

June 2019  
issue

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

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## Happy June Birthdays to:

JOHN KD5MHO  
JOHN K8JWS  
CHRIS KG5WVC  
GINGER KC5MTI

### VCARA PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I would like to thank everyone that supported me as president again at the election. I feel it an honor to be reelected and hope to get many suggestions and support from the club members. I would also like to thank **ALL** the people that helped me this last year.

I was able to operate my QRP radio set for the first time at the 2019 QSO party. This is the first time I was able to get on the air under battery and solar and although I only made 3 contacts, I enjoyed it greatly. Don't be afraid to do something new in amateur radio. You might be surprised at how much fun and learning you can have. Next I am going to try to develop a take apart vertical that I can use as a walking stick.

The Field Day is coming up on the 22nd. Hope you can attend. I am looking forward to the Harvey Houses in September for the annual national Harvey Houses on the Air event. Read about this and other events coming up later this year. 73,

*Earl Cox, KB5UEW  
VCARA President*

### VCARA MINUTES OF MAY 28 MEETING

*VCARA Board of Directors:*

Meeting was called to order at 1821 local time. Officers present were: President, Earl Cox KB5UEW, Vice President, Greg Mershon KG5OCW, Treasurer, Charlie Lyon NM5CL and Past President, Ralph Clark NM5RC. Sitting in by invitation was Steve Sanborn AC8PC. DEC Chairman, Chris W5CSG joined the meeting at 1835.

#### Discussion:

- Open discussion included how to run annual officers election tonight. Tomorrow morning (May 29) is cutoff date for ordering Field Day pins through N5PR.
- President wants member input on setting up the clubhouse floor space, such as radio placement, work space, etc. We also need input for antenna and tower configurations and work parties for outdoor maintenance such as weed control. KB5UEW will announce this during general meeting.

**Old Business:** None

#### New Business:

- Field day planning and requests for volunteers will be handled by NM5RC during the general meeting.
- Treasurer submitted the March Financial report for approval, and stated that the last complete financial audit was more than three years

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- ago. Betty N5BEL will be approached with request that she conduct a current audit.
- Board agreed to continue the Saturday 0900 BF club which has been very successful in attendance, and then to have the VCARA clubhouse open from 1000 until 1200.
  - The VE test sessions will adjust to this change in time.
- With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1841 local time.

### VCARA Membership meeting

Meeting was called to order at 1900 local time. Officers present were: President KB5UEW, Vice President KG5OCW, Treasurer NM5CL and Past President NM5RC. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by NM5CL after which introductions of attendees was done. Guest attendee: Pete Spotts NM5PS.

### Announcements:

- KB5UEW announced meeting agenda;
- N5PR is taking orders for FD pins;
- need member input for clubhouse placement of radio positions, antennas, etc.
- NM5RC talked of need for volunteers for field day set-up, operations and tear down.
- Treasurer presented the Financial Report for March 2019, bank balance is \$5,298.37.

### Old Business:

- Current list of nominations for elective office 2019/20

(One year term) was read and posted on board.

- Nominations opened for additional nominations from the floor. Chris Schaaf, KG5WVC was nominated for Secretary and added to the list. Motion to close nominations was made and seconded, and the slate of nominees for elective office 2019/20 was approved and accepted by member vote.

### New Business:

- Voting by show of hands for the slate of nominees was conducted by President. Election results are as follows:
  - President: Earl Cox, KB5UEW
  - Vice President: Steve Sanborn, AC8PC
  - Secretary: Greg Mershon, KG5OCW
  - Treasurer: Charlie Lyon, NM5CL

These officers-elect will take office at noon on June 23, 2019.

- The raffle ticket drawing was won by Earl KB5UEW.

With no further business, motion to adjourn meeting was made, seconded and carried at 1927 local time.

### Post Meeting Presentation:

Earl KB5UEW gave an excellent presentation on Loop Receiving Antennas. Respectfully submitted,


*Charlie NM5CL  
Acting Secretary*

## Events Calendar

**Wed, Jun 19, 2019, 1:30pm**  
***Koffee Klatch at Denny's Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM***

**Wed, Jun 19, 2019 8pm**  
***VCARA Net 146.700 mhz***  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Jun 20, 2019, 7:30pm**  
***Tri-County Net 146.96mhz***  
Emergency scheduled net.



**Sat, June 22-23, 2019**  
***FIELD DAY @ activities***  
All welcomed.

**Wed, Jun 26, 2019 8pm**  
***VCARA Net 146.700 mhz***  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Jun 27, 2019, 7:30pm**  
***Tri-County Net 146.96mhz***  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Jun 29, 2019, 9am-10**  
***Breakfast Club Meets at McDonalds, Los Lunas***

**Wed, July 3, 2019, 1:30pm**  
***Koffee Klatch at Denny's Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM***

**Wed, July 3, 2019 8pm**  
***VCARA Net 146.700 mhz***  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, July 4, 2019, 7:30pm**  
***Tri-County Net 146.96mhz***  
Emergency scheduled net.

## ARRL FIELD DAY TIPS & TECHNIQUES THAT EVERYONE CAN USE

Many amateurs treat ARRL Field Day as a contest, even though it isn't one. But if your idea of Field Day fun is to go for the highest score possible, ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, offered the following suggestions at the ARRL Field Day Forum at the 2009 Dayton Hamvention.

### CALENDAR – Continued

**Sat, July 6, 2019, 9am-10**  
*Breakfast Club Meets at McDonalds, Los Lunas*

**Wed, July 10, 2019 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, July 11, 2019, 7:30pm**  
*Tri-County Net 146.96mhz*  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, July 13, 2019, 9am-10**  
*Breakfast Club Meets at McDonalds, Los Lunas*  
VE Testing will be conducted at a private residence. No applicants accepted after 0930  
For info email kc5our@arrl.net.

**Wed, July 17, 2019, 1:30pm**  
*Koffee Klatch at Denny's Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM*

**Wed, July 17, 2019 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 146.700 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

- You will get many more stations in your log by calling CQ than by tuning the dial and answering CQs; however, if you're calling CQ and not getting any replies, keep calling. Most major contesters call CQ for several minutes at a time before giving up. Giving up after three or four CQs is giving up too soon.
  - Keep your CQs short and to the point: "CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, Field Day." Wait about 5 seconds between CQs -- this gives stations enough time to answer you.
  - Use standard phonetics. "Cute" phonetics don't always get through and they can confuse newer operators.
  - When working a station, you should give your exchange information only once and keep it simple. "Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, copy three Foxtrot Connecticut, QSL?" If they didn't get all of the exchange, they will ask for a repeat.
  - If you are running a pileup: Once you have pulled a call out of the pileup, give your exchange information first. Here's an example: "Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, copy 3F Connecticut, QSL?" Don't ask for the calling station's information first -- this will
- reduce any sense of rhythm and timing in the pileup.
- If you get a pileup of stations and can't make out an entire call, listen for one letter and ask for it specifically: "The station with Delta only, go ahead."
  - When you get the other station's information, keep your acknowledgment simple. "QSL, thanks, QRZ Field Day from Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey."
  - Find a comfortable pace for you and maintain that pace. You will tire quickly if you are screaming into the microphone or trying to work stations too quickly. This leads to inefficiency.
  - Use a headset with a boom microphone and a foot switch -- this frees up your hands to log QSOs. Writing or typing with a mike in your hand slows you down.
  - Go for as many bonus points as you possibly can. Numerous opportunities exist, from copying the Field Day message to sending traffic to using natural power for QSOs.

These tips should help maximize your score on Field Day. Remember: No matter how you choose to enjoy Field Day, maximize your fun, however you define it.

*Paul Ridley N5PR  
(from 2009 article)*

**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

Jun 19 – Earl, KB5UEW  
Jun 26 – Chris, KG5WVC  
Charlie, NM5CL (70cm Net)  
Jul 03 – Russ, KD5UJR  
Jul 10 – Ralph, NM5RC  
Jul 17 – Charlie, NM5CL  
Jul 24 – Greg, KG5OCW  
Jul 31 – 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  
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US POSTAGE  
Required

Club member Gene Fish,  
KI5BZI upgraded his license  
to General Class on Jun 8.  
CONGRATULATIONS,  
GENE