

Dots ~N~ Dashes

October 2020
issue

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

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WHO IS THAT WEEDER MAN?

As some club members gathered Saturday

morning (9/26/20) at the KC5OUR Shack to visit, neaten up some station wiring, do some planning for the soon to be installed antenna towers and visit some more, one member arrived with shovel, rake, hoe and pitch fork to tackle the waist high crop of weeds around the Shack.

Several members leaving at 11 saw the HUGE fence top high pile of weeds and stepped in to help drag them to the dumpster and chuck them up. Another member took on the task of being a full time heavy duty in-dumpster Stomper to crush and pack the weeds into the overloaded dumpster. With the dumpster full and the helpers exhausted, Weeder Man quietly gathered up his tools and slipped away.



Around the clubhouse!

If you recognize Weeder Man, be sure and thank him and consider treating him to a root beer. By the way, it appears a couple more similar Saturday mornings will be needed to get the Shack's weeds under control.

*Ralph Clark NM5RC,
Special Events Coordinator*

VCARA MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

The General VCARA meeting for September 22nd commenced at 19:00 local time on VHF repeater (145.430 MHz with Negative 600 KHz and 100 Hz tone). In attendance were the following officers:

President: K5ZOO Kevin,
Vice President: KB5ENN John,
Secretary: KG5OCW Greg,
Treasurer: NM5CL Charlie,
Past Pres: KB5UEW Earl,

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

DAN DAVID KA7PUN, MARK JOHNSON N9YEX,
JOSEPH DOYLE NO5T, PAT LIBERTELL KA5PAT,
GREG MERSHOW KG5OCW, EARL COX KB5UEW,
TED CHRISTMAN KC0GUD,
MARIANN JOHNSTON KF5JNP, RANDY BURSON KE5SAW,
RUSS HUNT KD5UJR, JAY MILLER W5WHN,
PHYLLIS YBARRA KB5SXJ, MARY YOST N7WUJ.

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ARES Chair: W5CSG Chris,
Special Events Coordinator:
NM5RC Ralph .

In addition, 11 Stations checked in: K5ABQ, KI5BZI –{ VA Net starting up again. 14.287 Mhz }, KF5DTU, K5VWH, KD5MHO, N5PR, KD5UJR, N9YEX, K5CYA, W5CLG (relayed) and N5BEL (relayed). Resulting in a total of 18 check-ins.

Announcements:

- K5ZOO - Currently working on antenna purchased and shipped. We replaced all fluorescent bulbs with LED lighting. S9+ to S4 result on main radio.
- KG5OCW - Stay tuned to facebook for new posts.
- NM5CL - No Treasurer Report. It will be sent to officers in the next few days. Reminder of Wednesday Night net 8:00pm tomorrow.
- KB5UEW - Still stuff in the hallway. Come by and check it out, take what you want.
- NM5RC - LED lights at the shack. Cost of concrete for bases - quote coming and will be distributed.
- W5CSG - news on Capilla peak. Antennas up there were completely destroyed. Upper RIO working on a solution. The 700 machine is still down.

Old Business: none

New Business:

- Zoom meeting?
- Tower discussions occurring - okay to pour,

concrete pads planned to be poured?

Meeting was adjourned at 1927 local time after the discussion of the above items. Net was turned over to normal traffic.

Respectfully submitted by

*Greg Mershon, KG5OCW
VCARA Secretary*

MONTHLY VE TESTING RESULTS

The monthly VE session at VCARA was held on Saturday, Oct 10 with these results:

- Michael Hepler - Passed Element 2 for Technician
- Dee Warther, KI5KZH - Upgraded to General
- William Anderson, KI5HQI - Upgraded to Extra
- Keneth Petree, KI5KOE - Upgraded to Extra

73,

*Charlie, NM5CL
VCARA Treasurer*

BEWARE – EMAIL SCAMS

Recently I have received more than one email, purportedly from PayPal and I'm sure others also have received these or similar ones.

Events Calendar

**Wed, Oct 21, 2020 8pm
VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Oct 22, 2020, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Oct 24, 2020, 9 - Noon
Breakfast @ clubhouse**
Bring your own and join group for breakfast. Masks and social distancing is strictly enforced.



**Tues, Oct 27, 2020 7-8pm
VCARA Monthly Meeting
on-the-air 145.430 mhz**

**Wed, Oct 28, 2020 8pm
VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Oct 29, 2020, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Oct 31, 2020, 9 - Noon
Breakfast @ clubhouse**
Bring your own and join group for breakfast. Masks and social distancing is strictly enforced.

**Wed, Nov 4, 2020 8pm
VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**
See Net Operator schedule.



NEW MEXICO DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING UPDATE

The first one was a confirmation for a purchase in the hundreds of dollars. However, no merchant was indicated. The second one, which came one week after the first one, was a confirmation that I had added another address to my profile, complete with name, street, city and state. Below this data was a link to click on to update my account if I did not make this change.

A quick reading of each email and a look at the sender address revealed both of these to be scams. However, never one to get bit by not paying attention, I logged into my PayPal account and not surprisingly, all was OK.

So, if you receive emails from PayPal (??), don't click on any embedded links, just delete them and go your happy way. Check your account if you're not sure, but go direct.

*Charlie Lyon, NM5CL
VCARA Treasurer*



DHSEM Classes PreparingNewMexico

Because of the COVID 19 outbreak in New Mexico, many trainings were cancelled or postponed into October 2020 or later. During that time we looked at delivery options including: 100% virtual deliveries, and hybrid deliveries. Starting July we started offering ICS 300 and ICS 400 virtually.

There is still a backlog of cancelled classes including ICS 300, and Emergency Management Academy series and they are our priority to provide. We are also in communication with our training partners; including the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium, (NDPC), and EMI. Many of these programs have started virtual training or expanded their virtual program.

The following pages provide the most current information on the various training partners and on-line training options.

For the time local jurisdictions that require ICS 300 and ICS 400 as part of a training academy or officer promotion requirement and have in-house qualified instructors may choose to deliver instructor led courses provided that they develop a COVID-19 safety mitigation plan that would include health and safety precautions. The local jurisdiction would have the discretion to open the course to additional local students that would not require travel from outside of the area. DHSEM Training will support these courses in an administrative and advisory role.

As more information becomes available we will post on PreparingNewMexico.org

NEWS FROM THE TRAINING AND EXERCISE UNIT

The Training and Exercise Unit is working to provide select course virtually

Currently available, *keep checking for additional offerings*

ICS 300: Intermediate ICS Virtual: [Course description and scheduled classes](#)

ICS 400: Advanced ICS Virtual : [Course description and scheduled classes](#)

G-191: Emergency Operations Center/ ICS Interface: [Course description and class date](#)

Coming Soon:

G-2300: Intermediate Emergency Operations Center Functions

K-0146: HSEEP Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)

K-705 Fundamentals of Grants Management

COVID-19 Protocols for in Person Classes

Due to ongoing concern for COVID—19 there are requirements for in person classes. Each of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC) member is requiring certain procedures to be put in place for any class they provide. In addition DHSEM will follow guidance provided by NM DOH.

[NM DOH COVID—19 Information](#)

For more information:

Jerome Macdonald: (505) 476-0872
JeromeP.Macdonald@state.nm.us

www.PreparingNewMexico.org

**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

Oct 21 – Greg, KG5OCW
Oct 28 – Al, W5ACW
Nov 04 – Gene, KI5BZI
Nov 11 – Elvira, KD5UJR
Nov 18 – John, K8JWS
Nov 25 – Earl, KB5UEW
Dec 02 – Russ, KD5UJR
Dec 09 – Ralph, NM5RC
Dec 16 – Greg, KG5OCW

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

VCARA Club Contacts

Officers

President: Kevin Welander,
K5ZOO, kevinwelander@msn.com
Vice President: John Eldridge,
KB5ENN, jmeldri@q.com
Treasurer: Charlie Lyon,
NM5CL, nm5cl@att.net
Secretary: Greg Mershon,
KG5OCW
gregmershon2@msn.com

Past President: Earl Cox,
KB5UEW kb5uew@yahoo.com
Special Events Coordinator:
Ralph Clark, NM5RC

Club email kc5our@arrl.net
Repeater Chairperson:
currently vacant

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

**BE SAFE -
STAY HOME
AND GET ON
THE AIR**