P14EHC. All Modes and bands. www.5p14ehc.dk

01/01/2014 | SKCC 8th Anniversary Jan 1-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, K3Y, All call areas. Straight Key Century Club. 21.050 14.050 7.055 3.550. QSL. K9AAA. Celebrating 8 years of steady growth to over 11,300 members on CW. Stations contacted may request a special K3Y QSL. Send SASE to K9AAA. Full event details at www.skccgroup.com. Contact person is W6SQQ, SKCC PIO. w6sqq@sbcglobal.net www.skccgroup.com

01/02/2014 | Sam Rayburn Birthday Net Jan 2-Jan 4, 1300Z-0000Z, K5FRC, Bonham, TX. Fannin County Amateur Radio Club. 145.470 145.130 14.290 7.185. Certificate. KE5WDI. Event station will be on air at Sam Rayburn Library on Jan 2 and Jan 4. Certificate available upon request with SASE that will hold the certificate without bending. www.k5frc.org

01/03/2014 | 475th Anniversary of Hernando De Soto's Winter Encampment Jan 3-Jan 5, 1200Z-2359Z, K4T, Tallahassee, FL. Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society. 14.266 14.033 7.266 7.033. Certificate & QSL. Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society. www.qrz.com/db/k4tlh or www.k4tlh.net

01/11/2014 | State of Florida Constitution Convention Commemorative Special Event Jan 11, 1400Z-2000Z, W4FFC, Port Saint Joe, FL. Gulf Amateur Radio Society. 28.375 21.375 14.275 7.177. QSL. K4NEB. Please send a SASE #10 (large white envelope that a QSL card will fit into) with date, time (GMT/Zulu), freq or band on your personal QSL card. gulfars.net

01/17/2014 | Virginia Lee-Jackson Day Jan 17-Jan 20, 1700Z-2359Z, W4V, Front Royal, VA. Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club. 14.035. QSL. W4V via W4RKC. shenvalarc.org

01/18/2014 | Activation the Thomas Edison House - Louisville KY Jan 18, 1400Z-2100Z, KY4KY, Louisville, KY. Bullitt Amateur Radio Society. 28.355 21.355 14.255 7.255. Certificate & QSL. Bullitt ARS c/o KC4WQ. The Bullitt ARS is planning to 'activate' the Edison House in Louisville on January 18, 2014. The house, now museum, was a boarding house in the late 19th/early 20th century and housed a young Thomas Edison during his tenure as a telegraph operator for Western Union. Edison did many of his early experiments with electricity here and the club will be operating from the room in which Edison slept and ate. Hours of operation will be from 9AM to 4PM EST. There may be some RTTY and CW operations, frequencies via band plans QSL info via QRZ.com. QSL SASE only please. QSL and certificate SAE and \$2. www.ky4ky.com

01/25/2014 | 20th Santa Cruz Valley Car Nuts Collector Car Show Jan 25, 1600Z-2200Z, WE7GV, Tubac, AZ. Green Valley Amateur Radio Club. 14.246 14.244 14.242. Certificate & QSL. Green Valley Amateur Radio Club. gvarc.us

01/25/2014 | Kansas Day Jan 25, 1500Z-2000Z, KS0KS, Olathe, KS. Santa Fe Trail Amateur Radio Club. 21.320 14.250 10.115 7.250. QSL. KS0KS, SFTARC. eQSL & LOTW to KS0KS www.sftarc.org

01/25/2014 | Special Olympics of Madison County Polar Plunge Jan 25, 1400Z-2100Z, WA4TRS, Blannahasett Island, Marshall, NC. The Road Show Amateur Radio Club Inc. 14.270 7.245. QSL. The Road Show Amateur Radio Club, Inc., The Special Olymipic Madison County Polar Plunge is sponsored by Madison County Parks and Rec. The Event will bring attention to Service provided to Handicapped Persons of Madison County, NC. The Polar Plunge will take place in the middle of the French Broad River (3rd Oldest River in the World) come rain, snow, shine, wind, or what ever! Check Web site for further details. Lat.35.7962626, Long -82.687043 theroadshowarc.com

6 Meter Technical Roundtable Net

A few of us have been gathering every Thursday night at 8:00 PM on 50.2 MHz SSB for a technical roundtable. Bob, KK6CUS, is usually the net control. We will be on again this Thursday, December 26th. Hope you can join us.

Ken Bourne, W6HK
DM13, Orange, CA

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

Available Gear

For Sale – Estate Equipment (first run 1/2014)

Yaesu FTdx-3000 (HF/6M): Purchased new from HRO on 11/12/2013. Has maybe 30 minutes of transmit time. Original shipping boxes, manuals. In NEW condition. \$1,900 includes optional equipment and delivery to Oxnard area. Optional Equipment: Daiwa CN-101L SWR/Power meter, Heil Pro Set boom mic, adapters, home brewed hand PTT switch and Heil PTT foot switch.

Yaesu VX-8DR 6M/2M/220MHz/440MHz with GPS/APRS. Excellent physical and working condition. Does NOT have original boxes. \$400 includes accessories and delivery to Oxnard area. Options include alkaline battery case, 1800 ma LI-ION battery, GPS module, speaker/mic, drop in charger, Nifty Guide and ADAMS VX8 programming software and USB cable.



Motorola GTX 900 MHz transceiver. NMO 900 MHz mobile antenna. Programmed for (freq/CTCSS): 927.0125/100.0, 927.0125/88.5, 927.500/100.0, 927.675/156.7, 927.6625/146.2, 927.6375/123.0, 927.650/131.8, 927.6875/77.0, 927.6125/107.2, 927.2625/114.8. \$40 + shipping, or will deliver to Oxnard if/when trip is made to deliver any of the above items.

Contact Hal/N6HAL @ 760.371.3208 or n6hal@arrl.net.

73

FOR SALE
Good Condition \$800

Hal n6hal@arrl.net
760.371.3208

Kenwood TS-940S/AT HF 100 watts Internal Antenna Tuner
Kenwood SM-220 Station Monitor
Kenwood MC 80 Amplified Desk Microphone
LDG AT-200Pro-II 200 watt External Antenna Tuner

First run 12/2013

Upcoming FCC Exam Sessions

ON EXAM DAY BRING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. A legal photo ID (driver's license, passport).
2. When no photo ID is available, two forms of identification must be presented:
 - a. non-photo ID/driver's license (some states still have them)
 - b. birth certificate (must have the appropriate seal)
 - c. social security card
 - d. library card
 - e. utility bill, bank statement or other business correspondence that specifically names the person; or a postmarked envelope addressed to the person at his or her current mailing address as it appears on the Form 605.
3. Students may bring any of the above items and/or a school ID, minor's work permit, report card, or a legal guardian may present a photo ID.
4. Bring your Social Security Number (SSN) or your FCC issued Federal Registration Number (FRN). VEC's are required by FCC to submit either your SSN or your FRN number with your license application form. If you prefer not to give your SSN, then you may use 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.
5. 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.
6. Two number two pencils with erasers and a pen.
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.
8. Bring a check, a money order or cash to cover the exam session fee(s). Check the ARRL VEC's current exam fee.

License Preparation and Sample Test Sites

<http://aa9pw.com/radio/>

<http://hamexam.org/>

<http://twit.tv/show/ham-nation> -- Weekly Webcast

<http://www.AmateurLogic.tv> -- Weekly Webcast

<http://www.eham.net/exams/>

<http://www.Facebook.com/HamStudy>

<http://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com> -- cost / on-line subscription

<http://www.hamstudy.org> (ICOM sponsored site) requires free registration

<http://www.qrz.com/ht/> -- requires free registration

<http://www.radioexam.org/>

Upcoming FCC Exam Sessions

01/04/2014 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Test 1st Saturday Every Month Sponsor: **AA6WC/Ali Hassan** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Ali Hassan (323) 758-0565 Email: aa6wc@prodigy.net Location: VE's Residence 6043 3rd Avenue Los Angeles CA 90043-2618

01/11/2014 Time: 7:00 AM (No walk-ins) Sponsor: **PAPA** VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#) Contact: Norman M. Goodkin (818) 403-5123 Email: hamclass@goodkin.net Location: Coffee Co. 8751 La Tijera Blvd Los Angeles CA 90045-3906

01/11/2014 Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Sponsor: **Santa Barbara ARC** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Michael J. Sabolesky (805) 969-2326 Email: kf6di@sbarc.org Location: County Health Care Services 300 N San Antonio

Rd Santa Barbara CA 93110-1370 Southwest corner of bldg

01/18/2014 Time: 8:00 AM (No walk-ins) Sponsor: **Santa Clarita ARC** VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#) Contact: Ronald B. Klein (661) 259-0948 Email: rklein46@roadrunner.com Location: Santa Clarita Valley Senior Center 22900 Market St Santa Clarita CA 91321-3608

01/19/2014 Time: 8:00 AM (No walk-ins) Sponsor: **DCS 22** VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#) Contact: Norman M. Goodkin (818) 403-5123 Email: hamclass@goodkin.net Location: Lost Hills Sheriff's Station (Assembly Room) 27050 Agoura Rd Agoura Hills CA 91301-5332

K6MEP Keyer January 2014

k6mep@qsl.net / www.qsl.net/k6mep

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ventura-County-Amateur-Radio-Club/218258118205441>

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- 01/25/2014 Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)** Sponsor: **Crescent Bay VE Grp/W6TRW ARC** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Scott V. Swanson (310) 459-0337 Email: scottk6pyp@gmail.com Location: Northrup/Grumman 1 Space Park Blvd Redondo Beach CA 90278-1001
- 01/26/2014 Time: 8:00 AM (No walk-ins)** Sponsor: **DCS 22** VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#) Contact: Norman M. Goodkin (818) 403-5123 Email: hamclass@goodkin.net Location: Lost Hills Sheriff's Station (Assembly Room) 27050 Agoura Rd Agoura Hills CA 91301-5332
- 02/01/2014 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)** Test 1st Saturday Every Month Sponsor: **AA6WC/Ali Hassan** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Ali Hassan (323) 758-0565 Email: aa6wc@prodigy.net Location: VE's Residence 6043 3rd Avenue Los Angeles CA 90043-2618
- 02/05/2014 Time: 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)** Sponsor: **Baldwin Hills ARC** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Edward L. Walker (323) 394-1818 www.barc.us Email: EDLWALKER@PACBELL.NET Location: Round Table Pizza 4330 Redondo Beach Blvd Torrance CA 90504-1031
- 02/08/2014 Time: 8:00 AM (No walk-ins)** Sponsor: **SMRA Emergency Repeater Network** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: George W. Kreider (805) 388-2488 Email: kn6la@verizon.net Location: Southern California Edison 10060 Telegraph Rd Ventura CA 93004-1270
- 02/08/2014 Time: 7:00 AM (No walk-ins)** Sponsor: **PAPA** VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#) Contact: Norman M. Goodkin (818) 222-7893 Email: hamclass@goodkin.net Location: Home Town Buffet 6705 Fallbrook Ave Canoga Park CA 91365-9999
- 02/08/2014 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)** Sponsor: **South Bay ARC** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Joseph M. Lanphen (310) 328-0817 Email: ilanphen@ca.rr.com www.w6sba.org for details Location: Torrance Memorial Med Center 3330 Lomita Blvd Rm A, 2nd Flr, West Tower Torrance CA 90505-5002
- 02/09/2014 Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)** Sponsor: **Conejo Valley ARC** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Jeffrey M. Reinhardt (818) 706-3853 Email: jmreinhardt@sbcglobal.net Location: Ventura County Sheriff's E County Station, Community Room 2101 E Olsen Rd Thousand Oaks CA 91360-6861 Betw 23 Hwy & Reagan Library
- 02/22/2014 Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)** Sponsor: **Crescent Bay VE Grp/W6TRW ARC** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Scott V. Swanson (310) 459-0337 Email: scottk6pyp@gmail.com Location: Northrup/Grumman 1 Space Park Blvd Redondo Beach CA 90278-1001
- 03/01/2014 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)** Test 1st Saturday Every Month Sponsor: **AA6WC/Ali Hassan** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Ali Hassan (323) 758-0565 Email: aa6wc@prodigy.net Location: VE's Residence 6043 3rd Avenue Los Angeles CA 90043-2618
- 03/08/2014 Time: 7:00 AM (No walk-ins)** Sponsor: **PAPA** VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#) Contact: Norman M. Goodkin (818) 403-5123 Email: hamclass@goodkin.net Location: Coffee Co. 8751 La Tijera Blvd Los Angeles CA 90045-3906
- 03/08/2014 Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)** Sponsor: **Santa Barbara ARC** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Michael J. Sabolesky (805) 969-2326 Email: kf6di@sbarc.org Location: County Health Care Services 300 N San Antonio Rd Santa Barbara CA 93110-1370 Southwest corner of bldg
- 03/15/2014 Time: 8:00 AM (No walk-ins)** Sponsor: **Santa Clarita ARC** VEC: [Greater LA VEC](#) Contact: Ronald B. Klein (661) 259-0948 Email: rklein46@roadrunner.com Location: Santa Clarita Valley Senior Center 22900 Market St Santa Clarita CA 91321-3608
- 03/29/2014 Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)** Sponsor: **Crescent Bay VE Grp/W6TRW ARC** VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Scott V. Swanson (310) 459-0337 Email: scottk6pyp@gmail.com Location: Northrup/Grumman 1 Space Park Blvd Redondo Beach CA 90278-1001

Triva for January 2014

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1) Mickey Mouse is 85 years old? First opened as Steamboat Willie November 18, 1928
- 2) In 1943 Franklin Roosevelt was president, and gasoline was \$0.21 per gal. BUT minimum wage as up to \$0.33 an hour?
- 3) Avacados will not ripen on the tree?

if you have any trivial knowledge, pass it along to me for your shot at greatness,

de Dana / KG6WXE kg6wx@arrl.net

K6MEP Keyer January 2014

k6mep@qsl.net / www.qsl.net/k6mep

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ventura-County-Amateur-Radio-Club/218258118205441>

Page 6 of 18

Upcoming HamFests & Conventions

Thunderbird Hamfest 2014

Start Date: 01/11/2014 **End Date:** 01/11/2014 **Location:** Northwest Community Church 16615 North 43rd Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85001 **Sponsor:** Thunderbird Amateur Radio Club **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Website:** <http://w7tbc.org> **Talk-In:** 146.700 - (PL 162.2) **Public Contact:** Warren Gaspar , NU7R PO Box 5726 Glendale, AZ 85312 Phone: 602-796-6319 **Email:** hamfest@w7tbc.org

Quartzfest Convention

Start Date: 01/19/2014 **End Date:** 01/26/2014 **Location:** Road Runner Short Term BLM US Highway 95 and 53rd Street North Quartzsite, AZ 85346 **Sponsor:** Quartzfest Organizers **Type:** ARRL Convention **Website:** <http://www.quartzfest.org> **Talk-In:** 146.55 FM Simplex **Public Contact:** Steve Weed , KO4QT 11279 South Glenwood Avenue Yuma, AZ 85367 Phone: 619-733-2320 **Email:** quartzfest2014@gmail.com

Arizona Section Convention

Start Date: 02/14/2014 **End Date:** 02/15/2014 **Location:** Yuma County Fairgrounds 2520 East 32nd Street Yuma, AZ 85364 **Sponsor:** Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization (YARHO) **Type:** ARRL Convention **Website:** <http://www.yumahamfest.org/> **Talk-In:** 146.840(-) PL 88.5 **Public Contact:** Bill Johnson , K7BRR PO Box 1843 Yuma, AZ 85366 Phone: 928-305-1034 **Email:** info@yumahamfest.org

SCOTTSDALE SPRING HAMFEST

Start Date: 03/15/2014 **End Date:** 03/15/2014 **Location:** Mountain Valley Church 17800 North Perimeter Drive Scottsdale, AZ 85250 **Sponsor:** ARCA & Scottsdale Amateur Radio Club **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Website:** <http://www.scottsdalearc.org> **Talk-In:** 147.18 (PL 162.2) **Public Contact:** Edwin Nickerson , WU7S 902 North 73rd Place Scottsdale, AZ 85257 Phone: 480-949-5162 **Email:** enickerson427@aol.com

Desert R.A.T.S. Palm Springs Hamfest

Start Date: 03/15/2014 **End Date:** 03/15/2014 **Location:** Palm Springs Pavilion 401 South Pavilion Way Palm Springs, CA 92262 **Sponsor:** Desert R.A.T.S. Amateur Radio Club **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Website:** <http://palmsspringshamfest.com> **Talk-In:** 146.940 (PL 107.2) **Public Contact:** Gary and Susie , KD6QLT & KD6TVO 4193 Matthew Drive Palm Springs, CA 92264 Phone: 760-328-9662 **Email:** sboskovich@dc.rr.com

Military Radio Collectors Group

MRCG has scheduled the 2014 Annual Meet at Camp San Luis Obispo on May 2 and 3. More info will be posted in January or February.

White Mountain Hamfest

Start Date: 06/07/2014 **End Date:** 06/07/2014 **Location:** Show Low City Hall 180 North 9th Street Show Low, AZ 85901 **Sponsor:** Kachina Amateur Radio Club **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Website:** <http://www.kachina-arc.org> **Talk-In:** 145.310 - 600 (PL 110.9) **Public Contact:** Jim Mortensen , W7AZY 3119 West Bryant Avenue Snowflake, AZ 85937 Phone: 928-358-8761 **Email:** jmmules@frontiernet.net

46th MARAC NATIONAL CONVENTION

Start Date: 07/09/2014 **End Date:** 07/12/2014 **Location:** Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center 9000 West Airport Drive Visalia, CA 93277 **Sponsor:** Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club **Type:** ARRL Convention **Website:** <http://marac.org> **Talk-In:** None **Public Contact:** Robert Devine , KC6AWX 407 Alameda Del Prado Novato, CA 94949 Phone: 415-883-8980 **Email:** kc6awx@arrl.net

K6MEP Net Script

"Is this frequency in use, or is there any emergency or priority traffic?"

"Hearing none, the following is a Q-S-T."

"This is _____, net control station for the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club Net."

"This is a directed, open net for all radio amateurs, sponsored by K6MEP, the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club. This net begins each Monday evening at Eight Thirty P-M local time, first on Two—Eight—Decimal—Four—Zero—Zero megahertz, and then will Q-S-Y to One—Four—Six—Decimal—Nine—Seven—Zero megahertz. This is linked to Four Four Eight Decimal Eight Zero Zero Megahertz. All amateurs are welcome to check in. A roundtable will follow roll call. A ragchew session may follow the formal net."

"K6MEP, the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club, meets at Seven Thirty P-M on the Second Friday of each month at the Ventura County Port Authority 1603 Anchors Way Ventura, CA 93001."

"The next meeting date is _____" (From the newsletter calendar section).

"A roll-call of club members will be followed by a request for late, missed and visitor check-ins."

(Roll Call) ***** "Any late, missed, or visitor check-ins? Please call K6MEP"

(Roundtable) ***** "Any last comments?"

Ten Meter Closing: — "Control is now transferred to One—Four—Six Decimal—Nine—Seven—Zero megahertz. All net members are invited to Q-S-Y. This is _____."

Two Meter Closing: — "Good evening to you all, this net is closed at _____. (Time) We would like to thank WB6YQN and K6JLW for the use of their repeaters for our net"

"73, This is _____."

K6MEP CALENDAR

January 2014

1: New Year's Day

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

14-15: Red Cross Shelter Exercise – ARES support – contact Stewart KG6BOV / kq6bov@arrl.net

February 2014

2: Groundhog's Day

14: Valentine's Day

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

16: Bandit Trail Run – ARES support – contact Steve KE6WEZ ke6wez@arrl.net

17: Presidents' Day

March 2014

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

15-16: Coyote Backbone Trail Run – ARES Support – contact Dan KE6NYT / ke6nyt@arrl.net

To join Ventura Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

send form, along with \$20.00 annual dues to P.O. Box 2103, Oxnard CA 93034-2103

Pro Rate Dues as follows: Oct thru Dec = \$20.00, Jan thru Mar = \$15.00, Apr thru June = \$10.00, July thru Sept = \$5.00

Name _____ Call _____ E-mail _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Date _____ New Member _____ Renewing _____ ARRL? yes ___ no ___ Telephone _____

Below line for club staff processing only.

Treasurer _____ Secretary _____ Membership Chairman _____ Roster entry _____

Membership certificate _____ New member letter _____

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>

Locations and directions:

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

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

WORKING WITH TOTAL DIVERSITY

Scheduled Red Cross Classes

For training class registration, call: 805-987-1514 Ext 320.
Please try to register for classes a week before the class is being offered

CLASS ID Basic Courses Day Date Time Loc.

For class info call 805-987-1514 Ext 320
OFFERING ID Chapter OFFERING Day Date Time
Prerequisite Instructors Location

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

- [IS-005.A An Introduction to Hazardous Materials](#)
- [IS-007 A Citizen's Guide to Disaster Assistance](#)
- [IS-10.a Animals in Disasters: Awareness and Preparedness](#)
- [IS-11.a Animals in Disasters: Community Planning](#)
- [IS-022 Are You Ready? An In-depth Guide to Citizen Preparedness](#)
- [IS-35.11 FEMA Safety Orientation 2011](#)
- [IS-055 Household Hazardous Materials - A Guide for Citizens](#)
- [IS-100.b Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100](#)
- [IS-101.a Deployment Basics](#)
- [IS-102.a Deployment Basics for FEMA Response Partners](#)
- [IS-120.a An Introduction to Exercises](#)
- [IS-197.SP Special Needs Planning Considerations for Service and Support Providers](#)
- [IS-200.b ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents](#)
- [IS-208 State Disaster Management](#)
- [IS-230.b Fundamentals of Emergency Management](#)
- [IS-235.a Emergency Planning](#)
- [IS-240.a Leadership & Influence](#)
- [IS-241.a Decision Making and Problem Solving](#)
- [IS-242.a Effective Communication -\(1/14/2011\) 0.8 1.0](#)
- [IS-244.a Developing and Managing Volunteers](#)
- [IS-250 Emergency Support Function 15 \(ESF 15\) External Affairs: A New Approach to Emergency](#)

- [Communication and Information Distribution - \(12/4/2007\)](#)
- [IS-275 The EOC's Role in Community Preparedness, Response and Recovery Activities](#)
- [IS-288 The Role of Voluntary Agencies in Emergency Management](#)
- [IS-292 Disaster Basics](#)
- [IS-317 Introduction to Community Emergency Response Teams](#)
- [IS-393.a Introduction to Hazard Mitigation](#)
- [IS-700.a National Incident Management System \(NIMS\), An Introduction](#)
- [IS-702.a National Incident Management Systems \(NIMS\) Public Information Systems](#)
- [IS-703.a NIMS Resource Management](#)
- [IS-704 NIMS Communications and Information Management](#)
- [IS-800.b National Response Plan \(NRP\), An Introduction](#)

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.



TOGETHER WE PREPARE



K6MEP Keyer – The Journal of the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club

ARES-ACS Frequency Updates

The Tuesday night Ventura County ARES/ACS Net is held on the SMRA ERN South Mt Repeater. Local nets are 7:00 to 7:30 PM; County Net starts at 7:30 on SMRA South Mt / K6ERN 146.385 Mhz (+) PL 127.3 (linked to 224.100 Mhz (-) / PL 127.3 and 447.320 Mhz (-) / PL 100.0).

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 (-) No PL

Area 6 Ventura City – N6VUY 147.975 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 – WA6ZSN 146.385 Mhz (+) PL 127.3

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

Other Good Area Frequencies ...

W6GRG 146.940 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 Simi DSW Repeater

WA6FGK 146.640 Mhz (-) PL 127.3 Simi Valley

N6EVC 146.850 Mhz (-) PL 94.8 Rasnow

K0AKS 147.150 Mhz(-) PL127.3 TOaks

WD6EBY 147.060 Mhz (-) PL127.3 Laguna Peak

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

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

K6TZ 146.790 Mhz (-)PL131.8 SBARC

WA6COT 145.180Mhz (-) PL 131.8 Sta Ynez

WB6OBB 147.000Mhz (+) PL 131.8 Sta Barbara

AA6DP 147.090 Mhz (-) No PL Catalina

KB6C 147.735 (-) PL 100.0 Oat Mt / MMRA

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

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

LA DCS K6DCS DCS22 147.225 Mhz (+) PL 94.8

N6FDR 145.260 Mhz (-) PL 100.0 Malibu

W6AAX 147.180 Mhz (+) PL 186.2 Chatsworth

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

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 147.540 from simplex to repeater use.

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.

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

Area 1 Simi Valley – 147.480Mhz (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 – 147.540Mhz (S)

Area 8 Moorpark – 146.535Mhz (S)

County ARES Simplex – 147.525Mhz (S)

National Simplex – 146.520Mhz(S)

Ventura County ARES / ACS Emergency Coordinators

ACS RO/ARES DEC: [Rob Hansen, W6RH](#), Email: w6rh@arrl.net

Assist ACS RO/Deputy DEC: Rick Tate, KQ6NO Email: kq6no@arrl.net

Area 1 Simi Valley EC: Steve King, KE6WEZ Email: ke6wez@arrl.net

Area 2 TO, Conejo Valley EC: Zack Cohen, N6PK, Email: n6pk@arrl.net

Area 3 Camarillo, Somis EC: Ted Lansing KI6PTX Email: ki6ptx@arrl.net

Area 4 Oxnard, Hueneme, Mugu EC: Stewart Stone, KG6BOV Email: kg6bov@arrl.net

Area 5 Ojai EC: Wayne Francis, W6OEU Email: w6oeu@arrl.net

Area 6 City of Ventura EC: Jose Vasquez, N6VUY Email: n6vuy@arrl.net

Area 7 Santa Paula, Fillmore, Piru EC: Jose Vasquez, N6VUY Email: n6vuy@arrl.net

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

K6MEP Keyer January 2014

k6mep@qsl.net / www.qsl.net/k6mep

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ventura-County-Amateur-Radio-Club/218258118205441>

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 2011, 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.

The course is offered online using the Moodle learning platform. The *Introduction to Emergency Communication* course has six sections with 29 lesson topics and a 35 question final assessment. Participants should plan on completing the course in approximately 45 hours over a nine week period. This is a mentored course, in which you may work according to your own schedule. Cost is \$50 for ARRL members and \$85 for non-members.

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

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

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

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

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

This course is designed to give hams a quick overview in public relations activities. It uses the skills of experts in various aspects of public relations to provide volunteer Public Information Officers with the basic skills and expectations that a PIO needs to know to be effective in their home region. PR-101 covers everything from the basic news release to Web sites and video work.

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

Local Area Radio Nets

Weekly Nets

Monday

Cuckoo Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL every weekday morning from 7:00 AM to about 8:20 AM

California Rescue ARES Net 7.25 Mhz MTWThF 8:30 AM

K6MEP / VCARC Club Net -- 8:30 PM 28.400 Mhz USB / 146.970 Mhz (-) / 127.3 PL (WB6YQN repeater) linked to K6JLW 448.800 Mhz (-) PL 131.8

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

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

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

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

Tuesday

Cuckoo Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL every weekday morning from 7:00 AM to about 8:20 AM

California Rescue ARES Net 7.250 Mhz MTWThF 8:30 AM

Ventura County ARES/ACS Nets between 7:00 and 8:00 PM, the Ventura County Amateur Radio Emergency Service / Auxiliary Communications Service holds their local and County-wide nets. Local Nets are by area and normally run from 7:00 to 7:30 PM. The County-wide Net starts at 7:30 PM and normally finishes by 8:00 PM 146.385 (+) / 127.3 PL

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

Ventura County ARES-ACS 40 Meter Net

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

2000 **6-Meter Roundtable** - 50.125 Mhz USB First Tuesday of each month.

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

Wednesday --

Cuckoo Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL every weekday morning from 7:00 AM to about 8:20 AM

California Rescue ARES Net 7.25 Mhz MTWThF 8:30 AM

Channel Islands 10-10 Net 28.340Mhz USB 10:00 AM / 6:00 PM

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

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

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

Thursday

Cuckoo Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL every weekday morning from 7:00 AM to about 8:20 AM

California Rescue ARES Net 7.25 Mhz MTWThF 8:30 AM

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

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

Friday

Cuckoo Net 146.790 Mhz (-) / 131.8 Hz PL every weekday morning from 7:00 AM to about 8:20 AM

California Rescue ARES Net 7.250 Mhz MTWThF 8:30 AM

Saturday

Quad Squad Net 1300 / 1:00 PM 21.365 Mhz USB

Military Radio Collector Net 1830 / 6:30PM 3985 KHz +/- AM

Sunday

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

WD6EBY Repeater Update

Hi All,

Today (1/3/2014) I finished the instillation of the Laguna Peak GMRS Repeater.
Here are the particulars:

Call Sign: WQPW830
Repeater Output: 462.625 MHz
Repeater Input: 467.625 MHz
Input PL: 156.7 Hz
Output PL: 156.7 Hz
Radios: Two each Motorola CDM 1550, 25 watt radios

Duplexer: 6 cavity flat-pack with extra BP on the transmitter
TxPwr to Feed Line: 16 watts
Feed Line: ~20 feet of RG214 coax
Antenna: Heavy Duty Comtelco, 4.5DB gain Omni
Controller: Arcom, ARC210

Laguna Peak:

445.640 MHz Rpt PL 141.3 - Encode and Decode
147.060 MHz Rpt PL 127.3 - Encode and Decode
145.650 MHz Packet NODE, LAGUNA
146.XXX MHz Rmt 2 Meter Remote Base
420.XXX MHz Link Full Duplex Link To/From Camarillo
462.625 MHz Rpt PL 156.7 Hz - Encode and Decode,
GMRS License Required

Camarillo:

445.600 MHz Rpt PL 141.3 - Encode and Decode
146.XXX MHz Rmt 2 Meter Remote Base
420.XXX MHz Link Full Duplex Link To/From Laguna Peak
462.650 MHz Rpt PL 156.7 Hz - Encode and Decode,
GMRS License Required
The Camarillo GMRS Repeater is temporally down due to
interference issues.

Paul WD6EBY

MRCG -- Military Radio Collector's Group Activity

Saturday, February 22 is the re-enactment of the Los Angeles Air Raid of WW2 at Ft. Mac Arthur in San Pedro. This event features displays, dinner and dancing to a big swing band, and has been very well attended each year, with hundreds of people dressed in vintage costume.

Many of the MRCG folks participate in the operation of radio equipment in the WW2 vehicles – tanks, halftrack, command cars, etc and have been instrumental in the restoration and installation of the gear. Members have spent considerable time restoring the big searchlights – last year we had 5 of them operating during the event.

The climax is “lights-out”, when all of the guns, sirens and lights create a spectacle not often experienced... you can find videos on YouTube by searching “Los Angeles Air Raid”.

More information is at: <http://www.theairraid.com>

The MRCG guys changed their net times on 75 meters to take best advantage of propagation (<http://www.mrcgwest.org/Information/tabid/1010/Default.aspx>):

de John C –

This week, we will start the net at 6:30 PM – the last couple of weeks the band had already gone long by 7 PM, so we'll see what happens tonight.

K6MEP Keyer January 2014

k6mep@qsl.net / www.qsl.net/k6mep

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ventura-County-Amateur-Radio-Club/218258118205441>

Prez Sez (cont from pg 2)

George's wit and wisdom inspired Hams young and old as he participated in public service as a RACES member and private volunteer. Some will remember the white booth staffed by PARC members during many years at the Ventura Street Fair, and many "Mini Field Day" picnics. Our thoughts are with Margaret and the family; we will miss you, George, SK.

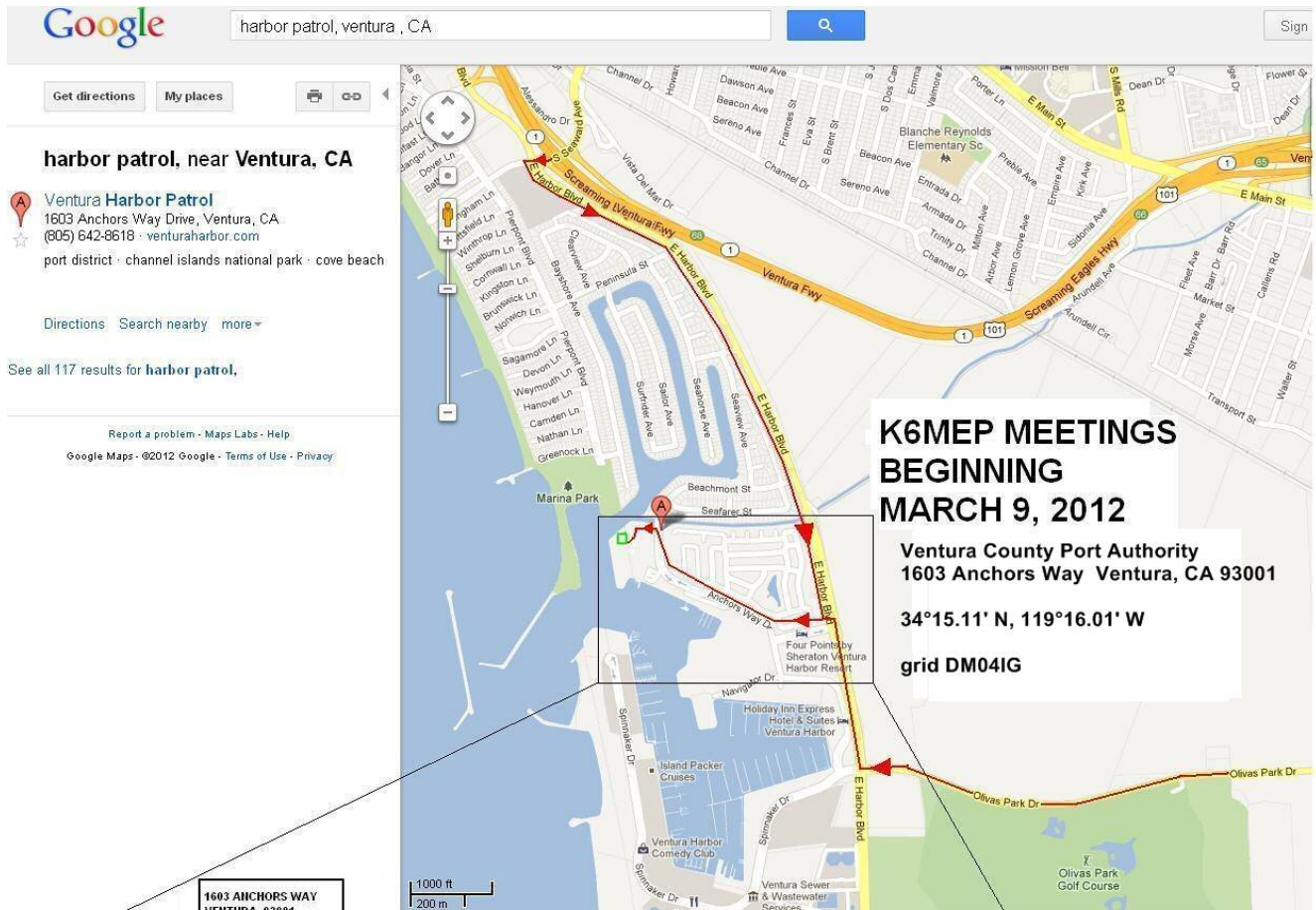
Bring your ideas, questions, answers, etc., and see you all at the next meeting, January 10, 2014!

Joe Krigbaum, K6NE
President, VCARC

Secretary's Column (cont from pg 2)



K6MEP Keyer – The Journal of the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club



ARRL Files Comments on Its “Symbol Rate” Petition

12/24/2013

The ARRL has filed [comments](#) with the FCC on its own *Petition for Rule Making* [RM-11708](#) (plus [Erratum](#)) — the so-called “symbol rate” petition. Although the League rarely files formal comments on its own petitions, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, citing the high level of interest in the proceeding, said, “[T]his is clearly an exceptional circumstance.” RM-11708 proposes to drop the symbol rate limit in §97.307(f) of the FCC Amateur Service rules, substituting a maximum occupied bandwidth of 2.8 kHz for HF data emissions.

“More than 700 comments have been filed thus far, which is a large number indicating that the issue of data communications is an important one in the Amateur Radio Service,” the ARRL commented. “It is also gratifying that the majority of the filed comments are supportive of the proposals in the *Petition*.” Imlay said the League also would file reply comments — ie, comments on filed comments — on its petition by the January 7, 2014, deadline, “dealing specifically with the arguments of substance contained in opposing comments.”

The ARRL’s comments to the FCC echo the points it made in a [briefing memorandum](#) made public in mid-December. The memo attempted to clarify just what it is — and is *not* — asking the FCC to do. The League said some comments filed in opposition to its petition “are premised on certain recurring misconceptions or errors” that, the ARRL allowed, were “understandable” given that the rules governing Amateur Radio MF and HF emissions “are not entirely straightforward or intuitive.”

In general, the ARRL said, the petition would have no effect on HF subbands where phone and image emissions are now allowed. “The petition would not permit digital voice transmissions in the data and RTTY subbands, because digital voice is defined in the Commission’s rules as voice (ie, phone), *not* data,” the ARRL stressed in its comments. The petition would have no effect on CW operation in the HF bands either, and restrictions on automatically controlled digital stations would remain unchanged as well.

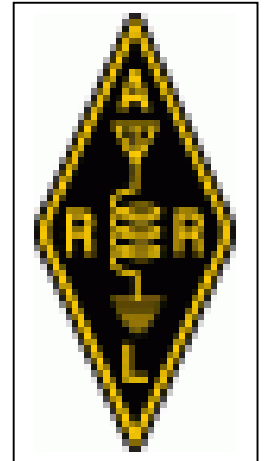
“It is hoped that those who have filed comments in this proceeding or who anticipate doing so will review the above summary of what the *Petition* in this proceeding does and does not propose, and that they will find it helpful in evaluating the proposal for themselves, unhindered by any misconceptions about the existing rules or the proposed changes,” the ARRL said in its comments.

The ARRL comments also took pains to address the proposed 2.8 kHz maximum bandwidth for HF data emissions. “Some comments say that bandwidths greater than 2.8 kilohertz for data emissions should be permitted in order to permit a wider array of data emissions now and in the future,” the ARRL said. “Others argue that 2.8 kHz is too wide, potentially allowing usurpation of the band to the detriment of CW and other narrow-bandwidth emissions.”

The recommended 2.8 kHz maximum, the ARRL said, was an attempt to balance two competing objectives — facilitating the use of current and future data emissions and protecting against a situation where a few data stations take over a band.

“Some bandwidth limit is necessary, if the outdated symbol rate limit is eliminated, as it should be,” the League argued, adding that it would be “undesirable” to permit an environment where “a few data stations using large swaths of spectrum could operate to the detriment of other modes in the very narrow HF amateur allocations.” Nor would it be possible, the League said, to drop the maximum HF data emission bandwidth much below 2.8 kHz without prohibiting permitted data modes already in use.

The League’s petition now tops the FCC’s [“Most Active Proceedings”](#) list. As of the December 23 comment deadline, more than 850 comments had been filed.



ARRL-Sponsored Medium-Frequency Experiment Continues as Hams Hope for New Band

01/03/2014

The ARRL-sponsored medium-frequency experiment, operating as WD2XSH, continues apace in an effort to demonstrate the viability of 472 to 479 kHz as a secondary Amateur Radio allocation. At the same time, the FCC has been silent regarding the ARRL’s November 2012 [Petition for Rulemaking](#) that asked the



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Commission to make this segment of the spectrum available to radio amateurs in the US. Delegates to the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference [approved](#) a 7 kHz-wide secondary allocation between 472 and 479 kHz for the Amateur Radio Service, with a power limit of 5 W EIRP (or 1 W EIRP, depending on location). The FCC has indicated that it will address the issue within the context of its *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* in [ET Docket No. 12-338](#), to formally reflect the *Final Acts* of WRC 2007 in its rules. In his quarterly WD2XSH update, Experiment Coordinator Fritz Raab, W1FR, reported that 514 contacts — 10 in the last quarter — have been logged among those taking part in the experiment across the US.

“As usual, activity increased as conditions improved during the fall. Much of the recent activity has involved [WSPR-15](#),” Raab reported. “Reception over significant distances (eg, Europe, Alaska) has been reported. Much of the activity is being undertaken by a few new experimental licensees.” Raab noted that WD2XSH participant Brian Justin, WA1ZMS, transmitted Fessenden [commemorative broadcasts](#) on AM via his own experimental license, WG2XFQ, during the December holidays.

In the US, the 472-479 kHz band is part of the larger 435-495 kHz segment that is allocated on a primary basis to the Maritime Mobile Service (federal and non-federal users), and on a secondary basis for federal government aeronautical radionavigation. The ARRL stated in its *Petition* that it is unaware of any domestic assignments that might conflict with the allocation of 472 to 479 kHz to the Amateur Radio Service, and there is almost no power line carrier (PLC) operation in this band segment. The FCC in 2003 cited the potential for interference to utility-operated PLC systems when it turned down an ARRL petition seeking an LF “sliver band” at 135.7 to 137.8 kHz.

The WD2XSH experiment involves more than three dozen stations and includes all geographic areas of the US, including Alaska and Hawaii. Most of the stations are in the eastern half of the US. Raab has reported no interference issues during the WD2XSH experiment, begun in 2006 and initially using spectrum in the vicinity of 500 kHz. The experiment is scheduled to continue until the current license expires on August 1, 2015. Seventeen US experimental stations not affiliated with the ARRL experiment and a handful of Part 15 stations are active in the vicinity of 500 kHz. A dozen so-called “heritage stations” in the US operate there as well.

As Raab noted in his report, at least a dozen countries already have approved Amateur Radio operation in the 630 meter band — 472 to 479 kHz. They are Germany, Greece, Malta, Monaco, Norway, the Philippines, Czech Republic, New Zealand, Australia, Switzerland, Finland, Spain, and France.

Spanish Radio Amateurs Given Access to 60 Meter Frequencies Through June

01/02/2014

Unión de Radioaficionados Españoles ([URE](#)) General Secretary Salvador Bernal, EA7SB, [reports](#) that Spain’s telecommunications regulatory agency has authorized the use of several frequencies in the 5 MHz (60 meter) band from January 1 through June 30, 2014. The six authorized center frequencies are 5268, 5295, 5313, 5382, 5430, and 5439 kHz, with a power of 100 W PEP and a maximum bandwidth of 3 kHz.

“Congratulations on this excellent step forward,” ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, told Bernal.

Center channels authorized for US radio amateurs differ. They are 5332, 5335.5, 5348, 5373, and 5405 kHz.

The URE said that while the authorization does not specify which sideband amateurs should use, URE is recommending that hams in Spain use USB on 60 meters, the mode most countries authorizing operation on 60 meters use. Hams in Spain may also operate on CW on 60 meters.

Looks like all US – Spain 60M contacts are going to be split operations – like MARS / Armed Forces Day contacts – de Ed.