

# Dots-n-Dashes

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M O N T H L Y N E W S L E T T E R O F T H E V C A R A

## P R E S I D E N T ' S C O R N E R

### W E D N E S D A Y N I G H T N E T S C H E D U L E :

The Wednesday night VCARA net control operator schedule is now posted on the Club website at [www.kc5our.com](http://www.kc5our.com).

Please refer to the website for the latest schedule changes.

### V E T E S T S C H E D U L E A T C L U B H O U S E S A T U R D A Y 9 A M - N O O N :

- March 24th
- May 5th
- June 16th
- July 28th
- September 8th
- October 20th
- December 1st
- January 12, 2013

Contact: Chris Gillespie  
w5csg@arrl.net

Cliff KE0CP, VCARA President

We're now 9 months into our fiscal year and starting to prepare for Field Day to be held on June 23-24, 2012 and election of officers at our annual meeting in May 22, 2012. At last evening's monthly meeting committees were established for both events. If you would like to become one of the club officers now is your chance. All officer positions are up for re-election: president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. Contact either Paul Ridley N5PR or Goose Gausson K5EMH if you are interested. If you want to help with Field Day contact Ralph Clark NM5RC or Paul Ridley N5PR. I'm sure they could use your assistance. Contact Paul if you want to order a commemorative Field Day pin.

At our February's meeting Richard Ybarra AB1Q was approved as our new repeater chairperson replacing John Erni WA5VJY. Thanks to John for his many years of service.

Cliff KE0CP

This is the last month I will be sending this newsletter via email. No one has stepped forward to volunteer to take over the newsletter responsibilities and

At the meeting we also discussed proposed changes to the Club's ByLaws. The Board of Directors is proposing that we include a provision to permit any incumbent member of the Board to serve beyond the current 2-year term limit with a two-thirds vote of the membership. There are also changes proposed dealing with the separation of responsibilities in handling Club funds (the secretary and treasurer must not be the same person nor be individuals within the same immediate family), responsibilities of the vice-president (to track all physical assets of the Club) and the secretary (to receipt all revenues received before transferring to the treasurer for deposit and keeping a roster of members). I have posted the proposed changes on the website and will send a notice to paid members that we will hold a vote at the April meeting. Because we need a two-thirds vote of paid members to pass these changes I will be send-

ing a proxy vote form in an email. If you have other suggestions about the changes please contact me soon.

If you are not looking occasionally at the Club web site ([www.kc5our.com](http://www.kc5our.com)) you may be missing important events or information about the club. There is a new section on the site called This Just In... Recent postings to the site will be mentioned here. So if you want to keep up with what's happening in the Club keep an eye on the website.

I gave a presentation to the Rio Communities Association last month on Ham Radio in Emergencies which aroused interest leading to a demonstration on ham radio to boys from Scout Troop 105 at the clubhouse the following week. There were about 20 people at each event.

Now you can contact me at: [president@kc5our.com](mailto:president@kc5our.com) ■

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## N E W S L E T T E R O N W E B S I T E

frankly I'm too busy with other Club business to maintain the email list and send the Newsletter out. So if you want to view the newsletter, and I certainly hope you do, then watch

the website. There will be an announcement in the *This Just In...* section of the website as each month's issue is posted. ■

## RECENT EVENTS

Cliff, KE0CP

The first in a continuing series of W5YI VE sessions was held at the clubhouse on Saturday, February 11. We had plenty of VE's on tap but no one showed up for testing. So we need your help in getting the word out that license testing is now available locally every 6 weeks.

The first ever Wellness Clinic was held at the clubhouse on Saturday February 25. Unfortunately only 3 of us showed up but we did get a power supply working and one other diagnosed for eventual repair. And at last evening's meeting I was approached by Ty Till AE5VR who expressed interest in using the club-

house during Sweepstakes and other contest events if we had the Yagi up and running. I'm in favor of activities that use the clubhouse, that's what it's for.

And finally Richard AB1Q has the EchoLink system up and running after discovering gotchas with the Signalink USB device. ▣



Ye Olde Clubhouse

*“Never be afraid  
to try something  
new. Remember  
a lone amateur  
built the Ark, A  
large group of  
professionals  
built the  
Titanic..”*

## WEDNESDAY NITE NET

In the last issue we announced that the Board of Directors recently suggested changes to the Wednesday Night Net format.

Changes to the way we normally do things can be a bit confusing at first but we're happy to announce that our net control operators are a versatile bunch

and have started changing to the new format for which we thank them. It is now easier for those who wish to sign-in but cannot stay for the entire net. And there's still plenty of opportunity to rag chew.

As a reminder the suggested format is published on the kc5our.com website.

Just follow the *Wednesday Night Net* link in the VCARA Pages sidebar at the right of the first page. ▣

## IMPORTANT CLUB INFORMATION

Club Officers:

President: Cliff Pulis KE0CP, president@kc5our.com  
Vice President: Charlie Lyon NM5CL, nm5cl@att.net  
Treasurer: Chris Gillespie W5CLG, cricket87068@yahoo.com  
Secretary: Aaron Ridley W5ADR, aaron@ridley.net  
Past President: Chris Gillespie W5CG, w5csg@arrl.net

Club Repeaters: 146.700 –600KHz 100hz Tone  
and 442.7 +5MHz 100Hz Tone  
Repeater Chairperson: Richard Ybarra AB1Q,  
rybarra@gmail.com

Club Net: Every Wednesday at 8:00 PM on the 146.700 repeater. All welcome to participate.

## FREE AT LAST... FREE AT LAST...

Paul, N5PR

A few years ago, 73 Magazine was one of the premier ham rags that every ham read. It had more content than QST and always had lots of construction articles and projects. I remember building many of them. Remember the many articles about converting surplus CB's to 10 meters? I still have my rig. At it's peak, some issues were over 300 pages. The magazine ceased publication in 1993. The publisher was Wayne Green W2NSD, who at the time was the most loved or the most hated ham, depending on which camp you were in! His lengthy editorials in each issue would lambast hams for being lazy

and not rich as he was. He would criticize the ARRL and other magazine competitors. He claimed to be the inventor of the FM repeater system (sounding like Al Gore and the Internet). There was probably a little bit of truth in each of his editorials. I personally couldn't stand his tearing down of other hams and organizations, but when I received my issue each month I would turn to his editorial and read it first (that's probably why he would write such inflammatory articles....so we would buy the magazine to read him).

73 Magazine has now been placed on the Internet, all 500+ issues, to be read by anyone....no subscrip-

tion needed. Go to

<http://www.archive.org/search.php?query=collection%3A73-magazine&sort=-publicdate>

and click on any monthly issue and enjoy the read. There is also another index of the magazine and information about Wayne Green found at <http://www.qsl.net/kb9mwr/files/ham/73.html> Check it out and read at least a couple of Wayne's editorials and then let me know which camp you are in! ■

## BOARD & GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 28, 2012

### Officers Meeting (Officers + Newsletter Editor)

Discussed Club Managing the money to support VE testing sessions (Chris) Any funds Requested from the VCARA in support of VE testing for the club would go to cover VE supplies. \$14 is charged each person taking a test of which \$7 goes to W5YI and the remaining \$7 would go to the Club treasury to help cover funds requested from the VCARA treasury in support of the VCARA VE team will be tracked by Treasurer.

Club web site (Cliff). Expressed concerns about our ability to upgrade the Club website (written in Word Press) to handle secure logins to obtain files we want to provide to member-

ship, latest roster and inventory, etc. No suggestions were presented. Review of proposed changes to By-Laws (Cliff). Cliff would like to discuss this with general membership tonight as the person who was to give the presentation is not able to attend. The Directors approved. Approved Richard Ybarra to replace John Erni as repeater chairperson.

### General Meeting

Welcome, Call to order, salute flag. Attendees announce names & call-sign.

### Officer's Reports

Cliff President, The tower and antenna at Becker St location has been taken down. Thanks to those who helped (Paul, Charlie, Aaron, Randy, Mark).

I gave a presentation on Ham Radio in Emergencies to the RCA last Tuesday. I'd be glad to share the Power Point presentation to anyone who wants to see it. Cliff will be converted to .pdf and posted on web-site.

Charlie, Vice President, Ralph NM5RC, has donated a projection screen to the Club. Chris, Treasurer, The Club had received \$36 in raffle ticket proceeds and spend \$60 for 3-months of clubhouse rent.

Cliff, Newsletter Editor [Temporary], The VE testing sessions and Field Day have been updated on the web calendar and the web-site is undergoing major updates.

Chris, Past President, Chris discussed the Club providing funds to help cover VE expenses incurred for testing sessions held at the clubhouse. Chris explained that when W5YI tests are given \$14 is collected from the candidate, \$7 is sent to W5YI and the remaining \$7 would be given to the Club to cover expenses of the W5YI VE team when testing for the VCARA. Annually the funds left in that account may be transferred to the VCARA Prize fund. The received funds will be tracked separately by the Treasurer. The motion was put forward and approved.

### New Business

Cliff mentioned that we need volunteers to form a nomination committee for (continued next page)



V A L E N C I A C O U N T Y  
A M A T E U R R A D I O  
A S S O C I A T I O N

PO Box 268  
Peralta, NM 87042

D I R E C T I O N S T O  
C L U B H O U S E :

Go East on Reinken Rd/NM 309 in Belen. Reinken Rd will become River Rd after RR Tracks bridge. Cross over Rio Grande river and bear right onto Highway 47 / NM 304. Proceed 0.6 Mile on Hwy 47. Turn right just past "My Bank". Park behind bank.

Clubhouse is the building just north of "My Bank", upstairs via outside stairway in 302.

[www.kc5our.com](http://www.kc5our.com)

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

Valencia County Amateur Radio Association  
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The views and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Valencia County Amateur Radio Association. The associations accepts no liability for opinions, misprints, inaccurate information or occasional misbehavior.

Club Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM—At the Clubhouse in Belen.

B O A R D A N D G E N E R A L M E E T I N G M I N U T E S  
( C O N T I N U E D )

our upcoming officer elections in May. Paul N5PR, and Goose K5EMH, volunteered to be the committee.

We need volunteers to form the Field Day committee. Field day is June 23-24 this year at Willie Chavez Park in Belen. The following volunteered: chairperson is Ralph, NM5RC, Paul N5PR, Chris W5CSG, and Margette KF5MIQ on publicity.

A request for approval from membership to spend \$500 on purchase of radios for Christmas raffle was approved by vote of the membership.

The Rio Communities Association is hosting discussions about Rio Communities becoming incorporated or achieving City status. May

be a good time to give inputs to EmComm within the Rio Communities boundaries.

Cliff will be giving a presentation at the Clubhouse tomorrow night to Troop 105 scouts for Communication merit badge. *(Ed. about 15 scouts and 3 leaders showed up for the presentation)*

Topics from general membership:  
Ralph NM5RC mentioned the NM Kids 2012 Roundup to be held on April 28 from 9am to 1pm.

Presentation: Cliff presented the proposed changes to the Club By-laws. Some discussion ensued. The proposed changed will be posted on the Club website. As a two-thirds majority is needed to pass a proxy vote system will be used in addition to a general mem-

bership vote at the April 2012 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned around 8:35pm.■