



# Dots ~N~ Dashes

November 2017  
issue

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

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### Special note to David Eubank, KF5VTJ

All our prayers go with you and your family at this time of need. You will be missed at VCARA.

## President's Column for November 2017

### NM5RC's Comments

#### BUSY TIME OF YEAR

Most of us find our calendars full of activities as the year wraps up. That is true of our radio club calendar too.

First, hope that you all have a great Thanksgiving and the opportunity of getting together with family and friends.

For those of you working, if your holiday work schedule allows you might try to fit one (or several) of the bi-weekly Wednesday Koffee Klatches into your schedule.

Be sure to put our **Saturday, December 9, Christmas Dinner** on your calendar. It is early enough in the month and with the 5-7 PM time so hopefully it does not conflict and we can have another big turnout. Again it will be at Henrietta's in Los Lunas, reservations are not required, we will be ordering from the menu and there will be lots of neat door prizes. If you want, bring a toy for Toys for Tots and Charlie and Betty Lyon will make sure they get to the Valencia County Sheriff's office for distribution.

The annual **Waffle Breakfast to kick off our Christmas Greetings from Bethlehem, New Mexico**, special event station operation will be at the club house on Saturday, December 16th.

**TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS INSTRUCTORS NEEDED.** I'm now filling in the instructor assignments for our December 27-

30 class a few more instructors are needed - please contact me at nm5rc @ msn.com or 505-821-7636 to volunteer.

Hope to see you at our Tuesday, November 28, meeting at 7 PM. Come a bit early to visit and meet. There will not be a December meeting due to the several other club activities.

73 until next month,

*Ralph NM5RC  
VCARA President*

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## MINUTES OF VCARA October 24, 2017 MEETING

**Board of Directors minutes, October 24, 2017:** Meeting was called to order at 1820 hours.

Attending: President NM5RC, Treasurer Betty Lyon, Past President NM5CL and Valencia County DEC W5CSG.

- Treasurer gave monthly financial report which was approved by officers.
- The Vice President position is vacant due to resignation by KF5VTJ who is leaving the state. NM5RC is polling a candidate to fill the vacancy.
- The board approved the purchase of an FT-100DR and a \$50 Gift Certificate as raffle prizes for the annual drawing at the Christmas dinner. NM5CL will make the purchase for the club. Also to be drawn for: a UV-5RU HT which was

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donated. Donations for door prizes will be done by board members. Additional donations will be accepted from club members.

- Toys for Tots drive will be handled by NM5CL and Betty.

### Discussions:

- Waffle Breakfast at the clubhouse, 0800-1000 hrs on Saturday, Dec 16 to kick off the Bethlehem SES. Attendees will be encouraged to get on the HF SSB radio to make some contacts before eating.
- We are still trying to fill the seats for the Technician licensing class scheduled to begin Dec 27. NM5CL volunteered to make announcements on his nets.
- We are in need of additional instructors for the Tech licensing class.
- W5CSG and NM5CL commented on the annual statewide ARES meeting at Socorro Hamfest.
- The club has two each W-32A HT's we no longer need. Board agreed on the bottom price for which we will sell the radios. They will be offered to club members only.
- The urinal in the Men's room is still out of order. NM5CL will follow up and contact VIA office.

No further business, the meeting closed at 1845 hrs.

**VCARA membership meeting of October 24, 2017:** Meeting was called to order at 1905 hours. Officers presiding: President, NM5RC, Treasurer Betty Lyon and Past President NM5CL filling in as Secretary.

NM5AE lead the group in the Salute to the Flag (Pledge Of Allegiance)

after which introductions of members and guests were made. Guests in attendance: John "Smokey" La Hair, W0MGW and his driver, Vance Major (no call sign); and Steve Pankretz, KD5PSF.

NM5RC announced Vice President David KF5VTJ has resigned in order to move back to his home state of Illinois to help care for his ailing father. Greg Mershon KG5OCW was selected to fill the remainder of the 2017/18 Vice President vacancy and was formally introduced to the membership.

### Announcements:

- Treasurer gave her monthly financial report.
- President talked of raffle ticket sales and prizes for Christmas raffle drawing. Club has two each W32A handheld radios for sale to club members – contact an officer for details. Upcoming activities discussed and a brochure with details was passed out.
- ARES DEC discussed topics brought up at the annual statewide ARES meeting at Socorro Hamfest.
- "Smokey" in need of help with programming a radio and other technical issues. Earl KB5UEW volunteered his services.

No further business, motion to adjourn was made and seconded, meeting adjourned at 1925 hours.

The raffle ticket drawing was won by Jim KF5NIC. Then the floor was turned over to Earl KB5UEW for his presentation on antique AM broadcast radios. Respectfully submitted,

*Charlie Lyon, NM5CL  
Acting Secretary*

## Events Calendar

**Wed, Nov 22, 2017, 2pm  
Koffee Klatch at Denny's  
Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM**

**Wed, Nov 22, 2017, 8pm  
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz  
See Net Operator schedule.**

**Thur, Nov 23, 2017, 7:30pm  
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz  
Emergency scheduled net.**

**Sat, Nov 25, 2017, 9am-12  
ARES Mtg @ Clubhouse  
Contact is Charlie, NM5CL.**



**Tues, Nov 28, 2017, 6pm  
VCARA monthly Meeting  
Members & guests are welcome.**

**Wed, Nov 29, 2017, 8pm  
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz  
See Net Operator schedule.**

**Thur, Nov 30, 2017, 7:30pm  
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz  
Emergency scheduled net.**

**Sat, Dec 2, 2017, 9am-12  
Clubhouse open to public  
Contact is Ralph, NM5RC.**

**Wed, Dec 6, 2017, 2pm  
Koffee Klatch at Denny's  
Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM**

## Calendar – continued

**Wed, Dec 6, 2017, 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
 See Net Operator schedule.

**Thur, Dec 7, 2017, 7:30pm**  
**Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
 Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Dec 9, 2017, 9am-12**  
**VE Testing @ Clubhouse**  
 Contact is Chris, W5CSG.



**Sat, Dec 9, 2017, 5pm-7pm**  
**Xmas Dinner @Henrietta's**  
**Restaurant in Los Lunas**  
 Prefer that you arrive earlier.  
 Must be present to win prizes.

**Wed, Dec 13, 2017, 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
 See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Dec 14, 2017, 7:30pm**  
**Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
 Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Dec 16, 2017, 8am-10**  
**Waffle Breakfast Kickoff @**  
**Clubhouse**  
 Contact is Ty, K5WY.

**Sat - Sat, Dec 16 - 23, 2017**  
**"Christmas in Bethlehem"**  
**Special Event Station**  
 Club will be making contacts  
 for the whole week. Contact is  
 Ralph, NM5RC.

## "ARRL THE DOCTOR IS IN" PODCAST



Sponsored by DX Engineering, "ARRL The Doctor is In" is an informative discussion of all things technical. Listen on your computer, tablet, or smartphone -- whenever and wherever you like!

Every 2 weeks, your host, QST Editor-in-Chief Steve Ford, WB8IMY, and the Doctor himself, Joel Hallas, W1ZR, will discuss a broad range of technical topics. You can also e-mail your questions to [doctor@arrl.org](mailto:doctor@arrl.org), and the Doctor may answer them in a future podcast.

Enjoy "ARRL The Doctor is In" on Apple iTunes, or by using your iPhone or iPad podcast app (just search for "ARRL The Doctor is In"). You can also listen online at Blubrry, or at Stitcher (free registration required, or browse the site as a guest) and through the free Stitcher app for iOS, Kindle, or Android devices. If you've never listened to a podcast before,

## VCARA Dots-n-Dashes

download our beginner's guide.

"QRP" is the topic of the latest episode of the "ARRL The Doctor is In" podcast. Listen...and learn!

(Courtesy ARRL Newsletter)

*Charlie NM5CL*  
*Past President*



### EDITOR'S APOLOGY:

I am so sorry for the misprint on October's Newsletter. On the Events Calendar, I put the VCARA's Monthly Meeting at 9am-12noon (instead of 7pm). I hope no one arrived that early. I did not notice the error until now.

### Formed from Ham Exams...

Topic OPERATION RESTRICTIONS: From the options below, select the proper match.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. When is the transmission of codes or ciphers that hide the meaning of a message allowed by an amateur station?           | a. Except during FCC declared emergencies, no one has priority access to frequencies                |
| 2. Which of the following is true concerning access to frequencies in non-emergency situations?                             | b. Its operation must be approved by the master of the ship or the pilot in command of the aircraft |
| 3. If an amateur station is installed aboard a ship or aircraft, what condition must be met before the station is operated? | c. Only when transmitting control commands to space stations or radio control craft                 |

Answers: 1c-Teach T1D03, 2a- G2B01, 3b-Extra E1A10

**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 15 - George, K6GTC  
(Sub: NM5CL)

Nov 22 - Greg, KG5OCW

Nov 29 - Charlie, NM5CL

Dec 06 - Ralph, NM5RC

Dec 13 - Elvira, KD5UJQ

Dec 20 - Russ, KD5UJR

Dec 29 - Emil, K5GCH

If you can't run the NET when  
scheduled, please find a sub.

**VCARA Club  
Contacts**

*Officers*

**President:** Ralph Clark, NM5RC,  
[nm5rc@msn.com](mailto:nm5rc@msn.com)

**Vice President:** Greg Mershon,  
KG5OCW  
[gregmershon2@msn.com](mailto:gregmershon2@msn.com)

**Treasurer:** Betty Lyon (Associate  
member)

**Secretary:** Ty Till, K5WY,  
[ty.ae5vr@gmail.com](mailto:ty.ae5vr@gmail.com)

**Past President:** Charlie Lyon,  
NM5CL, [nm5cl@att.net](mailto:nm5cl@att.net)

**Special Events Coordinator:**  
Ralph Clark, NM5RC

Club email [kc5our@arrl.net](mailto:kc5our@arrl.net)

**Repeater Chairperson:**  
Charlie Lyon, NM5CL,  
[nm5cl@att.net](mailto:nm5cl@att.net)

**ARES Chairperson:** Chris  
Gillespie, W5CSG

**Club Station License**

**Trustee:** Paul Ridley, N5PR

**Club Website:**

[www.qsl.net/kc5our](http://www.qsl.net/kc5our)

**Webmaster:** Charlie Lyon,  
NM5CL, [nm5cl@att.net](mailto:nm5cl@att.net)

**Newsletter:** Emailed about 10  
days prior to meetings.

**Editor:** Elvira Hunt, KD5UJQ  
[russnvera@gmail.com](mailto: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  
P.O. Box 268  
Peralta, New Mexico 87042

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**Happy November  
Birthdays to:**

KEN, N7ZAP  
&  
BETTY LYON