



General Contact:

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

Upcoming Events:

- VCARA X-Mas Banquet December 17th, 2011
Coffee Klatch
Wednesday Night Net

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Annual Christmas Banquet

Laurie, KE5QFG, VCARA Member
Margette, KF5MIQ, VCARA Member

The annual VCARA Christmas Banquet will be held at the Canyon Smoke Shop on December 17th, at 6:30PM.

You must RSVP to Laurie or Margette by December 10th. The price is \$10.00 for each person.

Toys for Tots are also due by December 13th. Please check out the article on page 2.

Canyon Smoke shop is located at 925 S. Main St. in Belen. An announcement and link to a map can be found on the club website at http://www.kc5our.com/wordpress/?p=241.

Menu Selections Include:

- Tossed Salad
Choice of Pulled Pork or Smoked Turkey
Choice of Two Sides (Mashed Potatoes, Potato Salad, Baked Beans and Green Beans)
Coffee, Iced Tea, Lemonade

Please contact Margette at 859-2822 or Laurie at 480-2131 by Saturday, December 10th to RSVP.

Please join the VCARA Officers and Members at Canyon Smoke House on December 17th for an evening of fellowship and good food.

December Training

Cliff, KE0CP, VCARA President

Cliff Pulis (KE0CP) will be giving a presentation on logging software using the DX Lab suite of software at 9:30 am - Noon on Saturday, December 10 at the Clubhouse. If you're interested Cliff suggests you go on-line to www.dxlabsuite.com and download at least the following free programs: DXView, DXKeeper, Launcher, PathFinder and PropView.

For more information, please find us on the web at http://www.kc5our.com.

To get the clubhouse: From I25/NM 314, Belen:

- Go East on Reinken Rd/NM 309
Reinken Rd will become River Rd after you cross RR Tracks
At light at River Rd and Hwy 47, bear right on Highway 47
Proceed .6 Miles past light at River Road
Look for "My Bank" on right
Clubhouse is the building just north of "My Bank", upstairs in suite 302.

Presidents Corner

Cliff, KE0CP, VCARA President

Where has 2011 gone? It was just a year ago that Margette (KF5MIQ) and I moved into our home in Belen. We have certainly enjoyed our first year in New Mexico and we've especially enjoyed getting to know you.

We need to complete the move of all items from the old Becker location to new clubhouse including furniture in the PODs and removing vertical on the roof and the TH6DX antenna & rotator from the tower.

We need to complete the set-up of antennas, shack and project rooms at new

clubhouse. Installation of conduit to bring antenna cables and internet service into the shack from the roof is mostly installed. My old octopus multi-dipole, multi-band antenna is on the roof covering 40, 20, 15 & 10-meter bands.

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IMPORTANT CLUB INFORMATION

Club Officers:

President: Cliff Pulis KE0CP ke0cp@frii.com
Vice President: Charlie Lyon NM5CL nm5cl@att.net
Treasurer: Chris Gillespie W5CLG cricket87068@yahoo.com
Secretary: Randy Ridley N5DAY
Past President: Chris Gillespie W5CSG w5csg@arrl.net

Club Repeater: 146.700 -600 100hz Tone

Club Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM-The Clubhouse is located at 386 Rio Communities Blvd, Suite 302, Belen, NM. Suite 302 is upstairs on the north side of the building.

Club Net: Every Wednesday at 8:00PM on the club Repeater



## Toys for Tots

Laurie, KE5QFG, VCARA Member  
Margette, KF5MIQ, VCARA Member

Those who would like to contribute to the Valencia County Sheriff's Department, "Toys for Tots" toy collection may drop toys off to Laurie at the First Baptist Church of Belen office located at 115 4th Street in Belen or to Margette at her home in Rio Communities.

Please call Laurie (480-2131) or Margette (859-2822) to schedule your drop off time.

The deadline to drop off toys is December 13th, 2011.■

## Bethlehem Special Event

Paul, N5PR, VCARA Member

VCARA Special Event, celebrating Christmas from Bethlehem, NM will be held the week before Christmas. If you plan to use the club call from your home station, please let our club trustee, Paul N5PR, know the dates and times you are on the air and keep a log page of your contacts. Also, make sure you let everyone know to send an SASE with their QSL if they want a Special Event card from this station. A pre-written script is also available for anyone needing a little help on what to say during the qso exchange.

Open House, at our new clubhouse, will be on Saturday December 17th from 8:00 am until the last ham leaves. We will be operating the club station KC5OUR for the Special Event. We now have plenty of room for visiting with each other without disturbing the station operator. Everyone plan on dropping by for a few hours or a few minutes to join in the fun and fellowship of Christmas from Bethlehem, NM. If you would like, bring a plate of your favorite cookies to share with other club members during this fun time!

We will be monitoring the club repeater on 146.700 and will give directions, if you have trouble finding the clubhouse.■

## VCARA December Events

James, KC7YTWB, VCARA Newsletter Editor

The Christmas Season brings many events. The upcoming events for VCARA are:

- RSVP Deadline for Christmas Banquet – December 10th
- Contact Margette(859-2822) or Laurie (480-2131)
- Valencia County Toys for Tots Drop Off – December 13th  
Contact Margette or Laurie
- Coffee Klatch – December 14th  
2:00 at Village Inn in Los Lunas
- Bethlehem Special Event Station/VCARA Open House  
December 17th - 8:00AM At Clubhouse
- VCARA Christmas Banquet - December 17th  
6:30PM At Canyon Smoke House

If you require any additional information for any of these events, please contact news@kc5our.com.■

## WANTED: NM Ham Radio Plates

Bill, K5ZI

WANTED: New Mexico Amateur Radio License Plates, all years. Especially need 1959—1964, inclusive, plus 1976, 1977, 1983, 1984, 1986, 1987, 1989, and 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.■

## From Page 1... Presidents Corner

like to loan to the Club we can set it up in that room.

For the December 17 Open House activity we will have the Octopus available and hopefully Paul Ridley's (N5PR) multi-band vertical so we can operate two HF positions. If we can get a wire antenna up we could operate three positions. I have some RG8X cable on order so we should have at least three antenna cables pulled into the shack before the 17th.

Check out the Club's page at [www.qrz.com/db/kc5our](http://www.qrz.com/db/kc5our) to see a sample of the QSL card we are using for this year's Christmas Special Event. Thanks to John Cresap (KD5MHO) for designing and obtaining the cards. If you have suggestions for other information we can post to our QRZ page please let me know. I plan to post a few pictures of our new clubhouse as soon as I get some.

I would eventually like to have a computer at each of the three HF positions for QRZ look-up and logging. Our slow computer needs to be replaced. If you know of anyone who has a computer they would like to donate to the club we're interested. Even better would be if someone can get a company to donate three of their old computers, along with displays and keyboards.

Speaking of logging software, I will be giving a presentation on logging using the DX Lab suite of software at 9:30 am - Noon on Saturday, December 10 at the Clubhouse. If you're interested I suggest you go on-line to [www.dxlabsuite.com](http://www.dxlabsuite.com) and download at least the following free programs: DXView, DXKeeper, Launcher, PathFinder and PropView. These are excellent programs for logging and associated operating activity. If you have a laptop computer load them up and bring to the Saturday session.

Also don't forget the Annual Christmas Party at the Canyon Smoke House in Belen on December 17. Check out the Club web site for details.

Well, as you can see things are really moving. Once again, I really appreciate the help you've been giving with the move to our clubhouse. May you and your loved ones have an enjoyable holiday Season.■



## Coffee Klatch:

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

- Wednesday, December 14th
- Wednesday, December 28th
- Wednesday, January 11th
- Wednesday, January 25th
- Wednesday, February 8th
- Wednesday, February 22nd
- Wednesday, March 7th
- Wednesday, March 21st
- Wednesday, April 4th

Wednesday Night Net  
Schedule:

- Dec. 7 - Paul N5PR
- Dec. 14 - Charlie NM5CL
- Dec. 21 - James KC7YWB
- Dec. 28 - Joyce KD5IAI
- Jan. 4 - Ralph NM5RC
- Jan. 11 - Goose K5EMH
- Jan. 18 - Elvira KD5UJQ
- Jan. 25 - Joyce KD5IAI
- Feb. 1 - Paul N5PR
- Feb. 8 - Russ KD5UJR

## Club Meeting November 22nd

Randy, N5DAY, VCARA Secretary

7:00pm - Meeting start.

- 1) Pledge of allegiance
- 2) Acknowledge new members
  - a. Dave McAlpine (rejoining)
- 3) Member Recognition
  - a. Margette Pulis, KF5MIQ - new Extra class
- 4) Introduction of regular members
- 5) Officers reports
  - a. President
    - i. Glenda - Special visitor - Emergency manager for Valencia County
    - ii. Christmas party update - Laurie Duffy
      1. 17th of December - Canyon Smokehouse as the location. 6:30pm, \$10/person, rsvp by the 10th, Drop toys for PD toy distribution dropped off at FBC or Margette, no toys that require batteries. Deadline delayed for us. Money before you eat.
    - iii. 3. Special event station - Paul Ridley
      1. Cressap has the cards ready
      2. You may operate from home, keep logs and turn into Paul
      3. Club stations opened 8:00am on 17th.
  - b. Vice president
    - i. Tonight's presentation - Louie Lusero - speaking on his experience with emergency preparedness team in California
    - ii. January - PNM
    - iii. February - Cliff on antenna analyzer
  - c. Treasurer
    - i. not present, but sent message - \$534 for insurance for clubhouse
  - d. Secretary
    - i. Still need Newsletters - have 2002 - 2006
  - e. Newsletter Editor - James
    - i. November out tomorrow
    - ii. December in 1st week
  - f. past president
    - i. nothing
- 6) John Ernie & Cliff will evaluate getting a better lock on repeater door.
- 7) Shack has 3 HF - 1 for digital, 2 for cw/voice/dx - radios left out so they are the same every time.
  - a. Dave likes the idea - works with emergency scenarios
  - b. Propose that 2m radio be on if you are working in clubhouse - possibly announce that you're at the clubhouse by stating "kc5our monitoring"
  - c. Bank radio tower has been given to club but will have to be moved to use it.
  - d. John Ernie offered flat roof antenna mounts for the club use.
- 8) If you need a name tag, let Ralph know.
- 9) Glenda requested next year agenda - to let the club know about emergency financial needs.
  - a. She is willing to write grant for homeland security.
  - b. Ralph will head up committee to create list of equipment
  - c. possible repeater replacement.
  - d. Need list before October
  - e. Glenda will keep us in the loop for other funding opportunities of county needs.

10) James & Dave motion to adjourn.■



V . . . -    C - . . -    A . -    R . -    A . -

## Dots 'n Dashes

KC5OUR

December 2011

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

Valencia County Amateur Radio Association  
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Peralta, NM 87042  
news@kc5our.com

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, December 14th at 2:00PM. Join us at the Village Inn in Los Lunas at the corner of Main Street and Los Lentos Road.



PO Box 268  
Peralta, NM 87042



VCARA  
*Christmas*  
Banquet

VCARA Annual Christmas Banquet

Saturday, December 17th

6:30 p.m.

Canyon Smokehouse

925 S. Main ST in Belen

Cost per person: \$10.00

Menu Selections include:

Tossed Salad

Your choice of Pulled Pork *or* Smoked Turkey

Your choice of two of the following items:

Mashed Potatoes, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, or Green Beans

Coffee, Iced Tea, or Lemonade

RSVP to Margette at 859-2822 or Laurie at 480-2131 by

Saturday, December 10th.

Those who would like to contribute to the Valencia Co. Sheriff's Dept., "Toys for Tots" toy collection may drop toys off to Laurie at the FBC Belen church office located at 115 4th ST. in Belen or to Margette at 805 Lee Trevino in Belen.

Please call before delivery.

Please bring New, Unwrapped Toys that do not require batteries.

Deadline 12/13/2011