

Dots ~N~ Dashes

July 2013 Issue

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

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Happy Birthday for July
Charlie NM5CL
Andy KF5EMS

Back in 2009 Field Day contacts:
CW 364
PSK31 28
Phone 290 + GOTA Stn 50
Total 732

President's Column for July 2013

This is K6GTC with traffic.

Well, I no sooner took office as your new President at Field Day then I skipped town on vacation for a couple of weeks. Field Day 2013 is "in the books" now, but I want to salute Charlie, NM5CL, for an outstanding job in coordinating Field Day and all of the logistics associated with it. I also want to thank all of the many members who helped with loading, transporting, and setting up the equipment, helping with the teardown, cooking, registering attendees and guests, working with the kids, and bringing great food to the potluck. And of course I want to thank all of the operators.

A special Field Day treat for me was when Chuck Bland, NA6BR, an old friend of mine from California, stopped by with his son Nathaniel on Saturday afternoon and helped work our HF SSB station for a couple of hours. Chuck was President of

the Amador County Amateur Radio Club when I was VP. Chuck is a long-time field manager for Motorola, and he has managed the installation and upgrade of numerous public safety communications

systems across the US. He and Nathaniel were out here for an orientation session at UNM. Nathaniel will be attending UNM this fall, and I will try to drag him to some of our meetings.

On our vacation trip, Trudy and I attended the ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention at Estes Park CO. We toured the Denver Regional Air Traffic Control Center in Longmont, and radio stations WWV and WWVB outside of Fort Collins. Cameras were off limits at Denver Center, but I have a lot of shots of the big HF and LF stations that transmit atomic time and frequency standards. When I have a chance to put them together, I'll show them at a club meeting. Most of the WWVB LF equipment, including the long-wire antennas, capacitor hat, and transmitter, were components of the US Navy's original global submarine communications station.

As good as the Rocky Mountain Convention was, I think the Duke City Hamfest is just as good. This year it is August 9-11 at the Hotel



July 2013 Issue

Albuquerque in Old Town. Thanks to Paul, N5PR, we have a table reserved for equipment sales. If anyone has equipment they want to sell, please contact Charlie or myself. If anyone can help staff the table for even a couple of hours, also please contact Charlie or myself. Sales hours are 5-7 on Friday and 9-3:30 on Saturday. I notice that one of the vendors will be Arrow Antennas. They were at Estes Park, and they manufacture a very nice line of lightweight, solid aluminum antennas including J-Poles and hand-held directional VHF devices for foxhunting. Check them out. There is a Skywarn/Weather-spotter training session scheduled for Sunday AM at the Hamfest. I encourage everyone who is interested in the weather to attend, as well as any current spotter who could use a refresher class (like me). It would be really good to have a solid network of trained spotters in our area.

The Tour of the Rio Grande Valley bicycle event is scheduled for September 15. The route comes right down 304, within walking distance of the clubhouse. As yet, the tour organizers have not requested communications support, but they always have in the past. I will keep you posted.



Charlie, Ralph, Emil, Cliff and I are looking at offering a number of different workshops and training sessions on Saturday mornings at the clubhouse. Stay tuned.

And for a final, it is that time of the year – your club dues are due. If you haven't sent in your renewal form and payment, please do so as soon as you can. And remember to indicate whether or not you are an ARRL member. We are an ARRL-affiliated club, and this information is critical in maintaining our status.

Nothing further, K6GTC out.

*George Cusack, K6GTC
President, VCARA*

2013 Field Day

VCARA had a very good field day this year. Attendance was excellent with 74 total signed in, some of whom were first time visitors for us, and I heard many positive comments about our operation. Special thanks go out to Mary Ann NS7X, of Albuquerque, who was the generous donor of the large, blue FIELD DAY banner which we hung at the rear of the picnic area.

I also thank the other invited visitors who honored us with their presence; Glenda Chaves - Valencia County E.M. Coordinator, Kaylon Northcutt - Rio Communities Councilor, and Abigail Ortiz - News Bulletin Staff Writer.

Events Calendar

Sat, July 13, 2013, 9am-12
VE Testing @ Clubhouse
Contact is Chris, W5CSG

Wed, July 17, 2013, 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Sat, July 20, 2013, 9am-12
Clubhouse open to public
Contact is George, K6GTC.

Tues, July 23, 2013, 7pm
Belen Clubhouse
VCARA Club Meeting
Monthly Meeting – all welcome.

Wed, July 24, 2013 2:00pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas
Coffee Klatch
Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

Wed, July 24, 2013 7:30pm
ARES Net 146.700 mhz
Emergency scheduled net

Wed, July 24, 2013, 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Sat, July 27, 2013, 9am-12
ARES Mtg @ Clubhouse
Contact is Emil, KE5GCH

Wed, Aug 1, 2013, 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Good Food & Old Friends!





Fox Hunt for Kids
those young at heart

148.700-10

Calendar – continued

Sat, Aug 3, 2013, 9am-12
Clubhouse open to public
Contact is Ralph, NM5RC.

Wed, Aug 7, 2013 2:00pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas
Coffee Klatch
Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

Wed, Aug 7, 2013 7:30pm
ARES Net 146.700 mhz
Emergency scheduled net

Wed, Aug 7, 2013, 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Fri - Sun, Aug 9-11, 2013
Duke City Hamfest,
Albuquerque NM
Contact is

Sat, Aug 10, 2013, 9am-12
VE Testing @ Clubhouse
Contact is Chris, W5CSG

Wed, Aug 14, 2013, 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Sat, Aug 17, 2013, 9am-12
Clubhouse open to public
Contact is George, K6GTC.

Wed, Aug 21, 2013 2:00pm
Village Inn, Los Lunas
Coffee Klatch
Bi-weekly unofficial meet.

There are so many people to thank for making this field day a success - where do I start? The crew which hauled equipment and supplies from and to the clubhouse are at the top of my list - it was hot and dry Friday afternoon and even more so in returning stuff to the clubhouse on Sunday, not to mention having to climb UP the stairs with the loads. Thanks go out to Elvira KD5UJQ, for taking care of the Information table and periodic calls on our 2m repeater for hams needing our location. There were many hands helping to set up antennae and radio gear, we know who you are and we thank you.

The food at lunch was excellent with a large variety of side dishes and desserts brought in. A special thank you goes out to Christine W5CLG, for the delicious breakfast burritos the Sunday morning crew enjoyed. If you haven't had a burrito by Christine, you haven't had a burrito!

Space doesn't allow me the ability to thank each and every one for your contributions to field day, but you all deserve a big pat on the back for all you were able to do to make Field Day 2013 a success for VCARA. See you again for Field Day 2014.

Charlie, NM5CL
Vice-President VCARA

Note from the Editor

Now that officer elections and Field Day are over, you ask

VCARA Dots~n~Dashes

“why attend a meeting”? Well there are so many advantages of attending. VCARA has the weekly Saturday meetings (or workshops) where you can learn more about the club and amateur radio.

VCARA has the bi-weekly meetings at Coffee Klatches. So why attend the monthly meeting?

The meeting also gives us a chance to find out how the VCARA is doing within the community (locally and region-wide). We also have great presentations.

And as an incentive, there is the monthly raffle. The raffle may be for a small item, such as volt meter, cap, tshirt, etc. Some are bought and some donated to the club by members. Each purchase of tickets not only goes towards the monthly prize, but those tickets are held for the year-end prize.

At the Christmas Dinner there is a drawing for a very nice radio. Past years, when the monthly raffles generated higher yields, there were 2 radio drawings at Christmas. Let's look forward to a prosperous year.



**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

July 10 - Elvira, KD5UJQ
July 17 - Russ, KD5UJR
July 24 - Emil, KE5GCH
July 31 - George, K6GTC
Aug 7 - Ralph, NM5RC
Aug 14 - Charlie, NM5CL

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

VCARA Club Contacts

Officer

President: George Cusack,
K5GTC, president@kc5our.com
Vice President: Charlie Lyon,
NM5CL, nm5cl@att.net
Treasurer: Ralph Clark, NM5RC,
nm5rc@msn.com
Secretary: Emil Crawford,
KE5GCH,
emilkcrawford@msn.com
Past President: Cliff Pulis,
KE0CP, ke0cp@frii.com

Repeater Chairperson:

Richard Ybarra, AB1Q,

rybarra@gmail.com

ARES Chairperson: Chris
Gillespie, W5CSG

Club Station License

Trustee: Paul Ridley, N5PR

Club Website:

www.qsl.net/kc5our

Webmaster: not assigned,
president@kc5our.com

Newsletter: Mailed 10 days
before meetings.

Newsletter Editor: Elvira
Hunt, KD5UJQ
russnvera@gmail.com

*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
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