



# Dots ~N~ Dashes

November 2018  
issue

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

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

We had our first meeting of the builders group on the 27th of October. For a first time there were more than expected. That is good news. Look for some pictures in the newsletter.



I also expect we will be repairing things in the group also so everyone interested will have something to do.

Most have ordered the GPS & clock modules so the next meeting which is on the 10th at 9AM should be busy getting those built. If the meeting is before the newsletter is out I'll try to add that to the Presidents Column also.

Don't forget upcoming events and be sure to pay for the Christmas dinner early. '73's and looking forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting,

*Earl Cox, KB5UEW  
VCARA President*

## MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 23, 2018

### VCARA Board of Director's meeting, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2018:

Meeting was called to order at 1810 Local time. Officers: K5WY, W5CSG, NM5RC, KB5UEW, NM5CL, and KG5OCW were present.

- **Treasurers report:** Debits total \$1283 and credits \$790, resulting in a balance of \$5191.
- **Socorro hamfest report:** Several items were sold.
- **VCARA Ham of the Year:** in past years the officers have selected a club member for this honor.
- **Christmas party:** We have flyers for distribution tonight. Date is 8 December. Reservations and prepayment are required. We have about \$300 in the 'kitty' for purchase of the radios for the grand prizes. The club will probably kick in some extra. The Board will discuss off



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- line what we will purchase for this year's prizes after we research what is available.
- **Bethlehem special event station:** N5PR is sending notice to QST. We will again have a waffle breakfast kickoff.
- **Builder's club:** KB5UEW will kick off the first meeting of the VCARA builder's club this Saturday. Builder's will bring their own kits, see KB5UEW for information about ordering kits.
- NM5CL and K5WY will determine what interface cables are required for the new IC7300 mic inputs.
- The charger for one of the Yeti battery packs is missing. NM5CL will investigate replacement.

Meeting was adjourned at 1900 Local time.

**VCARA Membership meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2018:**

Meeting was called to order at 1904 Local time. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and introductions took place.

- **Treasurer's report:** Balance is \$5684.
- **Christmas Party:** Flyers are out, date is 8 December. Prepayment and reservations are required, NM5CL in charge.
- **Bethlehem SES:** We will kick off with a waffle breakfast as usual on 15<sup>th</sup> of December.

- **Kit Builder's group:** Group will meet this Saturday at 0900 Local Time.

Meeting adjourned at 1917 Local Time. Respectfully submitted,

*Ty Till, K5WY  
VCARA Secretary*



**SATURDAY MORNING AT THE KC5OUR SHACK**

Hey, have you been taking part in the fun Saturday Morning at the Shack activities? Check out these photos of a recent Saturday morning. License exams were given, the kit builders were learning to solder and getting a start on some kits, some fun stations were contacted on the radio, and a lot of mentoring and visiting too. Put it on your calendar to drop in and participate.

Getting the vertical antenna back up is a special project planned for one upcoming Saturdays and

**Events Calendar**

**Thu, Nov 15, 2018, 7:30pm  
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Nov 17, 2018, 9am-12  
Clubhouse open to public**  
Contact is Ty, K5WY.

**Wed, Nov 21, 2018, 1:30pm  
Koffee Klatch at Denny's  
Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM**

**Wed, Nov 21, 2018, 8pm  
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Nov 22, 2018, 7:30pm  
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Nov 24, 2018, 9am-12  
ARES Mtg @ Clubhouse**  
Contact is Charlie, NM5CL.



**Tues, Nov 27, 2018, 7pm  
VCARA Mtg @ Clubhouse**  
Members and guests welcome.

**Wed, Nov 28, 2018, 8pm  
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Nov 29, 2018, 7:30pm  
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

some energetic help would be appreciated

*Ralph Clark, NM5RC  
Special Events Coordinator*



**CALENDAR – continued**

**Sat, Dec 1, 2018, 9am-12**  
**Clubhouse open to public**  
Contact is Ralph, NM5RC.

**Wed, Dec 5, 2018, 1:30pm**  
**Koffee Klatch at Denny's**  
**Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM**

**Wed, Dec 5, 2018, 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Dec 6, 2018, 7:30pm**  
**Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Dec 8, 2018, 9am-12**  
**VE Testing @ Clubhouse**  
Contact is Chris, W5CS.

**Sat, Dec 8, 2018, 5-7pm**  
**Christmas Party @ Rutilios**  
Contact Charlie nm5cl@att.net.

**Wed, Dec 12, 2018, 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**CLUB'S NEW RADIO  
SHOWS IT'S STUFF**

The Club's new Icom IC-7300 was the star of our regular October meeting. Charlie NM5CL arrived a bit early and got it warmed up and tuned into a DXpedition operating from Dulcie Island in the South Pacific. This is a rare DX country that was last activated about 15 years ago and considering the high cost and difficulty of the DXpedition probably will not be activated for another 15 years. WOW, what clear audio from the rig's digital processing! Ty K5WY was one of the club members who took advantage of the new rig before the meeting and worked the DXpedition including making a contact using the club callsign K5OUR.

the rig's screen might make some think the rig would be complicated, the video showed it was relatively simple to use the touch screen to access all the controls, settings and features. None of the multiple levels of menus and sub-menus like the old IC-7000 we had. Later in the day we were able to go to the VP6D website and see our individual contacts were in the log.

After the meeting, Ty mentored a half dozen other club members to contact this rare DX entity. For some of us this was the first *split* contact we had made – Split means listening on one frequency and transmitting on another.

The meeting program provided by Greg KG5OCW was a short instructive video of the IC-7300's features. While at first glance at

Come by the club shack some Saturday morning and try our out new IC-7300. Bring on our December Bethlehem Station, the 2019 NM QSO Party and Field Day 2019!

*Ralph Clark, NM5RC  
Special Events Coordinator*



**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 14 - Elvira, KD5UJQ  
Nov 21 - Russ, KD5UJR  
Nov 28 - Ralph, NM5RC  
Nov 28 - Charlie, NM5CL  
(70 cm Net)  
Dec 05 - Charlie, NM5CL  
Dec 12 - Greg, KG5OCW  
Dec 19 - Elvira, KD5UJQ

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

**VCARA Club  
Contacts**

*Officers*

**President:** Earl Cox, KB5UEW  
[earl@electronicjunkbox.com](mailto:earl@electronicjunkbox.com)  
**Vice President:** Greg Mershon,  
KG5OCW  
[gregmershon2@msn.com](mailto:gregmershon2@msn.com)

**Treasurer:** Charlie Lyon,  
NM5CL, [nm5cl@att.net](mailto:nm5cl@att.net)  
**Secretary:** Ty Till, K5WY,  
[ty.ae5vr@gmail.com](mailto:ty.ae5vr@gmail.com)

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

**Website:** [www.kc5our.com](http://www.kc5our.com)  
**Webmaster:** Charlie Lyon,  
NM5CL, [nm5cl@att.net](mailto:nm5cl@att.net)  
[www.facebook.com/VaCtyARA](http://www.facebook.com/VaCtyARA)

**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

US POSTAGE  
Required

**November  
Birthdays:**

KEN N7ZAP  
&  
BETTY LYON

**Reminder  
Toys 4  
Tots**