

August 2010 VCARA NEWSLETTER

Presidents Corner

Well, another month has come and gone, and it is time for the VCARA newsletter once again. By now some of you know that the FCC has moved on the ARRL request for rule changes regarding the 60 meter band. That request for modification went through the FCC in record time. As of the writing of this newsletter, it looks like this in the rules now:

§ 2.106 Table of Frequency Allocations.

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UNITED STATES (US) FOOTNOTES

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US381 In the band 5330.6-5406.4 kHz (60 m band), the assigned (center) frequencies 5332, 5348, 5358.5, 5373, and 5405 kHz are allocated to the amateur service on a secondary basis. Amateur service use of the 60 m band frequencies is restricted to a maximum effective radiated power of 100 W PEP and to the following emission modes and designators: phone (2K80J3E), data (2K80J2D and 60H0J2B), and CW (150HA1A). Amateur operators using data emissions must exercise care to limit the length of transmissions so as to avoid causing harmful interference to Federal stations.

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PART 97 – AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

3. The authority citation for Part 97 continues to read as follows:

AUTHORITY: 48 Stat. 1066, 1082, as amended; 47 U.S.C. 154, 303. Interpret or apply 48 Stat. 1064-1068, 1081-1105, as amended; 47 U.S.C. 151-155, 301-609, unless otherwise noted.

4. Section 97.303 is amended by revising paragraph (h) to read as follows.

§ 97.303 Frequency sharing requirements.

* * * * *

(h) 60 m band: (1) In the 5330.6-5406.4 kHz band (60 m band), amateur stations shall only transmit on the five center frequencies listed in the table below. In order to meet this requirement, amateur stations transmitting phone emissions and PACTOR-III data emissions may set the carrier frequency 1.4 kHz below the center frequency as specified in the table below. For amateur stations transmitting CW emissions and PSK31 data emissions, the carrier frequency shall be set to the center frequency. Amateur operators shall ensure that their station's transmission occupies not more than 2.8 kHz centered on each of these frequencies.

60 M BAND FREQUENCIES
(kHz)

Center	Carrier
5332.0	5330.6
5348.0	5346.6
5358.5	5357.1
5373.0	5371.6
5405.0	5403.6

(2) Amateur stations transmitting on the 60 m band must not cause harmful interference to, and must accept interference from, stations authorized by: (i) the United States (NTIA and FCC) and other nations in the fixed service; and (ii) other nations in the mobile except aeronautical mobile service.

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5. Section 97.305 is amended by inserting the new entry “60 m” between the “75 m” and “40 m” entries in the table following paragraph (c) to read as follows.

§ 97.305 Authorized emission types.

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(c) * * *

Wavelength band	Frequencies	Emission types authorized	Standards see § 97.307(f), para-graph:
* * HF:	*	*	*
80 m	Entire band.....	RTTY, data.....	(3), (9).
75 m	Entire band.....	Phone, image.....	(1), (2).
60 m	All frequencies.....	Phone, data.....	(14).
40 m	7.000-7.100 MHz.....	RTTY, data.....	(3), (9).
* *	*	*	*

6. Section 97.307 is amended by adding new paragraph (f)(14) to read as follows.

§ 97.307 Emission standards.

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(f) * * *

(14) In the 60 m band:

(i) A station may transmit only phone, data, and CW emissions using the emission designators and any additional restrictions that are specified in the table below (except that the use of a narrower necessary bandwidth is permitted):

60 M BAND EMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Emission type	Emission designator	Restricted to
Phone	2K80J3E	Upper sideband only
.....	
Data	2K80J2D	Data using PACTOR-III technique
.....	
Do	60H0J2B	Data using PSK31 technique
.....	
CW	150HA1A	
.....	

(ii) The following requirements also apply:

(A) When transmitting phone emissions, the suppressed carrier frequency must be set as specified in § 97.303(h).

(B) The control operator of a station transmitting data emissions must exercise care to limit the length of transmission so as to avoid causing harmful interference to United States Government stations.

7. Section 97.313 is amended by revising paragraph (i) to read as follows.

§ 97.313 Transmitter power standards.

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(i) No station may transmit with an effective radiated power (ERP) exceeding 100 W PEP on the 60 m band. For the purpose of computing ERP, the transmitter PEP will be multiplied by the antenna gain relative to a dipole or the equivalent calculation in decibels. A half-wave dipole antenna will be presumed to have a gain of 1. Licensees using other antennas must maintain in their station records either the antenna manufacturer's data on the antenna gain or calculations of the antenna gain.

July 2010 Meeting Minutes

Leslie Wirts

27 Jul 2010

The meeting began as we all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

Congratulations were extended to our newest member, Debbie Grobbie.

New Business

Jim Browning, W1LDS, (Silent Key) left all of his amateur radio equipment to the club.

Members will be able to purchase the equipment first and the remaining equipment will then be for sale at the Duke City Hamfest tailgating activity.

As most of you know, the daughters of Jim Rounding W1LQZ (Silent Key) donated his ham radio station, per his will when he was alive, to the Valencia County ARA. Jim thought highly of the members of this club and several members stayed in touch with Jim even after his affliction kept him from participating in the club meetings and activities.

As the club has just about all the ham equipment that can be utilized at the clubhouse, we thought the equipment should be offered first to club members at a good price and then to the general ham population. Most of the big ticket items were snapped up by club members and the rest was taken to the Duke City Ham-fest to be offered for sale at the tailgate swap. Again, several items were sold and the proceeds were added to the club treasury. When all the dust had settled, we still had the following few items for sale. These will be sold on a first come, first serve basis and any not sold will be placed on the New Mexico Swap Net or e-Bay.

MFJ Versa Tuner V
Rig Expert Plus USB Transceiver Interface for digital modes
High Q Common Mode Filter
Diamond X-50A Vertical 2m/70cm antenna

Discussions concerning the transfer of the Signature of Authority of the Treasurer from Christine to Laurie were held. It was determined and passed that the previous article in the Newsletter showing the election of officials was sufficient authority for the bank to transfer the signature authority.

Free photo discs showing Jun 2010 Field Day participants were available for the taking. A big Thanks to Paul for providing the copies.

Don't Forget The Pot Luck next month!!

At 6:00PM on 28 Sep 2010 we will have a pot luck dinner in the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church in Belen. Free hamburgers and hotdogs will be available. The Hall will be open at 5:00PM so you can bring your pot luck items. We plan on eating food at 6:00PM on the money. Many, many thanks to Laurie for coordinating and obtaining permission for us to enjoy our potluck in the Church Fellowship Hall.

Memo from the Editor

Sandy Felder (Please change my e-mail address to 2lynx2@comcast.net)

Without a doubt, I know that all of us attending the Duke City Hamfest had a great time seeing other hams and visiting with each other. The hamfests and tailgates are better than school reunions. We are simply ourselves and enjoy all the happenings.

I recently received the Sep 2010 QST magazine and read the article entitled, "ARES: Maintaining Relevance in a Changing World."

On Sunday, 16 Aug 2010, Parade Magazine ran an article entitled, "When the Next Disaster Hits... Will We Be Prepared?"

Well, if these two articles don't hit the situation right on the head, I don't know what does.

It is not a matter if a disaster will occur, it is when and here we Hams have always been known as "when all else fails....":

Well, are we ready to stand up and HELP out by providing communications?

Have you as the individual HAM taken the Free Training provided by FEMA?

Do you actively participate in the ARES Net?

Have we as a group approached the Fire, Police and Sheriff's Departments to see how we can help them?

If there is a convict loose, a child missing or an elderly person missing, an Amber Alert, an office shooting such as at Emcore in Albuquerque last month, a flood, a fire or another catastrophe, are we prepared?

I contend that we have the infrastructure available to provide communications when needed. Maybe just to go to pre-determined locations to watch and see for a certain type and color or automobile and report back that we located the missing, To be eyes and ears and report what when have observed...we have repeaters and we have the equipment, but can you be counted on? Do we have the man/womanpower that is needed?

HAMS – AMERICAN PATRIOTS – BE PREPARED – GET TRAINED!!!

Wednesday Night Net Schedule

AUG

18 Aug Ralph NM5RC
25 Aug James KC7YWB
SEP
1 Sep Goose K5EMH
8 Sep Mark K5WMH
15 Sep Janelle KE5OQE
22 Sep James KC7YWB
29 Sep Russ KD5UJR

Hint of the Day Be careful what you put in the Shopping Bags – sometimes used to carry our portable radios.

40% of canvas shopping bags tested in a recent study had measurable levels of coli form and fecal bacteria. You must treat the shopping bags just as you would your kitchen counter, dishes etc. Personally I don't use them the entire concept seems ready made for food born pathogen growth.

"Life with plastic is fantastic" [Why You Need to Clean Your Reusable Shopping Bags Today](#)

The most important part of owning reusable shopping bags is remembering to take them with you to the store, but remembering to wash them regularly is a close second. A recent study showed way too many creepy-crawlies lurking in grocery totes.

It goes without saying that fresh meat products should be wrapped separately in plastic bags for the trip home from the market, but that doesn't mean other contaminants won't find their way into your reusable bags. Bacteria, yeasts, and molds from produce, and other food items can easily transfer their way onto the welcoming interior surface of your sacks and linger there, waiting for a chance to leech onto your new purchases.

Canada's Times Colonist reports the results of a study that tested random samples of reusable grocery bags:

Of the bags tested, **64 per cent were contaminated with "some level of bacteria,"** about 30 per cent had "elevated bacterial counts" higher than what is considered safe for drinking water, 40 per cent of the bags had yeast or mould, and some of the bags had "an unacceptable presence of ecoliforms."

