



General Contact:

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

Upcoming Events:

- VCARA Club Meeting May 24, 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.
Wednesday Night Net Every Wednesday at 8:00PM on the Club Repeater

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70-centimeter Band Still Threatened

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Website,
http://www.RockyMountainDivision.org
April, 2011

Our 70-cm band remains threatened by H.R. 607, the "Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011".

Cut to the chase, H.R. 607 in its present form requires, among other spectrum, the auctioning of 65% of our 70-centimeter band to business users within 10 years of passage.

As of this writing, H.R. 607 resides in the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, within the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and has 21 co-sponsors in the US House of Representatives.

lines until it truly is.

A sample letter opposing this legislation in its present form (specifically because it requires a significant amount of our 70-centimeter band to be auctioned) is available for all ARRL members and general hams to use in making their voices heard.

And here is an even easier approach: An ARRL member graciously volunteered his time to develop an online letter generator.

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VCARA Plans for Field Day

James, KC7YWB, VCARA Newsletter Editor

As many will agree, Field Day is one of the most popular On-The-Air Amateur events in the US and Canada.

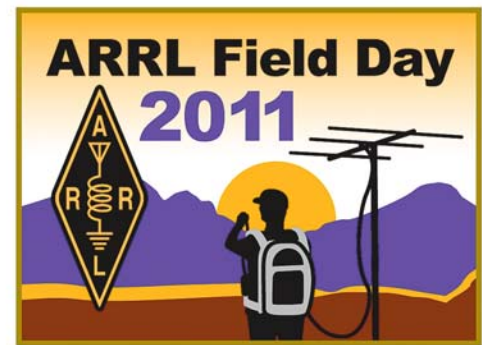
This is a time that highlights many of the aspects of Amateur Radio and our roles in the community. While some treat field day as a contest, other as a chance to practice for emergency preparedness.

The Valencia County Radio Association treats this as both and a chance for fellowship and community involvement. This June 25th and 26th VCARA will hold it's annual field day at Willie Chavez Park near River Road and Highway 47.

On June 25th VCARA will host a lunch and official kick-off of the 2011 Field Day. Lunch is available to all operators, members and visitors. The morning of June 26th, Able Information Technologies Employee's will provide breakfast for all operators who work the overnight hours of the contest, as well as any other

member, guests and visitors.

Join VCARA on Saturday, June 25th for Lunch at Willie Chavez Park in Belen. Lunch is served around 12:00.



www.arrl.org

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



### NM Kids Roundup Just Around the Corner

Ralph, NM5RC, VCARA Member

New Mexico Kids Roundup is 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.

This year the NM Kids Roudup is on Saturday, May 21st, from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. The location for our area is 460 Barnett Road, Bosque Farms. 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 505-869-8525 if you need help finding the location.

All kids and adults, licensed or not are welcome to participate and/or help. Please see the attach flyer for more information.■

### Bicycle Event Returns to Rio Grande Area

Ralph, NM5RC, VCARA Club Member

Tour of the Rio Grande Valley is returning September 18, 2011.

his popular bicycle tour ran for more than 20 years during the 1970s-1990s. Long-time public service hams may remember it. It is being revived this year by a new sponsor. It encompasses rides of 25, 50, 65, and 100 miles originating in Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. The longer rides go through Isleta and Los Lunas and south of Belen. Communications support for the event is expected to involve amateurs positioned at rest stops, with event officials, mobile along segments of the course, and possibly in support vehicles. A coordinator is needed for this event.■

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### 70-centimeter Band Still Threatened

A word of emphasis on submitting your letter: Please do NOT mail it directly to your Representative. Due to security measures in place on Capitol Hill, letters to members of Congress are not delivered until they are screened; a process which has been taking literally 6-8 weeks. Don't let your letter become ineffective due to this ridiculous delay.

Instead, everyone is asked to mail (ideally) or fax/email their completed and signed letter to ARRL's Washington representative, John Chwat, at Chwat & Co. Doing so will not only bypass the slow-as-molasses screening process, but it also provides Chwat the opportunity to hand-deliver your letter to your Representative and personally engage him/her about H.R. 607's threat to our 70-centimeter band. Chwat's contact information

is found at <http://www.arrl.org/contacting-chwat-and-co>

I encourage all members of ARRL's Rocky Mountain Division -- and all Hams who you might interact with on the air and within clubs -- to prepare your letters and mail/fax/email them to Chwat & Co not later than the conclusion of this weekend.

If you've already sent your letter, THANK YOU for leading by example in defense of our 70-centimeter band. If you've not yet sent your letter, we need you and a few minutes of your time. Don't sit idly by; You are important in this fight. Your timely response is important to keep H.R. 607, as presently written, from proceeding further in the US House.■

### WANTED: NM Ham Radio Plates

Bill, K5ZI

WANTED: New Mexico Amateur Raio License Plates, all years. Especially need 1959—1964, inclusive, plus 1976, 1977, 1983, 1984, 1986, 1987, 1989, qand 2000. Will buy or trade. Bill Johnston, K5ZI, P.O. Box 640, Organ, NM 88052-0640. Tel. 575-382-7804. e-mail: K5ZI@arrl.net.

### VCARA Member Earns Extra Class

Paul, N5PR, VCARA Member

Congratulations go to club member Charlie KF5JEC, who recently passed his Extra Class exam! Charlie reports that he is getting on the air making contacts with a Kenwood 690S and dipole antenna. Another potential Field Day operator. Charlie and Joyce KD5IAI are neighbors, so when both of them get on the air regularly they may have to start taking turns!■

### Get Your 2011 ARRL Field Day Pin

Paul, N5PR will be ordering ARRL Field Day Pins again this year. The price is \$5.00 for each pin. The price on the ARRL website is the same. If you are interested, please contact Paul, N5PR.■





Wednesday Night Net Schedule:

- May 25 - Joyce, KD5IAI
- June 1 - James KC7YWB
- June 8 - Ralph NM5RC
- June 16 - Goose K5EMH
- June 22 - Mark K5WMH
- June 29 - Joyce KD5IAI

Coffee Klatch:

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

- Wednesday, May 18th
- Wednesday, June 1st
- Wednesday, June 15th
- Wednesday, June 29th
- Wednesday, July 13th

Club Meeting March 22nd

Leslie, KE5RSG, VCARA Secretary

Meeting was called to order by Chris, W5CSG

K5ZI looking for any Ham Radio License Plate

NM QSO Party is in April, Albuquerque DX Club is the sponsor this year. New Club Competition. Paul, N5PR will collect scores from VCARA members.

Paul, N5PR asked for someone from the club to take over the items from Harvey's estate. Chris, W5CSG will take the items

ARRL Section Convention is in Taos this year at the Sagebrush Inn. This year will be a family event and two or three local vendors have already confirmed to show up

Field day is coming in June. It was announced that the new officers would take office at Field Day. Able Information Technologies will be providing breakfast on Sunday morning

In April meeting, nominations will be needed from the nomination committee. Norm, KE5HBM and Ralph, NM5RC volunteered for the nomination committee.

Mike Writs stated he would like to help more with club activities, however, the club by-laws limit what members can do without a ham radio license. Several club members volunteered to help Mike with the Ham Radio test.

James, KC7YWB had a presentation on Home Networking

Club Meeting April 26th

Leslie, KE5RSG, VCARA Secretary

Meeting was called to order by Chris, W5CSG

Chris, W5SCG has a tuner that was donated by KK1S. The tuner has been completely re-paired. Sean, KE5LSO motioned that the club sell the tuner to John, KD5MHO for the value of three years of dues for KK1S. The motion passed.

Paul, N5PR has a versa tuner from Jim Round-ing's estate. Charlie expressed interest in the tuner.

Norm, KE5HBM presented the results from the Nomination Committee. Currently all officers available for reelection are nominated for next year. Cliff, KE0CP was nominated for Club President for next year.

NM5RC is still looking for volunteers for the NM Kids Round-up for May 21.

For Field Day, we will need help moving stuff out to the park. Leslie, KE5RSG will get information to the News Bulletin for Field Day

James, KC7YWB motioned to close the meeting. Sean, KE5LSO seconded.

Official Meeting concluded at 7:30PM and Cliff, KE0CP did a presentation on the Octopus Antenna.

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention Registration is Open

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Website, http://www.RockyMountainDivision.org April 2011

We are pleased to announce that registration for the 2011 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention is now OPEN!

The 2011 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention will take place August 5-7 (Friday afternoon through Sunday late morning) 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", and every activity and event being planned by the Convention will reflect this theme.

Head over to the Convention website -- www.2011Convention.org -- and read about everything that's being organized for your enjoyment, whether you've been a ham for many years or are brand-new to the exciting hobby and service. Note the impressive guest speakers who will travel from across the nation to enjoy the Convention alongside you; the numerous ham radio manufacturers and vendors

who will be present; the many fun individual and club ham radio challenges and competitions; the buy/selling/trading that will occur; the memorable activities being planned especially for spouses and family members; the chance to create pileups on the bands by operating special event station W1AW/5; unique activities such as a possible high-altitude balloon launch with ham payload; the opportunity to socialize with perhaps nearly a thousand hams from all over our great Division enjoying the event; the delicious meals with guest speakers; the many prizes to be given away throughout the event; and the chance to relax for a nice weekend alongside new and old ham friends at the comfortable Convention hotel.



V \_ \_ C \_ \_ A \_ \_ R \_ \_ A \_ \_

# Dots 'n Dashes

# KC5OUR

April/May2011

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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 May 18th at 2:00PM. Join us at the Village Inn in Los Lunas at the corner of Main Street and Los Lentos Road.

Our June Coffee's are the 1st, 15th and 29th.



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.

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### 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.