



# Dots ~N~ Dashes

August 2019  
issue

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

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## VCARA PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Greetings to everyone. Now that we have a new clubhouse, there is much to do to get back up on the air. Here are some of the help needed.

### At the clubhouse, a few things:

1. Antennas need to be put up and wires run inside as well as grounded.
2. Desks and shelves for the equipment and builders club corner need to be installed.
3. Back yard cleaned out of bushes.

### Meadow Lake Repeater:

1. Get antenna mast ready to paint.
2. Paint antenna mast.
3. Raise mast and antennas. (Raise target date, Sept.7)

Some upcoming events that need volunteers is Duke City Hamfest on September 21, Balloon Fiesta, etc. Great things ahead. Hope to see all of you there.

*Earl Cox, KB5UEW  
VCARA President*

## NEW MEXICO QSO PARTY PLAQUE

I'm touching base because award plaques for this year's New Mexico QSO Party category winners have been created and were recently shipped to their

respective winners. They look great!

A picture of the plaque VCARA generously sponsored is attached.

On behalf of the New Mexico QSO Party, and all of its participants, thank you again for being a valuable New Mexico QSO Party plaque sponsor. 73,

*Brian Milesosky N5ZGT*

## MINUTES OF VCARA'S MEETING OF JULY 23, 2019

VCARA Minutes of 7/23/19. The General VCARA meeting was called to order at 6:30 local time.

Officers Earl, Ralph, Chris, and Greg were in attendance. The meeting commenced with first the Pledge of Allegiance and followed by introductions.

### Officer's report:

- President suggested Wifi on the tower to feed clubhouse from Earl's. The Conex still waiting on transportation. Earl got a go head to put up antenna at clubhouse
- Earl taking over telephone reminder calls. Our thanks to Callie Clark, who had the task for many years.

**August 2019 Issue**

- Finance Report – not available.
- Repeater chairman Chris – Meadow Lake Repeater Plan was presented. Discussion on whether 900 Mhz linking was preferred? Also put for approval, \$1300 DR2x – for advanced functions WiresX. Motion put to Approve \$1000 expenditure for the Meadow Lake Repeater Plan to proceed.
- 24th of August has been scheduled to Raise the antenna at the clubhouse. Volunteers needed for the antenna raising party.
- Past President Ralph suggested VCARA sponsored Scout Radio Merit Badge Event on Saturday, September 21st, at the Duke City Hamfest. Plan on lending a hand as in instructor or assistant instructor for one of the 45-minute sessions, need to sign up for slots.

**Old Business:** none.

**New Business:**

- Gil to go to Walmart to follow up with charitable donation possibility.
- Unanimous approval for \$1000 for repeater work was passed.
- Bill K8TE Duke City Hamfest presentation - please register online.
- \$46 in raffle tickets were sold. k5zoo won the raffle

Meeting was adjourned and followed by an Antenna Presentation by ‘Michigan’

Steve, AC8PC. Respectfully submitted by

*Greg Mershon, KG5OCW  
VCARA Secretary*

**VCARA NEW MEADOW LAKE WIDE-AREA COVERAGE REPEATER - 2 WORK DAYS SCHEDULED TO GET ANTENNAS UP**

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED red – needed, please volunteer**

**Saturday, August 24, 2019** - Starting at 8:30 AM

- Location: Ty K5WY’s home at 1 POCO Lane in Los Lunas
- Work: Remove rust from and paint 30-ft steel drill stem pipe that will be used for the antenna mast.
- Help Needed: **6 folks needed**
  - Rust removal crew - Bring angle grinder with several cone brushes (not wheel brushes due to safety issues). Wear eye protection, long sleeves, long pants and gloves. For safety, only three will be working at a time. Help with painting after surface prep is completed.
    - **Ty K5WY & 2 others needed**
  - Support and relief crew - If you are willing to assist with rust removal wear protective gear per above. Help brush apply

**Events Calendar**

**Wed, Aug 21, 2019 8pm  
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Aug 22, 2019, 7:30pm  
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Aug 24, 2019, 8:30am  
1 POCO Lane, Los Lunas**  
Antenna setup scheduled (see article)

**Tues, Aug 27, 2019, 7pm  
VCARA Mtg @ clubhouse  
700 Camelot Blvd SW, LL**  
Members & guests welcome

**Wed, Aug 28, 2019, 1:30pm  
Koffee Klatch at Denny’s  
Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM**

**Wed, Aug 28, 2019 8pm  
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Aug 29, 2019, 7:30pm  
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Aug 31, 2019, 9am-10  
Breakfast Club Meets at  
McDonalds, Los Lunas**

**Wed, Sept 4, 2019 8pm  
VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

rust stabilizer and paint, and other assistance.

▪ **2 or more needed**

- Moral support - **Ralph NM5RC** - Bring McDs breakfast burritos, donuts or muffins and ice chest with water.

**Saturday, September 7, 2019** -

Work at site starts at 8:00 AM  
**yellow = second assignment**

- Location: Meadow Lake Fire Station - far eastern edge of Meadow Lake
- Work: Install antenna mast bracketed to building. Mount antenna on mast. Mount microwave linking units on mast. Run cables from antenna and linking units into building. Note – we will have a 35-ft boom man-lift (person-lift?) so there won't be any tower climbing.
- Help Needed: **15+ folks needed** - Initial assignments listed but to assist with all efforts
  - Management and Safety Team - **Chris W5CSG, Charlie NM5CL and Ty K5WY**
  - Master pipe hauler - **John K8JWS** - with truck, trailer and straps - load and haul 200+ pound piped/mast pipe from Ty's to fire station
    - Loaders - **Ty K5WY** and **one other person**
  - Man-lift trucker - **one person needed** - bring truck with 2" ball and flat trailer light connector

capable of pulling towable ~4,000 pound man-lift (~4,000 pounds) from Home Depot to fire station and return after mast installation is complete.

▪ **Ralph NM5RC** - will be at Home Depot for rental paperwork.

- Man-lift operator - **Kevin K5ZOO** - Bring harness (to be worn when on lift) - operate lift to lift mast then with rider to attach antennas, linking units and cables
  - **One person needed** - Bring harness & assist with attaching stuff to mast
  - Microwave units and cabling specialists - **Chris W5CSG** and **Steve AC8PC**
- Antenna and coax specialist - **Charlie NM5CL**
- Bldg to mast bracket guy - **Ralph NM5RC**
- Mast base plate guy - **Ty K5WY**
- Supper Support Team - **4 or more needed** - to assist where and how as needed
- Moral support - **1 person needed** - bring McD breakfast burritos, donuts or muffins, water, sodas and ice chest
- Special equipment needed:
  - Hard hats - **need 4** - anyone under man-lift required to wear - **At least 2 needed**

*VCARA Dots~n~Dashes*

- Hammer drill with 1/2" concrete bit with heavy duty extension cord – for drilling four holes for base plate anchor bolts - **one person needed**
- Big drill with 1/2" bit for drilling bolt holes thru building red iron for top anchor - **one person needed**
- Small drill with variety of metal bits for miscellaneous holes that may be required - **Ralph NM5RC**
- Ladders - 8-ft step ladder **Ralph NM5RC**, 20-ft extension ladder - **one or more needed**
- Level - 24" - **one person needed**
- Coax crimping tool - **Ty K5WY**
- Other - Everyone bring along other general tools and equipment you think might be needed or will come in handy. !!

*Ralph Clark, NM5RC  
VCARA Past President*

**ARRL's  
RECOGNITION FOR  
VCARA MEMBER**

First organized in May 1933, the ARRL A-1 Operator Club has a proud history and occupies an important place in Amateur Radio tradition.

Membership comes after nomination by two Club members who find the nominee qualified to be a member of this elite group. Nominations should be based on the following

CALENDAR – Continued

**Thu, Sept 5, 2019, 7:30pm**  
**Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Sept 7, 2019, 8am**  
**Meadow Lake Fire Station**  
Antenna setup scheduled (see article)

**Wed, Sep 11, 2019, 1:30pm**  
**Koffee Klatch at Denny's Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM**

**Wed, Sept 11, 2019 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Sept 12, 2019, 7:30pm**  
**Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Sept 14, 2019, 9am-10**  
**Breakfast Club Meets at McDonalds, Los Lunas**  
VE Testing at clubhouse 10am  
For info email kc5our@arrl.net.

**Sat, Sept 14, 2019, 9am**  
**HOTA Special Event**  
Harvey House, Belen NM.

guidelines:

**General considerations:**

Transmissions are stable, well filtered and occupying the minimum required bandwidth. On voice, the operator has clarity of speech, brevity and uses appropriate words and good grammar. On digital modes, clean tones and appropriate operating-frequency selection are exhibited. On CW, the operator uses proper character formation and spacing with appropriate speeds (high-speed ability is not a consideration).

**Procedure:** The operator always listens before transmitting. Appropriately short CQs, avoidance of unnecessary repetition, use of proper procedures and abbreviations recommended by ARRL and avoidance of common inanities in making contacts is evident. When operating a message forwarding system, the operator makes sure that traffic is routed to its destination.

**Judgment and courtesy:** The A-1 operator is courteous and considerate of the other operator's point of view. He or she takes every opportunity to assist others, especially beginners. Patient and helpful at all times, the operator never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.



**Copying ability:** This applies to all modes, for there is a knack to passing information through such difficulties as interference from other stations (QRM), atmospheric noises (QRN), fading (QSB) and the like.

Not enough is said about those who lead by example -- those who set the standard for others to follow. By honoring those operators who exhibit the best operating practices, we honor them as A-1 Operators and in so doing, honor the best in Amateur Radio.

The above was taken from the ARRL A-1 Ops page. And in checking the membership, low and behold, the name Charles E. Lyon NM5CL appears. **Congratulations to NM5CL for setting a great example.**

*Elvira Hunt, KD5UJQ*  
*VCARA Newsletter Editor*



## 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

Aug 21 – Chris, KG5WVC

Aug 28 – Russ, KD5UJR

Aug 28 – Charlie, NM5CL  
(70cm Net)

Sep 04 – Ralph, NM5RC

Sep 11 – Charlie, NM5CL

Sep 18 – Greg, KG5OCW

Sep 25 – 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:** Steve Sanborn,

AC8PC, [railguy51@hotmail.com](mailto:railguy51@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Charlie Lyon,

NM5CL, [nm5cl@att.net](mailto:nm5cl@att.net)

**Secretary:** Greg Mershon,

KG5OCW

[gregmershon2@msn.com](mailto:gregmershon2@msn.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  
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US POSTAGE  
Required

**Reminder:**  
**Harvey Houses On  
The Air (HOTA)  
September 14, 2019**