



General Contact:
VCARA
PO Box 268
Peralta, NM 87042
Website:
www.kc5our.com

Upcoming Events:

- VCARA Club Meeting
March 22, 2011
April 26, 2011
7:00PM Local Time
Belen EOC at 6th and
Becker Ave

All parties interesting
Amateur Radio are
Welcome to Attend.
- Coffee Klatch
There will be a Coffee
Klatch on the following
dates, at 2:00 PM. The
location is the Village Inn
in Los Lunas at the
corner of Main Street and
Los Lentos Road

Wed, March 23
Wed, April 6
Wed, April 20
- Wednesday Night Net
Every Wednesday at
8:00PM on the Club
Repeater

In This Issue:

- ARRL NM Section News
Page 2
- Recycle Your Old Magazines
Page 2
- Feb 22nd Meeting Minutes
Page 3
- Net Schedule
Page 3
- Coffee Klatch Schedule
Page 3

New Mexico QSO Party

Bruce Draper, AA5B
Albuquerque DX Association
via Paul Ridley, N5PR, VCARA Member

The 2010 running of the New Mexico QSO
was a huge success, and the 2011 NMQP
promises to be even better. Please help us
spread the word.

[The Albuquerque DX Association] is sponsor-
ing a new award for the highest club aggre-
gate score, and we're hoping it will get more
folks excited about operating. More activity
mean more fun for everyone.

We need your help in letting people know
about the QSO party. If you have club eMail
reflector, please post some information about
the NMQP. If you have a club news letter,

please add a short announcement about the
NMQP. Or maybe just tell a few friends. The
more, the merrier.

I've included a copy of a flier with most of the
important information about this year's NM
QSO Party. You can find more details at the
website:

<http://pages.swcp.com/~n5zgt/nmqsoparty/>

Please contact me if you have any questions
or suggestions, or if you'd like an electronic
version of the flyer.

73

Contact Bruce Draper, AA5B at
BruceAA5B@gmail.com

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention comes to Taos

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Website, <http://www.RockyMountainDivision.org>
March 2011

The 2011 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention comes to Taos, New Mexico, August 5-7.

Planning progresses for a fantastic convention! 2011 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Con-
vention will take place August 5-7 (Friday through Sunday) in gorgeous Taos, New Mexico at the
Sagebrush Inn hotel and Convention center. The theme of this year's Convention is "(Re)
Discovering the Thrill of Ham Radio."

The event's website: <http://www.2011Convention.org>

We hope to have convenient and secure online and paper registration open within a few weeks
as we finalize certain details. In the meantime, please mark your calendars and make your
plans for a relaxing yet activity-filled weekend with hundreds and hundreds of great hams from
around the Division in Taos this August.

Here is just a HINT of what is being planned: New/used ham equipment sales, major manufac-
turers and vendors (details below), outdoor tailgating, technical and non-technical forums
(ARES, DXing/Contesting, QRP, and other tracks), banquet meals with notable speakers,
homebrew challenges, W1AW/5 special event station, CW pileup contest, club/manufacture
sponsored hospitality suites, prizes galore, antenna shootout, transmitter hunts, **Cont. on Page 3**

IMPORTANT CLUB INFORMATION

Club Officers:
President: Chris Gillespie W5CSG w5csg@arrl.net
Vice President: Sean Tyler KE5LSO tylersprs@msn.com
Treasurer: Chris Gillespie W5CLG cricket87068@yahoo.com
Secretary: Leslie Wirts KE5RSG denisemarie70@msn.com
Past President: Mark Halliburton K5WMH k5wmh@arrl.net

Club Repeater: 146.700 –600 100hz Tone
Club Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM at 6th St.
and Becker Ave in Belen, inside the courthouse. Please enter
though the door behind the building.
Club Net: Every Wednesday at 8:00PM on the club Repeater



ARRL New Mexico Section News

ARRL Website, <http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/new-mexico>
February 2011

***March 27 - The Mesilla Valley Radio Club (MVRC) will be operating Special Events station K5B in conjunction with the 22nd Annual Bataan Memorial Death March Marathon held at the White Sands Missile Range from 1000Z to 2300Z. The station will operate from the MVRC clubhouse. Information about the event can be found at: <http://www.bataanmarch.com>. There will be a special K5B QSL card available for any station that requests one. A sample of it will be posted on the K5B Web page as soon as it is finalized and approved by the event's management. The K5B Web page is: <http://www.n5bl.org/bataan>. The event was an outstanding success last year. K5B will be operating on or near the following frequencies:

- Seventy-five meters: 3.893 Mhz
- Forty meters: 7.225 Mhz
- Twenty meters: 14.330 Mhz
- Fifteen meters: 21.337 Mhz

Requests for K5B QSL cards can be sent to the following address:

Special Events Station K5B
c/o Mesilla Valley Radio Club
P. O. Box 1443
Las Cruces, NM 88004-1443

***April 9 - The 2011 New Mexico QSO Party will take place from 8:00am MDT until 8:00pm MDT, and all Hams across New Mexico are invited and encouraged to participate. Operation will be on HF and 6 meters during the event period...with a particular emphasis on working hams from as many NM counties as possible. We are looking for hams in all 33 counties of New Mexico to participate, whether for a few hours or for the entire 12-hour period. New for 2011, there is a special award waiting for the club whose members submit their logs and accumulate the largest aggregate of points – see the event rules for details.

This year's event is hosted by the Albuquerque DX Association. Handsome plaques are available along with participation certificates, both suitable for hanging in your shack. Complete details, rules, prize information, and more can be found on the New Mexico QSO Party website at <http://pages.swcp.com/~n5zgt/nmqsoparty>

***April 30 – The Albuquerque ARC and the Amateur Radio Caravan Cub will host the annual Spring Tailgate. Location will be in the back parking lot of TransCore, 8600 Jefferson NE, Albuquerque, NM. TransCore is situated between Alameda and Paseo Del Norte, on the East side of Jefferson. Free tailgating & free admission. From "I can't believe I actually got up this early" to 1 PM.

***May 1, 2011 – Run for the Zoo - Information/volunteers: please contact Ed Ricco, n5li@arrl.net■

Recycle your Old Magazines

Paul Ridley, N5PR, VCARA Member

We have all read this type of an article. What to do with all the older ham radio magazines we have accumulated? Throw them away, pass them to another ham, let 'em clutter up the radio room? If you're like me you hate to throw them away. We've tried passing them on to other hams and there are always magazines laying around the club room that no one will take home. Now that you can get the whole year of issues of most magazines on CD it's hard to justify the space it takes to house year after year of QST, CQ, etc..

So, let's try another method. Most of us go to the doctor several times a year, get the oil changed in our car a few times a year, get a haircut or perm at the barber shop or hair salon. At the next club meeting there will be labels available for you to take home and place on these magazines you want to give away. Take a black marker and mark out your name and address, or

tear it off and then place on it the furnished label that says "COMPLIMENTS OF VALENCIA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB." Then, the next time you go to the doctor's office, wait at the car dealership for your oil change, or sit waiting for a new hairdo, take a couple of these magazines and you can conveniently leave them for the next patrons to read. Have you paid attention to the type of magazines that are in a doctor's office? My dermatologist must subscribe to 30 different magazines, none that I want to read. I would gladly pick up a QST, CQ or World Radio issue while waiting. Try to think of other places you go where people have to sit and wait while reading magazines, I'm sure there are others that have not been mentioned in this article.

Take home a ½ sheet of these labels and try it for awhile. Let's see if we can generate any interest or get any queries back. At the very least, it will help clear out your radio room!■



Wednesday Night Net Schedule:

- March 23 - Joyce, KD5IAI
- March 30 - James KC7YWB
- April 6 - Ralph NM5RC
- April 13 - Goose K5EMH
- April 20 - Mark K5WMH
- April 27 - Joyce KD5IAI
- May 4 - Elvira KD5ULQ
- May 11 - Paul N5PR
- May 18 - Russ KD5UJR

Coffee Klatch:

Village Inn, Los Lunas at 2:00PM, Main Street and Los Lentes Road

- Wednesday, March 23rd
- Wednesday, April 6th
- Wednesday, April 20th
- Wednesday, May 4th
- Wednesday, May 18th
- Wednesday, June 1st
- Wednesday, June 15th

Club Meeting February 22nd

Leslie, KE5RSG, VCARA Secretary

Meeting was called to order by Chris, W5CSG

Russ, KD5URJ was thanked for donating the raffle prize for the February meeting

Introductions were made around the room

Chris, W5CSG read a letter from the Belen Area Food Bank thanking the Association for all of the help and donations at the Holiday time and from the Christmas Party

Paul, N5PR talked about his suggestions for older Ham Radio Magazines. By removing the address label and affixing a "Compliments of Valencia County Amateur Radio Association.." label, and then leaving the magazines in doctors office, vehicle service centers, etc. In this way the Association may be able to generate more interest.

Paul, N5PR has all of the QSL receipts from the Special Event Station and John, KD5MHO is preparing the QSL cards.

New Business:

Paul, N5PR has poles and house brackets that were donated to the Association. Each pole is 10ft and can be combined to make a pretty de-

cent antenna mast. Paul will bring them to the next meeting for anyone who is interested in purchasing.

There are still a few cables left from Harvey's, WA6WHQ(sk) estate. There is a box in the club house, please take what you can use.

Field day was discussed. Time to start making plans

ARRL, Rocky Mountain Section convention is in Taos this year. August 6th and 7th. Look for more information coming up.

After many years of providing all of the refreshments and organizing Association Events, Charlotte is passing on the torch. She has several items at home that belong to the club. We would like to thank Charlotte for all of her great food and events over the years.

James, KC7YWB motioned for adjournment and Sean, KE5LSO seconded. Motion passed.

Program: Charlie, KF5JEZ, has over 25 years in PNM's communication department and talked about statewide communications for PNM.

Drawing was won by Ralph, NM5RC

Meeting Concluded at 7:55

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention comes to Taos

From page 1

Boy Scout radio merit badge class, midnight Wouff Hong ceremony, satellite QSO demonstrations, high speed CW copying contest, a possible high-altitude balloon launch with ham payload, a star-party under the dark skies of Taos each evening, and much more.

Activities around Taos throughout the entire weekend will be organized especially for spouses and family members, making this Convention a perfect trip for the entire family in one of The Land of Enchantment's most alluring destinations.

Numerous manufacturers will be present. The following exhibitors and vendors have committed, with new ones signing up almost weekly: Yaesu, HRO (Denver), Southwest Antennas and Accessories, RF Concepts (Alpha Amplifier), DZKit, Zia Labs, and Tac-Comm. Others who are interested include: Icom, Elecraft, Kenwood, Byonics, Hendricks QRP Kits, and more.

A Convention isn't complete without great guests and speakers. Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH, retired FCC special counsel, will attend as will Chip Margelli K7JA, notable DXpeditioner, contester and co-star of the past but still popular "CW versus text messaging" segment that aired on Jay Leno's Tonight Show. Additional guests are being lined up, and we'll announce them soon.

Additional information is posted (with more to come, especially when registration opens) on the 2011 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention website at <http://www.2011Convention.org> (easy to remember, and easy to announce on the air and at club meetings)

Mark your calendars, make plans with a friend for a great weekend of ham radio fun this August, and we'll see you there.



V _ C _ A _ R _ A

Dots 'n Dashes

KC5OUR

March 2011

Page 4

To report any errors, omissions or general letters to the editor, please contact:

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The views and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Valencia County Amateur Radio Association. The association accepts no liability for misprints or inaccurate information.■

Don't Miss the Coffee Klatch:

The next Coffee Klatch will be Wednesday March 23rd at 2:00PM. Join us at the Village Inn in Los Lunas at the corner of Main Street and Los Lentos Road.

Our April Coffee's are the 6th and 20th.



PO Box 268
Peralta, NM 87042

NEW MEXICO KIDS 2011 ROUNDUP

A HANDS-ON HAM RADIO ACTIVITY FOR KIDS

Saturday, May 21, 2011 - Drop by between 9 AM and 1 PM

What is New Mexico Kids Roundup - A hands-on Amateur Radio activity for kids under 18 to contact other Amateur Radio stations around New Mexico, the United States and the world.

Activity Goals

- Each kid contacts other stations using different radios and frequencies.
- Each kid gets individual instruction and mentoring.
- Each kid receives a participation certificate and each Cub Scout earns a badge.
- Each Boy Scout who wants to completes the Radio Merit Badge requirements of visiting a radio station and making a radio contact.

Where - 460 Barnett Road, Bosque Farms, NM. East off Main Street onto Abo Road (between the south and middle stop lights), north on Barnett to first house on west side of street. Call 869-8525 if you get lost. Activity will be outside.

All kids invited - Follow the scout practice of having a buddy or an adult with you. You do not need to be a scout to participate.

Can adults come - Sure! Adults are welcome to come and observe. But, only kids will talk on the radios.

I have a ham license. Can I participate? Can I help? - Yes!

- Inexperienced kids - come and get on the air.
- Experienced kids - come get on the air and help other kids get on the air.
- Adults - Come help the kids get on the air.
- Within your license frequency privileges, use your own call sign.

Hot dog lunch and drinks - Lunch will be provided for everybody. Early birds get donuts too.

What do I need to bring - A desire to have fun and learn a little about Amateur Radio

I have a Ham license but can't come. Can I still help? - Yes!

- Host your own New Mexico Roundup station and get a bunch of kids on the air using as many rigs and frequencies as you want, or
- Contact as many kids using as many frequencies as you can at our and other Roundup stations.

Need additional information? - Ralph Clark (NM5RC), nm5rc@msn.com, 821-7636 or Ginger Eldridge (KC5MTI), apoemge@q.com, 869-8525.

Fine print for New Mexico Kids Roundup stations:

- No overall sponsor, no points, no awards and no specified contact exchange. Not a contest. NM5RC would appreciate an after activity email from other New Mexico Kids Roundup stations.
- Suggested CQ: CQ CQ New Mexico Kids Roundup station 'callsign' 'callsign.'
- Re-contacting a Roundup station is encouraged when the kid at the mic, band or call sign changes.
- Bands: HF (except no WARC bands), VHF and UHF (repeater use OK, but be considerate and give each repeater a break after using for a reasonable period), EchoLink and IRLP.
- Remember some DX countries have third party restrictions.
- Primary objective is to have fun and let a bunch of kids experience the thrill of Amateur Radio.
- Other Roundup stations wanting Cub Scout patches, contact Ralph early to be included in order.

New Mexico QSO Party

Saturday, April 9.

8 AM to 8 PM.

HF + 6 meters, CW, phone, and digital modes.

Stations outside of NM work only NM stations.

Stations inside NM work everyone.

Scoring incentives for CW, low power, and QRP.

Categories: Single operator, multi-op, and mobile.

New this year: Club competition!

The club with the highest combined score from all its members will win a great prize.

Prizes:

Plaques for category winners.

Certificates for county winners.

Complete information is at:

<http://pages.swcp.com/~n5zgt/nmqsoparty/>

Sponsored this year by Albuquerque DX Association

