

VALENCIA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

November 2008
Issue

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

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Reminder: November's meeting is the last chance to buy raffle tickets, that will be used towards the Christmas Door Prize drawings. Must be present to win, so be sure to purchase your dinner reservation at the meeting.

VCARA Minutes from October 28, 2008 Meeting

The 10/28/08 meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President (K5WMH).

Old Business:

Mark thanked everyone for coming to the potluck and for all of the great food. Mark also asked for ideas for presentations at our monthly meetings. Please let him know what you would like to see.

Charlotte will call Rutilio's about catering our Christmas dinner. She will let everyone know what the cost will be per person. The dinner will be held at The First Baptist Fellowship Hall in Belen on Saturday, December 6, 2008 at 6 PM. Please bring an unwrapped Christmas gift for a child 12 years or younger to be donated to Valencia County Toys for Tots, and please leave a monetary donation for the food pantry located at the church as a thank you for the use of their facilities for our events. If you have something that you would like to donate as a door prize, please bring it to the dinner.

New Business:



Christmas Party Door Prizes!

The special events station will be on the air from 12/18/08 to 12/23/08 and the open house will be on 12/20/08 at 9 AM. Mark asked that the operators please stay within the bands allowable by their license class. ARRL has a chart that shows this information.

Presentation:

Ralph did a presentation on antennae patterns. For example, if the length of the dipole antennae is changed, then the radiation pattern is altered. Other things come into play, such as the height above ground can change the pattern, and if the antenna is around other objects, it can change the pattern.

Jim (KE5NIC) won the raffle at the meeting, he won a tool set.

*Dawn Torres KE5LZZ
Secretary VCARA*

UPCOMING VCARA EVENTS

1. CHRISTMAS FROM BETHLEHEM

It's that time of year again. Each year, for about the past 10 years, the club "allows" other stations from all over the U.S. and foreign countries to make contact with our club station in Bethlehem, New Mexico. And, for the small cost of a SASE, we provide them with a beautiful qsl card, which becomes a collector's item, as the card design is changed each year.

If you would like to participate in this year's event, come to the club station on December 20th at 8-9:00 o'clock in the morning for fun, fellowship and food. This is your opportunity to operate on the HV bands, with experienced hams to instruct and help you, as you make radio contacts all over the U.S. and other countries. See you there.

2. New Mexico QSO Party

The rumor on the street is that there will be a revival of the New Mexico QSO Party next year. Supposedly, it will take place in late February. Some years back, the NM QSO Party was well represented on the HF bands by numerous NM hams and several of the larger state ham clubs.

If there is any interest from members of our club, we could put on an effort from the club station, to represent Valencia County. Who would be interested in operating in this casual contest?

3. Kid's Day-2008

The December issue of WORLD RADIO has an article written by VCARA member Ralph Clark NM5RC. The article details the 1st place entry in the 2008 Kids Roundup, spearheaded by Ralph and other familiar call signs. Fourteen kids took part during the 6 hours the station was on the air.

Congratulations go to Ralph and others, for a well planned and efficiently ran operation!

Paul Ridley N5PR

MESSAGE TO ALL HAMS

I was just reading the new Valencia County ARC web site. In case you have new folks interested in becoming hams, or upgrading, I wanted to let you know that I just created a set of free online exam practice tests that I hope hams will find useful.

Within the practice tests, online study resources, (Wikipedia,

Events Calendar

Wed, Nov 19, 2008 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.



Tues, Nov 25, 2008 7pm
Belen Municipal Court-house, Belen NM
VCARA Meeting
Monthly Official Meeting.



Wed, Nov 26, 2008 2pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas NM
Coffee Klatch
Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

Wed, Nov 26, 2008 7:30pm
ARES Net 146.700 mhz
Emergency Communications.

Wed, Nov 26, 2008 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Wed, Dec 3, 2008 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Sat, Dec 6, 2008 6pm
First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 115 South 4th St., Belen NM
Christmas Dinner
Annual VCARA Event in place of regular Meeting. Purchase dinner reservations by Dec 1.

Wed, Dec 10, 2008 2pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas NM
Coffee Klatch
Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

Events Calendar - continued

Wed, Dec 10, 2008 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Wed, Dec 17, 2008 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Sat, Dec 20, 2008 8-9am
Club station, Belen NM
Christmas Radio Event
Open house, make HV contacts.

Wed, Dec 24, 2008 2pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas NM
Coffee Klatch
Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

Wed, Dec 24, 2008 7:30pm
ARES Net 146.700 mhz
Emergency Communications.

Wed, Dec 24, 2008 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Wed, Dec 31, 2008 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Happy New Year

Wed, Jan 7, 2009 2pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas NM
Coffee Klatch
Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

Wed, Jan 7, 2009 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

NASA, ARRL, etc.), are provided for many of the questions. The list of resources available for each question is constantly growing because users can add their own favorite links to the study materials. Users can also track their test scores over time and see which sub-elements are giving them the most trouble. You can see all the practice tests at: <http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/2008/10/amateur-radio-license-exam-practice.html>

Please let me know if you find it handy, or if you think of any ways to make it better. Also, if you think it's useful, please feel free to add a link to the practice exams at your site. Thanks! 73,

Hamilton Carter
KD0FNR

PS The tests were mentioned on kb6nu.com at: <http://kb6nu.com/new-online-test>

MGT-320-1 Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations

COURSE HOSTED BY:
DHSEM Training Room
13 Bataan Blvd, Santa Fe, NM
December 10, 11, 12, 2008
(8am – 5pm)

This three-day course will review the basic elements for the

CAMEO programs and discuss how they can be used to enhance local WMD emergency planning and response plans. It will develop recommendations for addressing anticipated problems and issues in the development and use of CAMEO as a tool in STATE and local WMD planning and response activities. It will also explain the value of using CAMEO as a decision support system; describe four potential scenarios for terrorist attacks in communities within the United States; examine the nature and characteristics of the Routes Module in CAMEO and discuss how this information can assist in a community hazards analysis of WMD threats.

PREREQUISITES: FEMA Ind. Study Course IS 700 NIMS

TUITION: Free for all registered participants. Course materials provided at no cost.



Registration forms must be received by the DHSEM one-week prior to the start of the course. (<http://www.nmdhsem.org>) go to the 'training' link and then click registration to download a form and to Fax 476-9650 or 476-9695

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Felecia.Schreier@state.nm.us

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

Nov 19 - KE5KFP Val L.

Nov 26 - KD5IAI Joyce R.

Dec 3 - KD5-- Cresap Fmy.

Dec 10 - KD5UJQ Elvira H.

Dec 17 - KE5OQE Janelle L.

Dec 23 - K5WMH Mark H.

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

VCARA Club Contacts

Officers

President: Mark Halliburton

K5WMH 861-1288

wmhallib@juno.com

Vice President: Jim Duffy

KE5NIC 864-3297

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Secretary: Dawn Torres

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Treasurer: Christine Gillespie

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Board Member: Paul Ridley

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Repeater: Chairperson John

Erni WA5VJY 865-8226

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ARES: Joyce Rumschiag

KD5IAI, Valencia County

ARES Emergency

Coordinator & RACES

Officer 865-5246

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Club Website:

www.qsl.net/kc5our

Webmaster: Chris Gillespie

W5CSG 869-4303

csgillespie@msn.com

Newsletter: Mailed 10 days

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.

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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.

VCARA ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

DATE: DECEMBER 06, 2008

TIME: 6:00 PM

PLACE: First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
115 South 4th St.
Belen, NM

PRICE: \$11.50 including tax & gratuity per person
\$5.50 for children 8 years old or younger

**The recommended cutoff date for reservations (including payment) is
November 25 with a final cutoff date of December 01, 2008.**

**These cutoff dates were set in order to get a firm count for
Rutilio's and to help the Club Treasurer.**

**Pay the treasurer, Chris (W5CLG) in person at the club meeting,
or mail payment to Chris at the club mailing address.**

VCARA, P.O. Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042

We ask that those attending bring an unwrapped Christmas gift for a child 12 years old or younger.

We will be passing these gifts along to the Valencia County Toys for Tots for distribution.

For more information contact:
Charlotte KD5OHZ ----- Ph. 864-2291 -- Email -- kd5ohz@wildblue.net