

Dots ~N~ Dashes

February 2019
issue

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

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February Birthday wishes to:

KEN ZUNI W5KAZ
FRED WEIS KF5DTU
ELVIRA KD5UJQ
STEVE KD5PSF

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone. This month's club meeting will be interesting to most people. It will be on the Raspberry pi microcomputer. If you haven't heard, it is a small very powerful computer that you can program to do many things. Some have used them to control receivers and transmitters to run automatically.

On February 23 we will be discussing new projects in the builders club. We missed some of you last meeting on February 9th. I will be bringing some LEDs, and the heart of a SWR meter to explain the operation. Hope to see you there.

I know it is early but field day will be in June. Planning is starting now. If you have any suggestions feel free to bring them to us. It will be held in the same place as next year.

See you at the February 26th monthly meeting. 73's,

*Earl Cox, KB5UEW
VCARA President*

MINUTES OF VCARA MEETING OF JANUARY 22, 2019



Brian N5ZGT's presentation on NMQSOP

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S: Meeting was called to order at 1805 Local time. K5WY, KB5UEW, NM5RC, NM5CL and KG5OCW were present.

- **Treasurer's report** - beginning balance \$5411 and ending balance \$4627. Major expense was insurance
- **Repeater update** - Chris has a possible new location for the Meadowlake repeater site. The fire station is proving too difficult. He is exploring using a site at the Meadowlake Water Dept.
- **Scheduled events for the next few months** – Field Day.
 - Ralph has secured the Bosque Farms community center again this year.
- **Meeting presentation** - N5ZGT will be presenting about VCARA sponsoring the NMQSOP this year. NM5RC suggested something like the waffle breakfast for the NMQSOP kickoff. Board thinks this would be a good idea.

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- **February meeting presentation** - RasPi construction project.
- **Beginner's Guide to Amateur Radio** - should we have a copy or two at the clubhouse for new licensees? Club members? NM5CL will get a copy for evaluation.
- **Builder's group this Saturday 0900.**
- **Missing Chairs?** One row of cloth back chairs is missing. Anyone know where they went?
- **NMQSOP 2019.** N5ZGT has approached VCARA about sponsoring the NMQSOP for 2019. We last did that in 2010. Not too much is involved; accepting a few paper logs, accepting payment for certificates, promoting the event, score the paper logs, etc. BOD votes to accept the sponsorship of the 2019 NMQSOP and one class plaque.

Meeting was adjourned at 1847 local time.

VCARA MEMBERSHIP

MTG: Meeting was called to order at 1904 local time. Then the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by introductions,

Officer's reports:

- Treasurer's report ending balance \$4627
- VP Report - Brian N5ZGT will be presenting on the NMQSOP. Next month we will hear about a Raspberry Pi project.

- KB5UEW offers an extra 2M J-Pole to any club member.
- KB5UEW presents the VCARA Ham of the Year award to Elvira, KD5UJQ

Motion to adjourn 1911.

Immediately after the meeting, Bryan N5ZGT did a presentation on 2019 NMQSOP.

Respectfully submitted.

*Ty Till, K5WY
VCARA Secretary*

HAM OF THE YEAR

At our January meeting, Elvira Hunt, KD5UJQ, was presented with VCARA's HAM OF THE YEAR plaque. This annual award is announced at our Christmas Party. A select committee of long term club members reviewed the nominations received from members and selected Elvira.

In making the award, the committee noted Elvira has been an active member of the club for over 15 years during which time she has served in numerous positions including as an officer, an ARES operators and several terms as News Letter Editor. She is always lending a helping hand during Field Day, Bethlehem Special Event Station operations and other club activities.



Events Calendar

Sat, Feb 16, 2019, 9am-12
Clubhouse open to public
Contact is Charlie NM5CL.

Wed, Feb 20, 2019 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Thu, Feb 21, 2019, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz
Emergency scheduled net.

Sat, Feb 23, 2019, 9am-12
ARES mtg @ Clubhouse
Contact is Earl KB5UEW.

Sat, Feb 23, 2019, 9am-12
NM Veterans' Memorial
Event Ctr, 1100 Louisiana
Blvd. SE, Alb, NM 87108
<https://www.rmham.org/wordpress/new-mexico-techfest/>

Tues, Feb 26, 2019 7pm
VCARA Monthly Meeting
Clubhouse will be open earlier.

Wed, Feb 27, 2019, 1:30pm
Koffee Klatch at Denny's
Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM

Wed, Feb 27, 2019 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Thu, Feb 28, 2019, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz
Emergency scheduled net.



Congratulations Elvira! Club President, Earl, KB5UEW, is shown with Elvira.

*Ralph Clark, NM5RC
VCARA Past President*

VCARA Dots-n-Dashes

- 3) Allow members who are new to HF, or have limited HF experience, get on the air.

Mentors/coaches/control operators are especially needed - Please step up and support our less experienced and just licensed members!

An operations schedule will be available to reserve your spot at the mic or to be a mentor at the February meeting. Please consider signing up for a late-in-the-day slot if you can fit it into your schedule. Email or call Ralph NM5RC (505-821-7636 or nm5rc@msn.com) if you have schedule questions or special scheduling needs.

New this Year - Come by the KC5OUR shack between 11 AM and 1 PM for our first **NM QSO PARTY. MAKE YOUR OWN COLD CUTS PLUS CHEESE SANDWICHES LUNCH.** The club will provide a nice variety of cold cuts, cheeses and breads along with other fixings and sodas.

Bring your family and friends. During this time the radio mic will be reserved for folks in order of arrival to make three to five contacts.

What about NM QSO Party independent of the club's activity? **GO FOR IT!** Use your own callsign from your home station, as a mobile station activating several counties, or as an expedition portable station (at one or several locations). Please be sure to submit your log and

**NEW MEXICO 2019
QSO PARTY**

Put Saturday, April 13, on Your Calendar. Again this year KC5OUR will be on the air for the full 12-hour 8 AM-8 PM New Mexico QSO Party from the club shack. If you heard the presentation at the January meeting, or if you have participated in this event in 2017 or 2018, you know how much fun this event is.

That the whole world will be trying to contact New Mexico stations makes it a fun and easy to be at the mic. Other than getting in the required info, the exchange and pace is entirely up to the person sitting at the mic. If you want to play the 'dedicated contester' and only say something like "*WIWA, Valencia County, my name is Bob*" and move on to the next contact, that is fine. On the other hand if you want to chat a bit with each contacted station, that is entirely up to you.

The club's NM QSO Party objectives are:

- 1) Have fun,
- 2) Have a bunch of folks participate, and

CALENDAR - Continued

Sat, Mar 2, 2019, 9am-12
Clubhouse open to public
Contact is Ty K5WY.

Wed, Mar 6, 2019, 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Thu, Mar 7, 2019, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz
Emergency scheduled net.

Sat, Mar 9, 2019, 9am-12
VE Testing @ Clubhouse
Contact is Chris W5CSG.

Wed, Mar 13, 2019, 1:30pm
Koffee Klatch at Denny's
Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM

Wed, Mar 13, 2019 8pm
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Thu, Mar 14, 2019, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz
Emergency scheduled net.

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indicate you are a VCARA member because the NM QSO Party gives an award to the club who has the most overall participation. See the NM QSO Party web site

<http://www.newmexicoqsoparty.org/wp/> for more info.

*Ralph Clark, NM5RC
Special Events Coordinator*

IT IS GETTING TIME FOR OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Our club year for dues and officers terms is July 1 thru June 30, so the time is fast approaching the time when we need to be nominating new club officers for our 2019-2020 club year. The Bylaws call for the following schedule:

About February the President appoints a Chairman of the Nominating Committee and then other committee members are selected by the President or Committee Chairman. Earl KB5UEW has appointed Ralph NM5RC as Chairman and he is needs some fine folks to step up to serve on the Committee. Through March, April and May before our meeting, the Nominating Committee tries to find a folks who are willing to run for the various officer positions and solicit suggestions from the club members.

PLEASE LET SOMEONE ON THE COMMITTEE, OR ANY CURRENT OFFICER, KNOW OF YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

At our May meeting the Nominating Committee presents a slate of officers and further nominations are solicited from the members.

At our June meeting officer nominations from the floor are again solicited after which elections are held. At Field Day in June the new officers ‘take office’ although their official term does not start until July 1.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND, if you are going to nominate someone, get their permission first and their

commitment to serve if elected.

*Ralph Clark, NM5RC
VCARA Past President*



Club member Steve Pankretz, KD5PSF, donated a great 10-foot table to the club. It is currently in the Builder’s Group area and has been used by the Group during their last few Saturday morning activities. When you see Steve, please say ‘THANKS’.

**NM DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT**

L958 NIMS ICS All-Hazards Operations Section Chief

OFFERED BY: NM DHSEM at Los Lunas Fire Dept. Station 2, 465 Sand Sage Rd NW, Los Lunas, NM 87031,
May 14-16, 2019 [0800-1700] and May 17, 2019 [0800-1200]

DESCRIPTION: This course provides local- and state-level emergency responders with a robust understanding of the duties, responsibilities, and capabilities of an effective Operations Section Chief (OSC) on an All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT). These responsibilities fall into two categories: 1) responding to the incident and the command needs of the incident, and 2) effectively fulfilling the position responsibilities of an OSC on an AHIMT. Exercises, simulations, discussions, and a final exam enable participants to process and apply their new knowledge.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: NIMS ICS All-Hazards training should be completed by personnel who are regularly assigned to Functional, Support, or Unit Leader positions on Type 3 or 4 AHIMTs, or by those persons who desire to seek certification in those positions.

PREREQUISITES: IS100, IS200, ICS 300, ICS 400, IS700 & IS800. To register go to <http://preparingnewmexico.org>
A Notice of Acceptance and additional information on the course will be sent to applicants prior to the course start date.

For additional information contact: Federico Hernandez, (505) 476-0632 or (505) 470-4712, federico.hernandez@state.nm.us

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

Feb 20 - Charlie, NM5CL
Feb 27 - Greg, KG5OCW
Feb 27 - Charlie, NM5CL
(70 cm net)
Mar 06 - Elvira, KD5UJQ
Mar 13 - John, K8JWS
Mar 20 - Russ, KD5UJR
Mar 27 - Ralph, NM5RC

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

VCARA Club Contacts

Officers

President: Earl Cox, KB5UEW
earl@electronicjunkbox.com
Vice President: Greg Mershon, KG5OCW
gregmershon2@msn.com

Treasurer: Charlie Lyon, NM5CL, nm5cl@att.net
Secretary: Ty Till, K5WY, ty.ae5vr@gmail.com

Past President: Ralph Clark, NM5RC, nm5rc@msn.com
Special Events Coordinator: Ralph Clark, NM5RC

Club email kc5our@arrl.net
Repeater Chairperson: Charlie Lyon, NM5CL, nm5cl@att.net

ARES Chairperson: Chris Gillespie, W5CSG
Club Station License Trustee: Paul Ridley, N5PR

Website: www.kc5our.com
Webmaster: Charlie Lyon, NM5CL, nm5cl@att.net
www.facebook.com/VaCtyARA

Newsletter: Emailed about 10 days prior to meetings.
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
P.O. Box 268
Peralta, New Mexico 87042

US POSTAGE
Required

