

VALENCIA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

June 2009 Issue

**Valencia County
Amateur Radio
Association
P.O. Box 268
Peralta,
New Mexico
87042**

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Minutes of May 26th Meeting

New Business:

Officers have been elected, Chris (W5CSG) is President, Vice President is Jim (KE5NIC), Treasurer is Chris (W5CLG), Secretary is Dawn (KE5LZZ) and Board Member is Mark (K5WMH).

Paul (N5PR) has a list of Hams in Valencia County, there are about 120 names. A suggestion was made to send out cards inviting them to Field Day, as well as recruiting for new club members. John (WA5VJY) stated that most of the names have KE5 call signs and that the new Hams probably haven't been on the air. A suggestion was made to talk to the Hams to see what direction they want to go with their license, and possibly mentor them.

Mark (K5WMH) stated that by talking to the VE's that administer the exams, they mention various clubs that can be joined and what activities they can participate in. Paul would like to have membership applications available during Field Day at the information table.

John had three sets of keys made for the

gate, building, and cabinet. He gave them to Paul to disperse.

Old Business:

Phil reminded everyone about the Kids Roundup 2009 Amateur Radio Contest. It will be on Saturday May 30, 2009 from 9 AM to 2 PM. If you can, please help by talking to the kids on the radio, or by helping Ralph and Phil with the children. They will be using four frequencies. You can contact them on UHF/VHF repeaters, HF, 6 meters and IRLP. The kids will be using Ralph's call sign NM5RC.

It's time to renew your membership. Dues can be paid a Field Day or at the meeting in July. The fees are \$15 single, and \$18 for families.

Paul led a discussion on the planning of Field Day. Please remember to bring what you agreed to at the meeting, and what you brought last year. Please bring a side dish or dessert for the potluck.

The raffle winners were: Chris (W5CSG) won a battery float charger Pat (K5PAT) won a 22 piece clamp set.

On a side note: I received a QSL card from the Kids Roundup, Ralph wrote the following:
"We had a great time, 35 kids



signed in, 27 got on the air, 37 adults signed in of which ten

Events Calendar

**Tues, June 23, 2009
Artesia, NM**

Critical Incident Stress

For info and to register go to <http://www.dps.nm.org/training/cirtBureau/cirtCalendar.php>

**Wed, June 24, 2009 2pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas
Coffee Klatch**

Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

**Wed, June 24, 2009 7:30pm
ARES Net 146.700 mhz**

See Net Operator schedule.

**Wed, June 24, 2009 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**

See Net Operator schedule.



**Sat-Sun, Jun 27-28, 2009
Willie Chavez Park, Belen
ARRL Field Day**

VCARA members, families, and others are invited.



**Wed, July 1, 2009 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**

See Net Operator schedule.

**Wed, July 8, 2009 2pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas
Coffee Klatch**

Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

helped with the event, and 18 Cub and Girl Scouts earned badges. Thanks for helping." Ralph.

*Dawn Torres KE5LZZ
Secretary VCARA*

ARRL FIELD DAY TIPS & TECHNIQUES THAT EVERYONE CAN USE

Many amateurs treat ARRL Field Day (June 27-28) as a contest, even though it isn't one. But if your idea of Field Day fun is to go for the highest score possible, ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, offered the following suggestions at the ARRL Field Day Forum at the 2009 Dayton Hamvention.

- You will get many more stations in your log by calling CQ than by tuning the dial and answering CQs; however, if you're calling CQ and not getting any replies, keep calling. Most major contesters call CQ for several minutes at a time before giving up. Giving up after three or four CQs is giving up too soon.
- Keep your CQs short and to the point: "CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, Field Day." Wait about 5 seconds between CQs -- this gives stations enough time to answer you.
- Use standard phonetics. "Cute" phonetics don't always
- When working a station, you should give your exchange information only once and keep it simple. "Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, copy three Foxtrot Connecticut, QSL?" If they didn't get all of the exchange, they will ask for a repeat.
- If you are running a pileup: Once you have pulled a call out of the pileup, give your exchange information first. Here's an example: "Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, copy 3F Connecticut, QSL?" Don't ask for the calling station's information first -- this will reduce any sense of rhythm and timing in the pileup.
- If you get a pileup of stations and can't make out an entire call, listen for one letter and ask for it specifically: "The station with Delta only, go ahead."
- When you get the other station's information, keep your acknowledgment simple. "QSL, thanks, QRZ Field Day from Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey."
- Find a comfortable pace for you and maintain that pace. You will tire quickly if you are screaming into the microphone or trying to work stations too quickly. This leads to inefficiency.

- Use a headset with a boom microphone and a foot switch -- this frees up your hands to log QSOs. Writing or typing with a mike in your hand slows you down.
- Go for as many bonus points as you possibly can. Numerous opportunities exist, from copying the Field Day message to sending traffic to using natural power for QSOs.

These tips should help maximize your score on Field Day. Remember: No matter how you choose to enjoy Field Day, maximize your fun, however you define it.

Paul Ridley N5PR

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL KIDS ROUNDUP STATION

A dozen VCARA members gathered in Bosque Farms on May 30 to help run a four-rig multiple operator 2009 Kids Roundup Contest station. This national contest focuses on getting kids interested in Amateur Radio by getting them behind the mic to make phone contacts on HF, IRLP/EchoLink, 6-meters and repeaters.

Of the 35 kids who dropped by the station, 27 made contacts and 15 earned a Cub or Girl Scout badge for their participation. The 6-meter band absolutely died just as the first kids arrived and remained dead for the rest of the day, so the kids had to turn to the remaining

three stations (HF, repeater and IRLP) to log their 108 contacts.

Twenty-eight adults (parents and scout leaders) accompanied the kids and watching, gave them a fun introduction to Ham Radio. Several of the adults mentioned they were either new Hams without any Ham acquaintances, or were interested in becoming Hams but did not know where or how to pursue that interest.

In addition to the twelve on-site mentors/control operators (three of whom were youngsters), Charlotte KD5OHZ, contacted the kids from home for the full five-hour drop-in event to help them make their first contact and conquer mic fright.

Other Hams assisting with this non-club event were: Phil KE5LXZ, Goose K5EMH, Chris W5CSG, Jim KE5NIC, John KB5ENN, Kenneth KE5LZY, Chris W5CLG, Mark K5WMH, Ginger KC5MTI, Ralph NM5RC, Paul, N5PR, and Ashton KE5MAE.

Callie Clark kept the hotdogs, chips, cookies sodas and water flowing for all 72 persons attending.

Last year Phil KE5LXZ, managed a similar effort that resulted in a national first place finish in the multiple operator category. We are all hoping that his management of this year's effort will result in another first place plaque. He and all the others who assisted with the event deserve our

thanks for this service to the Amateur Radio community.

Ralph Clark NM5RC



Memorable Field Days

When you've attended more than 30 years' worth of Field Days, there has to be some that stand out more memorable than others. One of my most memorable Field Day was one that I attended with a club in Albuquerque in the Manzano Mountains.

One of the cornerstone members of the club had passed away a few months before Field Day. He was an older man, a confirmed bachelor, who bequeathed \$500 to the club in his will. It was also his wish that his body be cremated and his ashes would be scattered in the mountains that he had loved, while the club was at Field Day, an activity he also loved.

To comply with his wishes, after Field Day ended and the towers and antennas had been packed away on the trailer, we solemnly

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lined up on the top of the ridge, to have a small memorial for Bob. After a few minutes of silence and a short speech from one of the members, another member opened the urn that held the ashes and proceeded to walk along the ridge spreading the ashes as he walked.

Just about that same time a stiff wind came up and blew the ashes back toward the line of men standing close by. It happened so quickly that no one could get out of the way. So, at the end of that Field Day, we had left most of the remains of Bob in the mountains, but some of him came home with us imbedded in our clothing. His wish to be remembered by the club was certainly fulfilled; at least I'll never forget Bob and his last Field Day.

Paul Ridley N5PR

Free training! Please pass on to anyone who would like to attend.

Crisis Responder (International Critical Incident Stress Foundation), Robert H. Barnes

- 1. **Individual Crisis: Intervention & Peer Support Trng**
 - June 29-30,2009, Santa Fe

Public Safety Psychological Services, Peter V. DiVasto, Ph.D

- 2. **Let's Not Shoot Our Wounded: Critical Incident Stress, Debrief. in Public Safety**
 - June 23, 2009, Artesia
 - June 29, 2009, Taos

Impact America, S. Downing

- 3. **Stress, Anger, & Fear Management Training for First Responders (TtT)**
 - 3 day (TBA), Santa Fe
- 4. **Stress, Anger, & Fear Management Training for First Responders**
 - 1 day (TBA), Loc. TBA
- 5. **Managing Stress via the Mgmt of Emotions, Communication & Time (TtT)**
 - 1 day (TBA), Loc. TBA
- 6. **Managing Stress via the Management of Emotions, Communication & Time**
 - 1 day (TBA), Loc. TBA

The Train the Trainers(TtT) are free, Instructors receive student

handbooks and the NMLEA will provide handbooks to student attending classes they teach until our supply is exhausted.

If an agency is interested in hosting the Impact America classes at their location we can make arrangements to do so.

For info and to register go to <http://www.dps.nm.org/training/cirtBureau/cirtCalendar.php>



NM Dept of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

The following are no-cost courses that are currently being offered. Registration is required. .

MGT313 – Incident Management/Unified Command Course offered in Deming, NM on July 14 - 16, 2009. For more information contact Felecia at 505-476-9633 or Felecia.Schreier@state.nm.us.

MGT313 – Incident Management/Unified Command Course offered in Albuquerque, NM on August 11 - 13, 2009. For more information contact Felecia Schreier at 505-476-9633 or Felecia.Schreier@state.nm.us.

G191 Incident Command System/ Emergency Operations Center (ICS/EOC) Interface Course is being offered in Las Cruces, NM on August 19, 2009. For information contact Ken

Congratulations to Dan KA7PUN, who got the ARRL A1 Operator Award!

As of today there are only 5343 hams that have this award. You have to be nominated by two other hams that already has the award.

www.arrl.org/awards/a1-op/roster/bycall7.html

From New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy

Events Calendar – continued

Wed, July 8, 2009 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Tue-Thur, July 14-16, 2009
Deming, NM
MGT313 IM/UC Course
Call Felecia 505-476-9633 or
Felecia.Schreier@state.nm.us.

Wed, July 15, 2009 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Wed, July 22, 2009 2pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas
Coffee Klatch
Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

Wed, July 22, 2009 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Wed, July 29, 2009 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Wed, Aug 5, 2009 2pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas
Coffee Klatch
Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

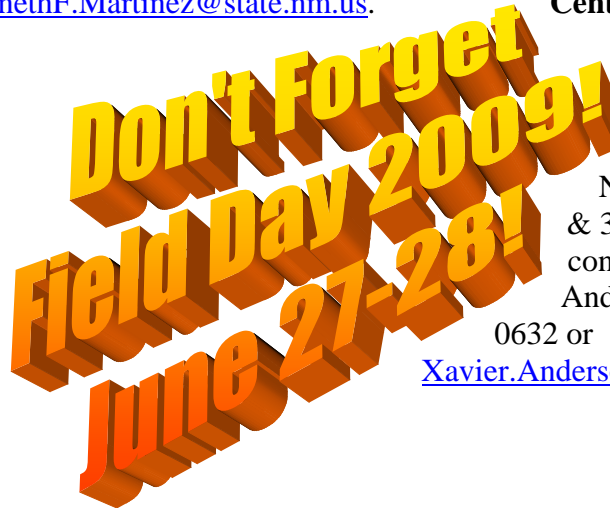
Thur, Aug 15-16, 2009
Albuquerque, NM
Hamfest Duke City
For more information, visit
www.DukeCityHamfest.org.

Martinez at 505-476-0871 or
KennethF.Martinez@state.nm.us.

And **G191 Incident Command System/ Emergency Operations Center (ICS/EOC) Interface Course** offered in Deming, NM on August 20, 2009. For info contact Ken at 505-476-0871 or KennethF.Martinez@state.nm.us.

G191 Incident Command System/ Emergency Operations Center (ICS/EOC) Interface Course offered in Albuquerque, NM on Sept 1, 2009. To register contact Ken at 505-476-0871 or KennethF.Martinez@state.nm.us.

G775 Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Management and Operations Course offered in Albuquerque, NM on September 2 & 3, 2009. For info, contact Xavier Anderson at 505-476-0632 or Xavier.Anderson@state.nm.us.



Do you know of anyone who might be interested in teaching a course, beginning immediately, at UNM Valencia Campus?

EMT Basic First Responder course and the person would need to be American Red Cross Certified. The curriculum is already to include power points for the complete course.

A Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts is preferable or 4-5 years experience in Emergency Services and the ability to instructor a course. The classes are scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-11:30 for 8 weeks, which include this week.

If you know of anyone who you think fits the above criteria and would be interested in this opportunity, and for additional information please contact:

Dubra Karnes-Padilla, UNM-Valencia Campus,
Fitness & Wellness Education Center Manager &
Lecturer III
Cell 480-7753 or 505-925-8832 or dubra@unm.edu
<http://www.unm.edu/~FWEC/>

**KC5OUR Repeater &
Net Operators**
Every Wednesday at 8pm

VHF repeater - 146.700 MHz
Negative 600 KHz, 100 Hz tone
UHF repeater - 442.700 MHz
Positive 5 MHz & 100 Hz tone

June 24 - NM5RC Ralph Clark
July 1 - KE5KFO Janelle L.
July 8 - K5EMH Goose G.
July 15 - KD5UJQ Elvira Hunt
July 22 - KE5KFP Val Lucero
July 29 - KD5UJR Russ Hunt

If you can't run the NET when
scheduled, please find some-
one to take your turn

VCARA Club Contacts

Officers

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before meetings.

Editor: Elvira Hunt
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*It is not the class of license that the Amateur holds,
but the class of the Amateur that holds the license.*

Valencia County
Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 268
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US POSTAGE
Required



Get your own club T-shirt.
Contact Pat KA5PAT at
866-6170. Prices are
T-shirts @ \$18 each and
polos @ \$20 each.