



# Dots ~N~ Dashes

November 2019  
issue

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

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## CLUB'S TRADITIONAL WAFFLE BREAKFAST

Put December 28th on your calendar and plan to bring your family and friends to the Club's Waffle Breakfast.

Traditionally the breakfast has been held on a Saturday before Christmas to kick off our Greetings from Bethlehem Special Event Station operation, but 2019's calendar required an adjustment. Bethlehem operations start on Wednesday the 18th. With Saturday the 14th being our Christmas Party and Saturday the 21st being just a few days before Christmas when most folks' schedules are packed, at our October meeting the members decided to have the Waffle Breakfast on Saturday, December 28th from 8 to 10 AM.

*Ralph Clark, NM5RC  
VCARA Past President*

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

Meeting 21 in attendance

### OFFICER'S REPORTS:

- **President –**
  - Build out Clubhouse Saturday 10/26 (Radio Area). General build strategy discussion. We are still working on Christmas Party Planning. Prizes needed. Discussion about possible options. (FTD3R? 2R?)
  - Waffle breakfast? Have/No have?
  - Wal-Mart grant update - request was turned down due to the fact that paperwork was process late by Wal-Mart. It may be re-considered by Wal-Mart staff in a few days.
  - Possible option to re-submit application to ARRL with different verbiage after the beginning of the New Year.

- **Treasurer –**

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our 2019 Christmas Party will be from **4-6 PM on Saturday, December 14**, at Casa de Pizza in Los Lunas at **106 Vallejos Ln, Los Lunas, NM 87031**. (Right across from the Farmers Market behind the new Main street Car Wash just east of the railroad tracks). **Cost is \$15 per person** for roast beef dinner, drink, taxes and tip. Pay at the door as you pickup your raffle ticket.

## MINUTES OF VCARA'S MEETING OF OCTOBER 22, 2019

The General VCARA meeting for October 22<sup>nd</sup> was called to order at 19:00 local time. Officers Earl,

**November 2019 Issue**

- **September** Debits \$1255.14 (debits include Meadow Lake Costs)
- Credits \$1819.15
- Outstanding Checks \$316.69
- Checkbook Balance (\$6335.34)
- Bank Balance (\$6652.03)
- **Repeater Chairman** - none.
- **Past President** -
  - Ham of the Year? Need nominees and an award. Charlie will send out an email for inquiry.
- **Ares Chairman** – none.

**New Business:**

- Chris Schaaf - new ham radio club for school students and UNMV? What is needed? (Radios and antennas?) January time frame. Club officers agree to support.
- Saturday build the benches at the clubhouse (9:00) am. 10-12 people needed (bring your own tools if desired). Burritos and Orange Juice will be available. Station setup volunteers. HF station (Icom Pro). HF station voice

- and digital modes (Icom 7300).
- \$ 42 in raffle tickets were sold.
  - Christmas Party (Casa De Pizza) December 14 5pm to 7pm
  - Waffle Breakfast (8-10 am) for the Bethlehem Station Kick off. Voted to be on the 28th of December.

Meeting was adjourned and followed by a Presentation & Discussion on VCARA’s current and future repeater technology (W5CSG). Respectfully submitted by

*Greg Mershon, KG5OCW  
VCARA Secretary*

**ANOTHER GIANT STEP TOWARDS GETTING KC5OUR GETTING BACK ON THE AIR**

On September 26 eleven club members gathered to build the tables and shelves for the three KC5OUR operating positions. Each 6-ft wide position has great

- leg room to easily accommodate
- two operators or an operator and a mentor.
- Several features different for our old shack include
- sufficient height between table and shelf for

**Events Calendar**

**Sat, Nov 16, 2019, 9am-10**  
*Breakfast Club Meets at McDonalds, Los Lunas*

**Wed, Nov 20, 2019, 1:30pm**  
*Koffee Klatch at Denny’s Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM*

**Wed, Nov 20, 2019 8pm**  
*VCARA Net 145.430 mhz*  
See Net Operator schedule.

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

**Sat, Nov 23, 2019, 9am-10**  
*Breakfast Club Meets at McDonalds, Los Lunas*



**Tues, Nov 26, 2019, 7pm**  
*VCARA Mtg @ clubhouse 700 Camelot Blvd SW, LL*  
Members & guests welcome

**Wed, Nov 27, 2019 8pm**  
*VCARA Net 145.430 mhz*  
See Net Operator schedule.

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

**Sat, Nov 30, 2019, 9am-10**  
*Breakfast Club Meets at McDonalds, Los Lunas*



monitors, 'stools' for computers so they don't have to occupy table space, and an RF bonding-ground strap.

Special thanks to (in random order) Chris W5CSG, Charlie NM5CL, Gene KI5BZI, Jim KI5GNT, Al KI5CUX, John K8JWS, Ralph NM5RC, Steve KD5PSF, Betty N5BEL, Bob

K5PSG and Mary Ann N7SX for coming out to help. Earl KB5UEW should also be mentioned since he brought lots of power tools to help but due to other commitments was not able to attend. John K8JWS direction assured the work went smoothly and efficiently.

*Ralph Clark, NM5RC  
VCARA Past President*

bench is not shown in this photo, the pieces were cut for installation of the shelves planned for the following Saturday. While not shown in the photos, Ralph NM5RC stood around, watched and occasionally passed along a tool or pencil.

While the Builders Area was being built, Ty K5WY, Gene KI5BZI, Al KI5CUX (not shown) and Charlie NM5CL were setting up some of the radios in the three KC5OUR operating positions on the tables and shelves completed the previous week. Behind Ty, you can see the window mounted custom cable pass-through panel Ty built. This panel allows for state-of-the-art common AC/DC grounding and RF bonding/grounding of all antennas and radio equipment.

The pass-through/grounding panel has lots of room for expansion and will also accommodate antenna rotor cables and repeater microwave cables.

*Ralph Clark, NM5RC  
VCARA Special Events  
Coordinator*

**CALENDAR - Continued**

**Wed, Dec 4, 2019, 1:30pm**  
*Koffee Klatch at Denny's  
Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM*

**Wed, Dec 4, 2019 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

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

**Sat, Dec 7, 2019, 9am-10**  
**Breakfast Club Meets at  
McDonalds, Los Lunas**

**Wed, Dec 11, 2019 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

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

**Sat, Dec 14, 2019, 9am-10**  
**Breakfast Club Meets at  
McDonalds, Los Lunas**  
VE Testing at clubhouse 10am  
For info email [kc5our@arrl.net](mailto:kc5our@arrl.net).

**REAL PROGRESS ON  
KC5OUR SHACK'S  
BUILDERS AREA**

On Saturday, November 2nd eight club members departed our regular 9 AM Saturday get together at McDonald's for KC5OUR's Shack and begin building the Builder's area.

A nice arrangement using some benches and solid core door table tops (from our old Rio Communities Shack) was developed. The arrangement not only will nicely accommodate the building and testing of radio equipment, but provides shelves and storage for test equipment and component storage as well as an area for license exams and some table seating for such club activities as the waffle breakfast.

Chris W5CSG, Earl KB5UEW, Steve AC8PC and Charlie NM5CL getting a good start on the Builders Area benches and shelves. While the shelf above the



## KC5OUR Repeater & Net Operators

Every Wednesday at 8pm

VHF repeater - 145.430 MHz

Negative 600 KHz, 100 Hz tone

UHF repeater – 442.700 MHz

Positive 5 MHz & 100 Hz tone

Nov 20 – Elvira, KD5UJQ

Nov 27 – John, K8JWS

Charlie, NM5CL (70cm Net)

Dec 04 – Earl, KB5UEW

Dec 11 – Chris, KG5WVC

Dec 18 – Russ, KD5UJR

Dec 25 – MERRY

CHRISTMAS – NO NET

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

## VCARA Club Contacts

### Officers

**President:** Earl Cox, KB5UEW

[kb5uew@yahoo.com](mailto:kb5uew@yahoo.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:**

currently vacant  
*VCARA Dots~n~Dashes*

**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.*

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Amateur Radio Association  
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Peralta, New Mexico 87042

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## HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

ZANE CRESAP

BOB CORNETT, K5PSG

KEN HAYDEN, N7ZAP

KATHY GREGORY, KC6WOB

BETTY LYON, N5BEL