



HAM RADIO IN EMERGENCIES

Presentation to R.C.A.

by Cliff Pulis, KEØCP
President
Valencia County Amateur Radio Assoc.
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- 3 license levels  increasing capabilities.

WHY HAM RADIO?

- ENJOYMENT of talking with other hams around the world
- EXPERIMENTATION with radio related equipment including the radio to internet connection
- EDUCATION about radio, electronics & geography
- PUBLIC SERVICE in times of calm and emergency

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- 748,000 hams in the USA with a proud history and tradition: 100+ years
- Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and other volunteer organizations both local & national help during emergencies

When Disaster Calls Amateur Radio Answers



WE OFTEN WORK WITH...

Hams receive FEMA training to work effectively with:

- First responders & emergency organizations
 - police, fire, Red Cross, Salvation Army, hospitals
- National Weather Service (SKYWARN)
- FEMA

to help get the messages through.



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- CAN OPERATE FROM REMOTE LOCATIONS

(Annual Field Day: last weekend in June)



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- Terrorist attacks: WTC, Pentagon and Western Pennsylvania
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- *Often the only communications available for the first 24 to 48 hours*



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- We can communicate when all else fails

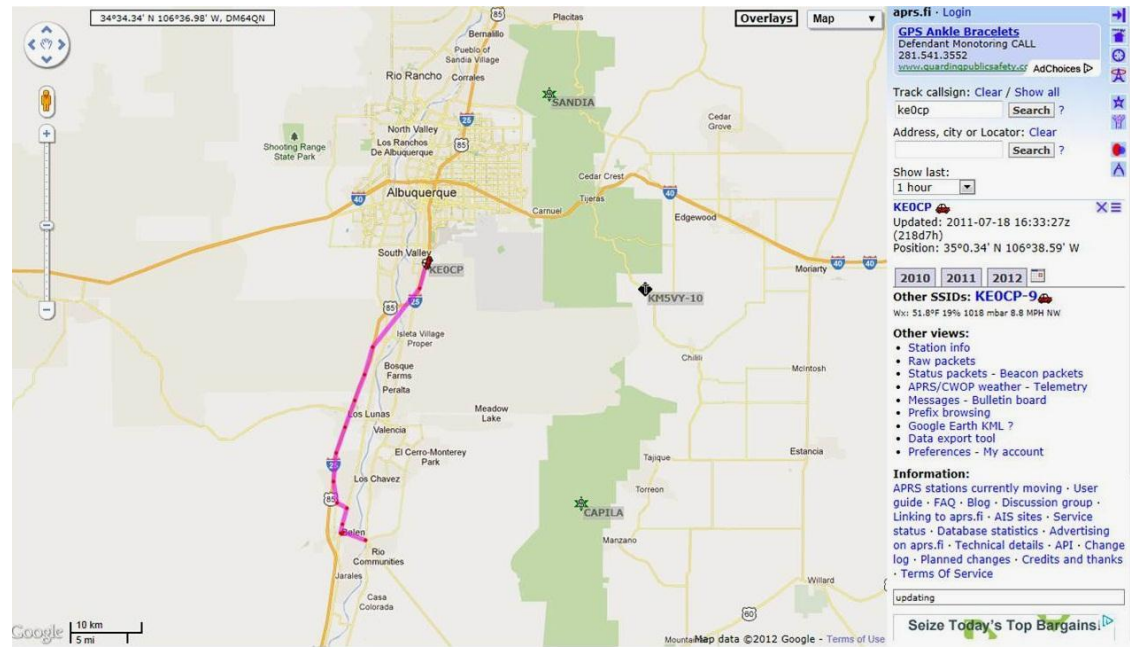
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Screen shot
of a ham
GPS/ message
system - APRS



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- Isn't Ham Radio on the decline with coming of the Internet & social media? **No!**
 - Number of licensed Hams in US is up 66% in the last 30 years – to over 748,000
- Is it keeping up with the times? **Yes!**
 - The hobby inspires & adopts new technologies
 - Our experiments inspired the TV, cell-phones and many other innovations
 - We now use digital modes of communication with & without the Internet

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No!

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- Isn't it expensive? **No!**

- Cost to take test is less than \$20
- Can purchase a hand-held radio for local communication for about \$120

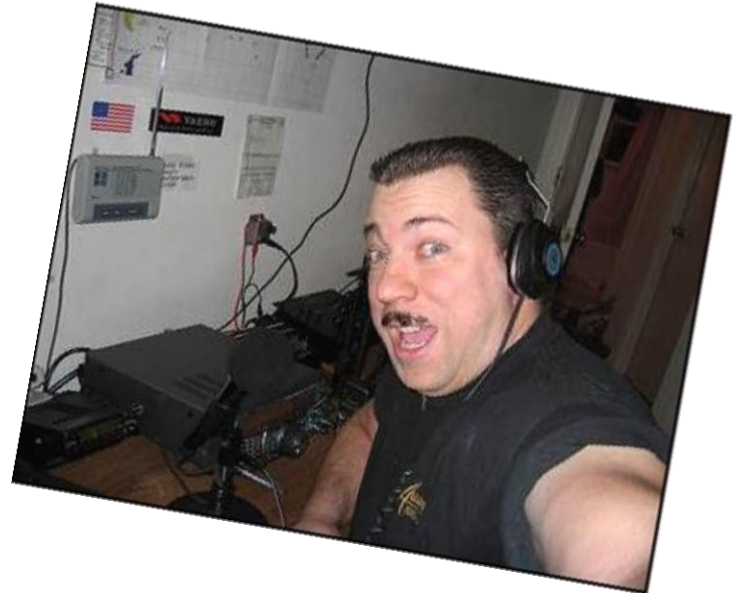


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- Aren't I too old? **No!**
 - Both my parents passed their Technician and General Class license tests in their late 70's – *when you still needed to pass a 13 wpm Morse Code test.*
- So what's your excuse?



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**How will You
Communicate?**

Demonstration

Local Portable Communication

- Margette Pulis(KF5MIQ) & Dick Doyle (NO5T) will communicate via the VCARA repeater located on a water tower west of Belen.
- This repeater enables us to communicate with low-power portable transceivers from north of Albuquerque to near Socorro.
- The repeater works on 146.700/146.100 MHz, FM
- There are repeaters all across New Mexico

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

- Attend a VCARA monthly meeting
 - 4th Tuesday 7:00–8:30 PM
 - 302 Rio Communities Blvd, Belen (2nd floor above VIA office)
 - 505 859-3516
- www.arrl.org
- www.w5yi.org
- Google: amateur radio

