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K6MEP KEYER -- The VCARC Journal

The Ventura County Amateur Radio Club, K6MEP, will hold its annual DecemberFest Dinner Meeting on Friday the 13th of December at Brendan's Irish Pub & Restaurant at 1755 E Daily Dr, Camarillo, CA 93010.

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). Board Meeting precedes the General Meeting.

First Class Mail

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

Ventura County Amateur Radio Club 2013 Officers and Chairs

President	Joe Krigbaum	K6NE	(805) 642-2337
Vice-President	John Castorina	WB6AZP	
Secretary	Rob Byl	KD6UDA	
Treasurer	Jose Vasquez	N6VUY	(805) 651-9899
Board Member	Stewart Stone	KG6BOV	(805) 488-7388
Board Member	Rod Austin	KA6GSU	(805) 983-7141
Board Member	Mark Ortega	KI6YLH	
Photographer	Stewart Stone	KG6BOV	(805) 488-7388
Facilities Mgr.	Joe Krigbaum	K6NE	(805) 642-2337
Refreshments			
ARRL Liaison	Chris Dimond	KJ6QOP	
Editor/ Publisher	Stewart Stone	KG6BOV	(805) 488-7388
Prize Chairman	VACANT - An Opportunity to serve your club		
PR chairman	Dana Wentling	KG6WXE	
Awards Mgr.	VACANT - An Opportunity to serve your club		
Programs Chair	Stewart Stone	KG6BOV	(805) 488-7388
Webmaster	Joe Krigbaum	K6NE	(805) 642-2337
New Members	VACANT - An Opportunity to serve your club		
QSL Manager	Jose Vasquez	N6VUY	
License trustee	Joe Krigbaum	K6NE	(805) 642-2337
Historian	VACANT - An Opportunity to serve your club		
Elmer Coordinator	VACANT - An Opportunity to serve your club		

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The **KEYER** is published monthly by K6MEP, the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club, Inc. as a means of providing club members the minutes from K6MEP's monthly general membership meetings, the monthly board of directors meetings, a calendar of events and articles of interest on amateur radio.

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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:

Get ready for Brendans Irish Pub, 1755 Daily Drive, Camarillo (383-4100), for our December 13th party, beginning around 6 PM. I will request that our reservation be increased to 30, so use your judgment as to how many guests to bring with you.

Through the generosity of former Ham Charles Wilson of Oxnard, the Club has received a donation of a nice looking CW key, switches, ICs & misc. parts, and a Heathkit DX-100 AM/CW transmitter, see photo. WB6AZP is in possession of the DX-100 to evaluate it, time permitting. A donation to the Club would be appreciated for the CW key; other parts mostly free.

The Henry 2K-d amp appears fully operational with 2 new tubes, and is being considered by KE6RQQ.

See you all at Brendans Irish Pub Friday 12/13!

Joe Krigbaum K6NE
President, VCARC
(pic on pg 15)

Secretary's Column and Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Amateur Radio Club Inc. Club Meeting Meeting Date : November 8 2014

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

MEETING ADDRESS : Ventura Port District Building 1603 Anchors Way, Ventura

ATTENDANCE : Listed on Roll Check-In Sheet

CALL TO ORDER

Established quorum (25% of Voting Members 19/4=5)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING MINUTES

Open meeting with Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions.

Joe reports for Treasurer,

Secretary reports on membership, current paid is 20 , and introduces business calendar (tax filing, nonprofit filing, etc.)

Call for approval of minutes. Quorum to approve the minutes, unanimous show of hands.

(cont pg 15)

Selected December 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.

-
- 11/30/2013 | Boorman House Christmas Special Nov 30-Dec 7, 0711Z-0711Z, KB9WQF**, Mauston, WI. Juneau County Radio Amateur Club. 14.270 14.054 7.240. QSL. The Boorman house was built in 1877 and is owned by the Juneau County Historical Society. This Special event station is operated in conjunction with their Christmas program. We will be operating 1300 to 1700 local time from the second floor. kc9ivj@gmail.com
- 11/30/2013 | Radio on the Square Nov 30-Dec 1, 1400Z-2000Z, K4VRC**, Lady Lake, FL. The Villages Amateur Radio Club. 14.266 14.066 7.255 7.033; PSK-31 14.072 7.0360. Certificate. The TVARC Radio on the Square (ROS) event is held each year from 9 am to 3 pm at the Sumter Landing Town Square on the Saturday and Sunday after Thanksgiving. This is a great public education event about Ham radio. We send Radio Grams to family members around the world and sign up a dozen or more students for our January License Class every year. www.k4vrc.com
- 11/30/2013 | The First Pilgrim Landing at Plymouth Nov 30-Dec 1, 1300Z-1900Z, WA1NPO**, Plymouth, MA. Whitman Amateur Radio Club. 18.160 14.260 7.240 3.860 EchoLink: WA1NPO-R, IRLP:8691. Certificate & QSL. Whitman ARC. Times are daily. www.wa1npo.org
- 12/05/2013 | Flight 19 Memorial Dec 5, 0900Z-1600Z, W4BUG**, Pompano Beach, FL. Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association. 14.325. QSL.. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flight_19 . w4bug.org
- 12/06/2013 | SKYWARN Recognition Day Dec 6-Dec 7, 2300Z-2300Z, WX9LOT**, Romeoville, IL. National Weather Service Amateur Radio Club. 146.520 14.332 7.226 3.870. QSL. National Weather Service Amateur Radio Club. www.crh.noaa.gov/lot
- 12/07/2013 | Bethlehem Christmas Special Event Dec 7-Dec 8, 1500Z-2000Z, WR4BC**, Bethlehem, GA. Barrow Amateur Radio Club. 3.875 7.265 14.265 28.465. QSL. Barrow Amateur Radio Club. 4nd Annual Bethlehem Christmas Special Event - The Barrow Amateur Radio Club will operate WR4BC from Bethlehem, Georgia. wr4bc@yahoo.com or www.barrowhamradio.org
- 12/07/2013 | Cambridge Amateur Radio Association's 100th Birthday Celebration Dec 7, 1300Z-2100Z, W8VP**, Cambridge, OH. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association. 14.260 7.235. Certificate & QSL. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association. 100th Birthday Celebration of Cambridge Amateur Radio Association Founded December 4, 1913. 12th and final Special Event in CARA's year-long 100th Birthday Celebration. QSL. Certificate available for anyone who works ALL 12 of CARA's monthly Special Events of 2013 www.w8vp.org
- 12/07/2013 | Grand Coulee Dam Special Event Dec 7-Dec 9, 0000Z-0000Z, W7ORC**, Okanogan, WA. Okanogan County Amateur Radio Club. 14.270 7.260 3.860; PSK31 14.070 7.035 3.580. Certificate. Okanogan County Amateur Radio Club. Free E-certificate via e-mail in pdf format. www.w7orc.com
- 12/07/2013 | Pearl Harbor Dec 7-Dec 8, 1000Z-1630Z, N4WIS**, Virginia Beach, VA. USS Wisconsin Radio Club. 14.264 7.264. QSL. N4WIS, USS Wisconsin Radio Club. www.n4wis.org/N4WIS/Events.html
- 12/07/2013 | Pearl Harbor Commemoration Dec 7-Dec 8, 1300Z-2200Z, W2W**, Baltimore, MD. National Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club. 14.241 14.041 7.241 7.041. Certificate & QSL. W2W – Special Event Station. Times are daily.
- 12/07/2013 | Santa Net Dec 7, 2100Z-2330Z, W2HO**, Newburgh, NY. Orange County Amateur Radio Club. 7.190 3.920 146.94(-) repeater, PL 88.5. QSL. Orange County Amateur Radio Club. Through special arrangements with Santa's Workshop at the North Pole, Santa makes his annual special trip to OCARC and Newburgh for Santa Net. Santa will be on the air to speak with all good boys and girls available with any ham. The event is held AT Adams Fairacre Farm's Newburgh, NY location; any children in the store may speak with Santa through handheld. Everyone speaking with Santa will receive a special QSL card, mailed to the address of the call sign making contact, immediately after the event. www.ocarc-ny.org
- 12/07/2013 | Santa's Block Party Remembering Pearl Harbor Dec 7, 1600Z-2000Z, W5BMC**, Morgan City, LA. Bayouland Emergency Amateur Radio Service. 14.275 7.250. QSL. KA5LMZ. Morgan City Main Street businesses conducting their yearly Christmas on the riverfront and honoring the memory of Pearl Harbor and all armed forces.
- 12/07/2013 | Uniontown Amateur Radio Club, 80th Anniversary Celebration Dec 7-Dec 8, 1600Z-0100Z, W3PIE**, Uniontown, PA. Uniontown Amateur Radio Club Inc. 28.440 14.245 7.225 3.925. Certificate. Uniontown Amateur Radio Club, Special Event Station. Our radio club was founded on February 20, 1933 as the Radio Club of Fayette County. Our organization has changed names several times throughout our existence but have been known as Uniontown Amateur Radio Club (aka The PIE Club) since 1953. In celebration of 80 years of service, our club is running a special event station at our club house. www.w3pie.org/year80
- 12/10/2013 | Rudolph Country Christmas Dec 10-Dec 16, 1700Z-2359Z, W9R**, Rudolph, WI. Central Wisconsin Amateur Radio Enthusiasts. 28.420 21.320 14.260 7.210 3.950. Certificate & QSL. KB9STB. Our special event station will be on the air before and after the actual event. The Rudolph, WI, post office offers annual celebratory post cards for the event and we will provide a post card and certificate. QSL via KB9STB. QSL with SASE. kb9stb@gmail.com
- 12/13/2013 | Friday the 13th Special Event Operation Dec 13-Dec 14, 0001Z-0700Z, W1E**, Burley, WA. Burley Amateur Radio Club. 28.313 14.303 7.233. Certificate &

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QSL. W1E BARC W7JQ. Commemorating historical significance of Friday the 13th. Thursday evening and all day Friday local time. For Special QSL card only please send your QSL with SASE. For Special Certificate and QSL both send \$2, your written address, and your QSL. (or send a certificate size SASE with your QSL and \$1).

www.qrz.com/db/w7jq

12/14/2013 | Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Dec 14, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum. 14.320 7.250 SSB; 14.070 PSK31; DSTAR wide area reflectors. QSL. USS Midway Museum Radio Room.

12/14/2013 | Shore Acres Holiday Lights Dec 14-Dec 15, 0100Z-2300Z, K7CCH, Coquille, OR. Coos County Radio Club. 28.325 14.325 7.235 3.935. QSL. Coos County Radio Club, K7CCH.

12/14/2013 | Wheeling Light Fest Dec 14-Dec 15, 1010Z-1000Z, W8ZQ, Wheeling, WV. Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 7.232. Certificate. j_t_mccready@yahoo.com

12/15/2013 | Bill of Rights Day in Bakersfield Dec 15-Dec 17, 0000Z-0000Z, K6GIB, Bakersfield, CA. Bakersfield Day of Resistance. 14.268 14.285 14.295 14.345. Certificate. The Bakersfield City Council approved Bill of Rights Day in Bakersfield. December 15th! Now the city of Bakersfield will encourage all people of all ages to read, discuss, perhaps DISCOVER the importance of The Bill of Rights.

12/15/2013 | Christmas City Special Event Dec 14-Dec 15, 1400Z-2300Z, WX3MAS, Nazareth, PA. The Christmas City Amateur Radio Club. 21.365 14.265 7.270 3.850 CW and PSK31. Certificate. WX3MAS. Special Event Station WX3MAS is on the air the 15th 16th of December, from 1400Z to 2300Z, to celebrate the Holidays from the twin Christmas Cities of Nazareth and Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by the Christmas City Amateur Radio Club and the Delaware/Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, WX3MAS is QRV every year during the Holiday Season. Listen for us on or about 28.465 21.365 14.265 7.270 3.850. Depending on

conditions, we also will be operating CW and PSK 31 on 20 and 40 meters, 10 and 15 meters as well if there is good band conditions. Did you contact WX3MAS? Send a QSL and 9x12" SASE for a colorful commemorative certificate! Happy Holidays to all amateurs everywhere from WX3MAS! cjfishing@rcn.com

12/18/2013 | Christmas in Bethlehem Dec 18-Dec 24, 1500Z-2300Z, KC5OUR, Belen, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association. 28.483 21.283 14.283 7.283. QSL. Valencia County ARA. www.kc5our.com

12/21/2013 | Christmas In Bethlehem Dec 21, 1400Z-2200Z, W3C, Bethlehem, MD. Easton Amateur Radio Society. 14.255 14.055 7.255 7.055. QSL. Easton Amateur Radio Society. All QSLs will be postmarked Bethlehem.

12/28/2013 | US Claims Midway Island in 1867 Dec 28, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS MIDWAY (CV-41) Museum. SSB 14.320 7.250 SSB; PSK31 14.070; DSTAR wide area reflectors. QSL. USS MIDWAY Museum Radio Room.

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

Available Gear

(first run 9/2013)

Hallicrafter SR-160 Transceiver

Kenwood TS -120S HF Transceiver with external MFJ tuner.

Kenwood TS -430 HF Transceiver with external MFJ tuner.

Ten-Tec Century 21 Analog CW Transceiver, 70 watts,

HeathKit SB-110 VHF Transceiver 6M ssb

Heathkit HW-2036 2M Transceiver

HeathKit SB-620 Monitor

HeathKit SB-640 Monitor

Contact Stewart / KG6BOV at arrl dot net

Local pick-up



Triva for December 2013

DID YOU KNOW??

1. In 1924 radio amateurs were granted privileges in the 80/40/20/5 meter bands.
2. All spark gap transmissions were prohibited by radio amateurs in 1926.
3. 1936 the LAPD was assigned the call W6XPA for a new band in the 30mc. (MHZ) to 40mc. (MHZ) with a 100 watt mobiles. (not sure if this was AM or FM mode)

de Dana / KG6WXE

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

12/04/2013 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

12/07/2013 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

12/07/2013 Time: 10:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Sponsor: ARES LAX VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: James W. Laage

(818) 368-8710 Call before 6PM Email: cllaage@verizon.net Location: Valley Presbyterian Hospital Health Education Center 15107 Vanowen St Van Nuys CA 91405-4542

12/07/2013 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

12/08/2013 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

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

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

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Sheriff's E County Station, Community Room 2101 E Olsen Rd Thousand Oaks CA 91360-6861 Betw 23 Hwy & Reagan Library

12/14/2013 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Sponsor: South Bay ARC VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Joseph M. Lanphen (310) 328-0817 Email: janphen@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

12/28/2013 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

01/04/2014 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

1/25/2014 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

2/01/2014 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

2/05/2013 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

2/08/2013 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: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Sponsor: South Bay ARC VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#) Contact: Joseph M. Lanphen (310) 328-0817 Email: janphen@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

2/09/2013 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

2/22/2013 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

New Santa Barbara Packet Node

The Santa Barbara area now has a high level packet node packet node on 145.650 It is on La Cumbre Peak, and was installed so Ventura and Santa Barbara counties could have better communications.

call: K6TZ-9 Node Name: SBNOD2

This gives Ventura County a link to that area.

I applaud their efforts, and want to thank all of the people that made it possible. A special thanks to the Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club, Bill W1UUQ, and Paul WD6EBY.

Depending on where you are, you may reach it directly, or through one of our nodes.

This is a good step in our ever expanding packet network.

We will have more announcements in the near future, so warm up those TNCs.

73
Rob
W6RH

Upcoming HamFests & Conventions

Superstition ARC Superfest

Start Date: 12/07/2013 **End Date:** 12/07/2013 **Location:** Schnepf Farms 24810 South Rittenhouse Road Queen Creek, AZ 85142 **Sponsor:** Superstition Amateur Radio Club **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Website:** <http://www.SuperstitionSuperfest.com> **Talk-In:** 147.120+ (PL 162.2) **Public Contact:** Douglas Mitchell , W7ADD 111 South Willow Creek Road Chandler, AZ 85225 Phone: 480-540-4110 **Email:** douglasw7add@gmail.com

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.

Re-Established Laguna Peak System From WD6EBY

Over this past weekend I was able to install the new radio package on Laguna Peak. There is still a little more to be done. I have listed below the current and near future capabilities;

- 1) 445.640 MHz Repeater 141.3 PL Normally Tied together - UP
- 2) 147.060 MHz Repeater 127.3 PL Normally Tied together - UP
- 3) 420 MHz Duplex Link to Camarillo 445.60/141.3 Repeater - Comp Dec 15
- 4) 145.650 MHz Packet Station - UP
- 5) 146.xxx MHz Remote Base Radio - UP
- 6) 121.5/406 ELT/EPIRB Emergency Receiver - Comp Jan 2014
- 7) 162 Marine AIS Collision Avoidance Receiver - Comp Jan 2014
- 8) 462.625 MHz GMRS Repeater 156.7 PL - Comp Dec 15

All these systems are open to any licensed Amateur Radio Operator or Licensed GMRS Operator as the case may be. Some initial tests; UHF HT Santa Barbara to Venture along Rincon - 95% coverage. Have fun and let me know how it performs. Enjoy. Paul Strauss WD6EBY

K6MEP Keyer December 2013

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

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

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. 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 for the use of this repeater for our net”

“73, This is _____.”

K6MEP CALENDAR

December 2013

- 7: NWS Skywarn Recognition Day at NWS on Elevar in Oxnard contact Rick KQ6NO kq6no@arrl.net
- 13: Annual Decemberfest Dinner Meeting 6:30 PM at Brenden’s Irish Pub 1755 E Daily Dr, Camarillo, CA 93010
- 14: **Camarillo Christmas Parade** – ARES Support Contact Ted K16PTX ki6ptx@arrl.net
- 24-25: **Christmas Eve / Day** – Watch out for renegade Reindeer
- 31: **New Year’s Eve – Straight Key Night**

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**

*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 146.385Mhz (+) PL 127.3.

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

Area 1 Simi Valley – K6ERN 146.805Mhz (-) PL 100.0

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

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

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

Area 5 Ojai Valley – N6FL 145.400Mhz (-) No PL

Area 6 Ventura City – N6VUY 147.975Mhz (-) 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 146.385Mhz (+) 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

K6JLW 146.655 Mhz (-) PL 131.8 Oxnard

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 December 2013

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 (-) / 127.3 PL (WB6YQN repeater)**

Santa Barbara South County ARES net 7:30 p.m. on **146.79 (-) 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 **7.25 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.

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 **7.25 Mhz** MTWThF 8:30 AM

Saturday

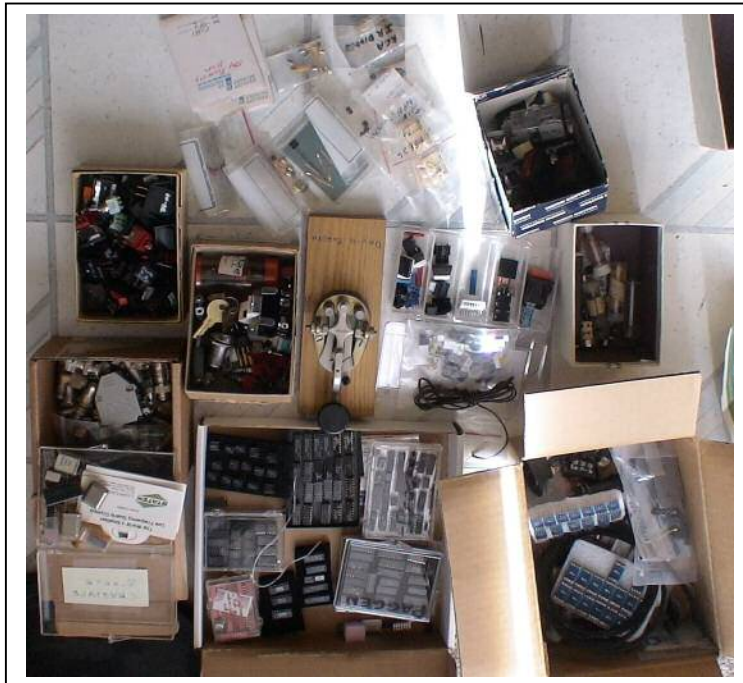
Quad Squad Net 1300 / 1:00 PM **21.365 Mhz USB**

Military Radio Collector Net 2030 / 8:30PM **3885 KHz AM**

Sunday

Newbie Net 7:00-7:30 pm Sundays; Bozo Repeater **147.885 Mhz, neg. offset, PL127.3**

Prez Sez (cont from pg 2)



Secretary's Column (cont from pg 2)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Joe K6NE

OLD BUSINESS

December club Christmas dinner at Brendan's restaurant in Camarillo Dec. 13th.

Update on Henry 2K RF amplifier, John WB6AZP has tested and cleaned the unit, but found the 3-500Z tubes were not in good condition: one defective, the other about 80%. Purchase of 2 new tubes was authorized and the new tubes arrived at the meeting today purchased at RF Parts. Using substitute tubes the output power was about 550 Watts. A prospective buyer is available, once the unit is tested with the new tubes and checked for operation.

John WA2OOB worked on the TS-450, and found problems in the AGC, and some intermittent circuit problem, due to some damage in the voltage protection circuit at the antenna terminal. Possibly the unit will be ready in December, John has a prospective buyer in Oceanside, and Stewart is also interested in trading a TS-430 for the radio which might satisfy the other party.

Joe extends his thanks for the work John has done.

NEW BUSINESS

Call for nominations for club officers.

Officer Election : Votes are placed for the 2014 Officers nominated in October : the current Board Members . No other nominations have been placed.

K6MEP Keyer December 2013

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

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

Motion by Lloyd KE6BBP to approve the current Officers by acclamation, seconded by Steve WA1ESF. The vote by acclamation was a unanimous show of hand.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

COMMENTS

Notes

Roll Call: 16 Total attendance : 16 Guests:

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEETING ADDRESS : Ventura Port District meeting room 1603 Anchors Way, Ventura

OFFICER ATTENDEES

CALL TO ORDER

Joe calls brief meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Joe announced the election for officers tonight.

Treasurer is out, and Joe will cover the duties for the rest of the year.

Bob KD6UDA has published a copy of a business calendar. Part of documenting club operations. This can be extended to a procedure manual, and list of officer duties as suggested.

Insurance is renewed for 2014 from Hays.

No further board issues, meeting adjourned.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Treasurer's report in general meeting.

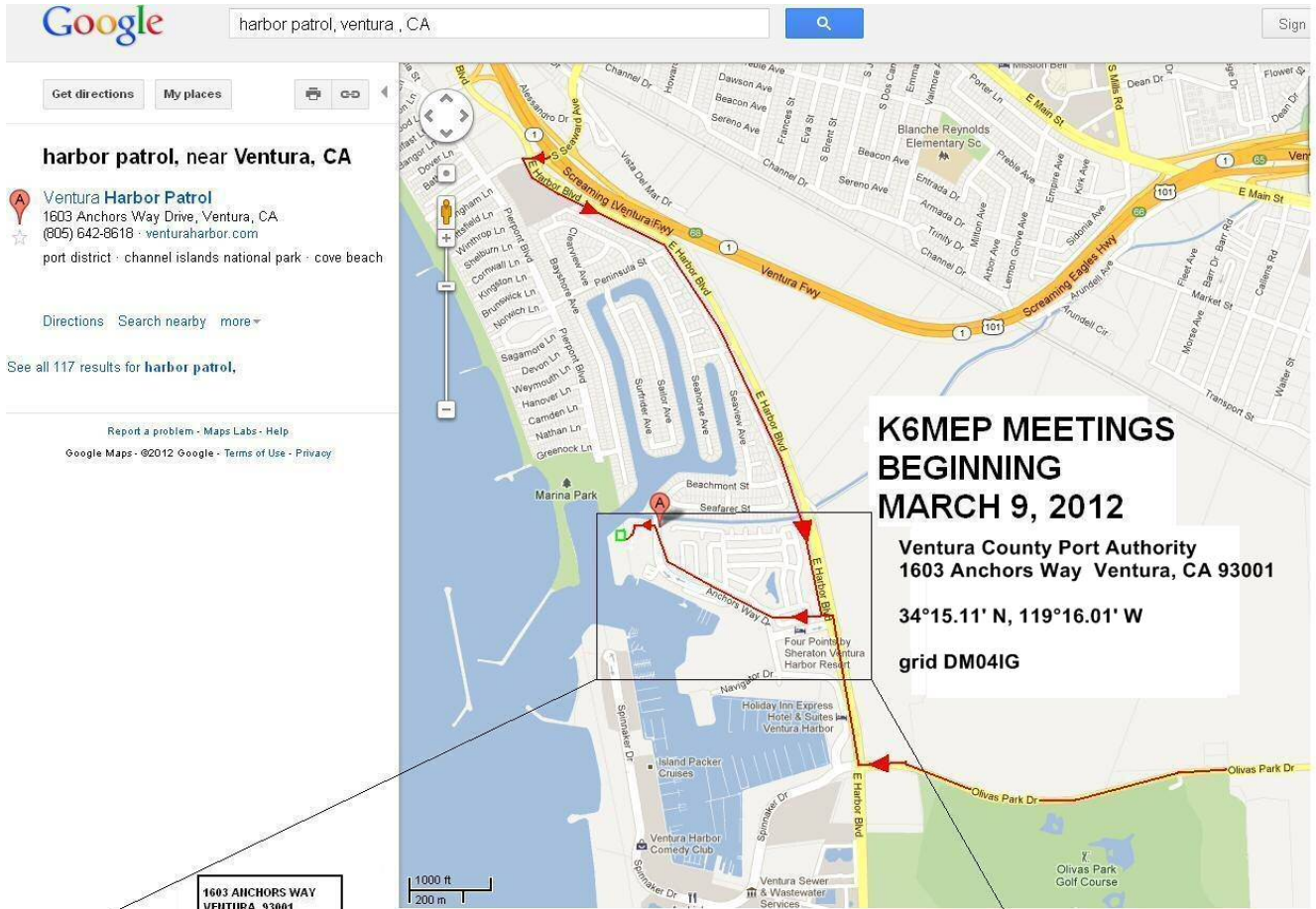
OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

COMMENTS

ADJOURN

Board meeting adjourned and proceed to General meeting.



MARS Operators Complete “Exemplary” Simulated Disaster Response Exercise

11/06/2013

Radio amateurs in the Military Auxiliary Radio System ([MARS](#)) concluded an unprecedented 48-hour marathon exercise November 5 that linked the continental US, Hawaii, Japan, Europe, and Canada during a simulated breakdown of normal communication systems, including the Internet. For the first time in a nationwide test, [W1AW](#) staffers activated the Maxim Memorial Station Army MARS station AAN1ARL at ARRL Headquarters to facilitate input from the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) community.

“Well done by all,” messaged Army MARS Chief Stephen Klinefelter, when the test was concluded. The exercise involved the transmission of hundreds of encrypted messages via HF radio. The traffic carried “situational awareness” information needed by a joint Department of Defense entity responsible for responding to a national crisis situation. Many operators, net control and relay station members in particular, put in long hours maintaining the seamless connection.

Joining Army MARS in providing backup communication for a US Department of Defense entity responsible for homeland security were members of the Navy-Marine Corps and Air Force MARS branches. Elements of the National Guard, FEMA, the Transportation Security Administration, and selected state authorities also participated.

During the final day of the exercise, MARS members also acted on a real-world request from DoD to be prepared to monitor International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) emergency frequencies as Typhoon Haiyan appeared poised to develop into a category 5 storm and strike the Philippines.

MARS members were given strict time limits for providing the requested information in order to receive credit for completing their message handling. These statistics will be used to evaluate how quickly and efficiently the multi-branched network might be able to handle information requests and responses under conditions mirroring an actual catastrophe. Poor propagation, particularly in the overnight hours, added a realistic touch.

A formal after-action report from Army MARS Program Officer Paul English, WD8DBY, and Operations Chief David McGinnis, K7UXO, is still in the works, but Klinefelter saluted the overall performance.

“You have just completed the most complex and longest MARS communications exercise in recent history,” he said. “I want to thank each of you for participating and devoting long hours to make this exercise a success. The dedicated efforts to maintain effective nationwide contingency communications support demonstrated by all participants were exemplary.”



MARS 48 Hour Test Deemed “Unequivocal Success”

11/19/2013

Military Auxiliary Radio System ([MARS](#)) Army MARS Chief Stephen Klinefelter has declared the multifaceted national communication exercise early this month “an unequivocal success,” and he thanked all three MARS branches and the other participating military units and civilian entities for their “hard work, long hours, and dedication to the mission.”

The MARS station at ARRL’s Maxim Memorial Station, AAN1ARL, took part in the November 3-5 exercise, which, Klinefelter, said was “designed to test and stress our networks and our members’ ability to process and respond to a variety of message traffic.”

In the drill scenario, a catastrophe had wiped out normal telephone and Internet links. Communication was by voice and digital HF radio, the bulk encrypted as it would be in a hostile contingency. From start to finish, nets throughout 48 states operated without a break, with military MARS stations overseas also connected — more than 5500 hours of operation by Army MARS participants alone.

Eastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) handled exercise traffic as well. US Army MARS representatives met with ARRL staff at League Headquarters in early October to discuss ways the two organizations might collaborate in emergency response activities.

And Again There Were Five: FCC Back to Full Complement

10/30/2013

The [Federal Communications Commission](#) once again has its full complement of five commissioners. On Tuesday, the US Senate confirmed the White House nomination of venture capitalist and industry insider Thomas Wheeler, a Democrat, to be FCC chairman. He succeeds former FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski, who stepped down in June. The Senate also confirmed Michael O’Rielly as a commissioner to one of the two Republican seats on the Commission. O’Rielly, a New Yorker who is on the staff of Texas Republican Senator John Cornyn, will fill the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2014, that had been held by Robert M. McDowell, who resigned in May. Acting FCC Chairwoman Mignon L. Clyburn, who now will return to her seat as a commissioner, congratulated Wheeler and O’Rielly on their confirmations.



“Tom brings a tremendous depth of experience, talent, and knowledge that will serve him well as the leader of this critically important agency,” Clyburn said in a statement. “I have no doubt that he will be an outstanding FCC Chairman. With his extensive public policy expertise and understanding of the communications landscape, Michael will certainly be an invaluable asset to the Commission.”

Wheeler also served as a wireless and cable industry lobbyist. He was president of the National Cable Television association from 1979 until 1984.

Senate politics had held the FCC to just three members since last spring. Texas Republican Senator Ted Cruz had blocked Wheeler’s nomination vote over concerns that the FCC might adopt new political TV advertising disclosure rules. Cruz says that Wheeler told him that the issue was not a priority.

ARRL Files “Symbol Rate” Petition with FCC

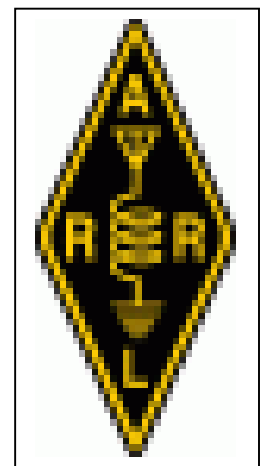
11/19/2013

The ARRL has asked the FCC to delete the symbol rate limit in §97.307(f) of its Amateur Service rules, replacing it with a maximum bandwidth for data emissions of 2.8 kHz on amateur frequencies below 29.7 MHz. The ARRL Board of Directors adopted the policy underlying the petition initiative at its July 2013 meeting. The [petition](#) was filed November 15.

“The changes proposed would, in the aggregate, relieve the Amateur Service of outdated, 1980s-era restrictions that presently hamper or preclude Amateur Radio experimentation with modern high frequency (HF) and other data transmission protocols,” the League’s petition asserted. “The proposed rule changes would also permit greater flexibility in the choice of data emissions.” Symbol rate represents the number of times per second that a change of state occurs, not to be confused with data (or bit) rate.

Current FCC rules limit digital data emissions below 28 MHz to 300 baud, and between 28.0 and 28.3 MHz to 1200 baud. “Transmission protocols are available and in active use in other radio services in which the symbol rate exceeds the present limitations set forth in §97.307(f) of the Commission’s Rules, but the necessary bandwidths of those protocols are within the bandwidth of a typical HF single sideband channel (3 kHz),” the ARRL’s petition pointed out.

The League said that while bandwidth limitations are reasonable, the symbol rate “speed limit” reflective of 1980s technology, prohibits radio amateurs today from utilizing state-of-the-art technology. Present symbol rate limits on HF



K6MEP Keyer December 2013

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

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

“actually encourage spectrum *inefficiency*,” the League argues, “in that they allow data transmissions of unlimited bandwidth as long as the symbol rate is sufficiently slow.” The League said eliminating symbol rate limits on data emissions and substituting a “reasonable maximum authorized bandwidth” would permit hams to use all HF data-transmission protocols now legal in the Amateur Service as well as other currently available protocols that fall within the authorized bandwidth but are off limits to amateurs.

The League said it’s been more than three decades — when the Commission okayed the use of ASCII on HF — since the FCC has evaluated symbol rate restrictions on radio amateurs as a regulatory matter. “The symbol rate restrictions were created to suit digital modes that are no longer in favor,” the ARRL noted in its petition. Modern digital emissions “are capable of much more accurate and reliable transmissions at greater speeds with much less bandwidth than in 1980.”

As an example, the League pointed to PACTOR 3, which is permitted under current rules, and PACTOR 4, which is not. Despite PACTOR 4’s greater throughput, both protocols can operate within the bandwidth of a typical SSB transmission.

“If the symbol rate is allowed to increase as technology develops and the Amateur Service utilizes new data emission types, the efficiency of amateur data communications will increase,” the ARRL concluded.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, has emphasized that there is no broader plan on the League’s part to seek regulation by bandwidth.

The FCC has not yet assigned an RM number and put the League’s petition on public notice for comments, and there is no way to file comments until that happens.

Plans Announced to Update the Communications Act of 1934

12/04/2013

The US House Communications and Technology Subcommittee has [announced](#) plans for a multi-year effort to examine and update the Communications Act of 1934, the overarching law under which the FCC functions. The subcommittee, part of the US House Energy and Commerce Committee, is chaired by Oregon Republican Greg Walden, W7EQI. Walden and Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Fred Upton of Michigan made the announcement December 3.

“Today we are launching a multi-year effort to examine our nation’s communications laws and update them for the Internet era,” Upton said in a news release. “The United States has been the global leader in innovation and growth of the Internet, but unfortunately, our communications laws have failed to keep pace.”

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, noted that the most recent significant update of the Communications Act was in 1996. “Under the leadership of Greg Walden, the subcommittee and its staff are well equipped to take up the challenge,” Sumner said. “The ARRL will be monitoring the work closely as it goes forward next year and beyond.”

The plan was made public via [Google Hangout](#), where the committee leaders were joined by former FCC Commissioner Robert McDowell, who said he was “delighted” to learn of the update plans. Upton explained that the process, to start in 2014, will involve a series of white papers and hearings focusing on what might be done “to improve the laws surrounding the communications marketplace as well as a robust conversation utilizing all platforms of digital media.” He suggested a bill would be ready by 2015.

Walden said, “A lot has happened since the last update” and that the Communications Act is “now painfully out of date.” He pointed out that the Act, drafted during the Great Depression, was last updated “when 56 kilobits per second via dial-up modem was state of the art.”

Upton said, “We must ensure that our laws make sense for today but are also ready for the innovations of tomorrow.”

Walden said he wants to open the discussion to input from everyone. Interested parties may follow the plan’s progress via [Twitter](#). “It’s important for people to have an opportunity to weigh in,” he said. “This is really a public process to get better public policy.”

A Ham's Night Before Christmas

We reprise yet another corruption of Clement Clarke Moore's classic Christmas tale, this time distorted by Gary Pearce KN4AQ, and the [Raleigh Amateur Radio Society](#), Raleigh, North Carolina, December 2, 1996. [Read by Gary Pearce](#).

'Twas the night before Christmas,
And all through 2 meters,
Not a signal was keying up
Any repeaters.

The antennas reached up
From the tower, quite high,
To catch the weak signals
That bounced from the sky.

The children, Tech-Pluses,
Took their H-Ts to bed,
And dreamed of the day
They'd be Extras instead.

Mom put on her headphones,
I plugged in the key,
And we tuned 40 meters
For that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged
By a signal with power.
It smoked a small diode,
And, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones,
And with all she could muster
Logged a spot of the signal
On the DX *PacketCluster*,

While I ran to the window
And peered up at the sky,
To see what could generate
RF that high.

It was way in the distance,
But the moon made it gleam.
A flying sleigh, with an
Eight-element beam,

And a little old driver
Who looked slightly mean.
So I thought for a moment,
That it might be Wayne Green.

But no, it was Santa,
The Santa of Hams.
On a mission, this Christmas,
To clean up the bands.

He circled the tower,
Then stopped in his track,
And he slid down the coax
Right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid
Behind stacks of CQ,
This Santa of hamming
Knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk
Of paper and parts,
And filled out all my late QSLs
For a start.

He ran copper braid,
Took a steel rod and pounded
It into the earth, till
The station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings,
Resoldered connections,
Cranked down modulation,
Installed lightning protection.

He neutralized tubes in my linear amp.
(Never worked right before;
Now it works like a champ).

A new, low-pass filter
Cleaned up the TV.
He corrected the settings
In my TNC.

He repaired the computer
That would not compute,
And he backed up the hard drive
And got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep
In the bag that he brought,
And he pulled out a big box.
A new rig? I thought!

A new Kenwood? An Icom?
A Yaesu, for me?!
(If he thought I'd been bad, it might be
QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate Station!
How could I deserve this?

Could it be all those hours
that I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up
And in record time, quickly
Worked 100 countries,
All down on 160.

I should have been happy,
It was my call he sent.
But the cards and the postage
Will cost two month's rent!

He made final adjustments,
And left a card by the key:
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.
73."

Then he grabbed his H-T,
Looked me straight in the eye,
Punched a code on the pad,
And was gone with no good-bye.

I ran back to the station,
And the pileup was big,
But a card from St. Nick
Would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final
came over the air.
It was copied all over.
It was heard everywhere.

The Ham's Santa exclaimed
What a ham might expect,
"Merry Christmas to all,
And to all, good DX!"

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