



Dots ~N~ Dashes

December 2020
issue

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

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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM BETHLEHEM, NEW MEXICO, KC5OUR SPECIAL EVENT STATION

To all the wonderful members of the Valencia County Amateur Radio Association,

For many years VCARA has been on the air as a special event station for about a week before Christmas sending out Christmas Wishes from Bethlehem, New Mexico. Remember 'Belen' is the Spanish word for 'Bethlehem.' In addition to putting the club station on the air during these events to allow everyone an opportunity to get on the air, it has been a long standing practice to allow all club members to extend Bethlehem contacts from their home stations within Valencia County using the club's KC5OUR callsign.

But for 2020, with the virus situation we do not plan on putting the club station on the air. So, it will be up to the club

members to get on the air from their home stations to send out Christmas Greetings

from Bethlehem.

Be sure to log your contacts and get the logs to the club or email them to nm5rc@msn.com so they can be entered into the club's log and requests for QSL cards can be acknowledged.

This is a good opportunity to get your kids and grandkids (spouses, friends, etc.) on the air because the bands will not be crowded, folks will be wanting to talk to you, the contacts are casual, folks calling will be patient, and there is no specific wording or format required.

Questions? These three club members have done this for a few years and would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

- Paul, N5PR 505-999-8253
pridley@swcp.com
- Charlie, NM5CL 505-450-8536
nm5cl@att.net
- Ralph, NM5RC 505-821-7636
nm5rc@msn.com

The announcement we put out on the ARRL web site states:

12/17/2020
Bethlehem on the Air
Dec 17-Dec 24,
1400Z-2300Z,
KC5OUR, Belen, NM.

Valencia County Amateur Radio Association. 21.283 14.283 7.183 3.883. QSL. VCARA, P.O. Box 268, Peralta, NM 87068. For QSL card, SASE to VCARA. kc5our@arrl.net or www.kc5our.com

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

**LOCH PAGE KF5ZED,
ALFRED T. MIRABAL KA5FRB,
GEORGE CUSACK K6GTC,
MARY LOUISE DREIBELBIS WD5JMN,
ROB SHAUGER K5PPN,
& JUDY MILLER WB5LYJ.**

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If you want to do digital or CW, pick your favorite frequency and get on the air.

Example contact 'script' and possible log sheet are attached to this email. 73.

*Ralph Clark NM5RC,
Special Events Coordinator*

RADIOSHACK@ IS BACK

RadioShack® is back as an online retailer of electronics, offering some parts in its inventory that largely consists of radios, batteries, telephone gear, drones, computer accessories, and even cameras. The iconic company was recently purchased from General Wireless by Retail Ecommerce Ventures (REV).

During its heyday, RadioShack had some 8,000 retail outlets and once offered some amateur radio equipment, including some popular handheld transceivers and a 10-meter transceiver. RadioShack came out of its second bankruptcy in January 2018 with 400 dealers, an online retail presence, and a distribution center.

Is it too late for the Shack to make a comeback? It is very possible and probable what with the online giant, Amazon.com as a competitor. Most any electronic item one would normally go to the Shack for can now be found on Amazon and

quite often with free shipping and two day delivery.

Speaking of mail order electronic parts, who remembers Allied Electronics and its wonderful huge thick free catalog? This company was a Godsend when I was stationed overseas and had nowhere to go to locally for parts. Days of olde, good memories. 73,

*Charlie Lyon, NM5CL
VCARA Treasurer*

K9YA TELEGRAPH NEWSLETTER/E-ZINE

K9YA puts out a free monthly emailed Amateur Radio Newsletter with general interest articles. You can signup for it at: http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/k9ya_telegraph.

*Ralph Clark NM5RC,
Special Events Coordinator*

Notice!

Last Meeting of November 24th 2020 did not meet the quorum for an official meeting, so it was not recorded.

Christmas dinner is usually the December meeting, but with COVID danger, there won't be a dinner nor potluck breakfast. And any on-the-air meeting is TBA.

Events Calendar

**Wed, Dec 19 - Dec 24, 2020
Bethlehem On-The-Air.**

Either from home or at clubhouse, where masks and social distancing is enforced.

**Wed, Dec 23, 2020 8pm
VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Dec 24, 2020, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Nov 28, 2020, 9 - Noon
Breakfast @ clubhouse**
BYOB. Masks and social distancing is strictly enforced.

**Wed, Dec 30, 2020 8pm
VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Dec 31, 2020, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Jan 2, 2020, 9 - Noon
Informal mtg @ clubhouse**
Masks and social distancing is strictly enforced.

**Wed, Jan 6, 2020 8pm
VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**
See Net Operator schedule.



**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 18 – John, K8JWS
Nov 25 – Earl, KB5UEW
Dec 02 – Russ, KD5UJR
Dec 09 – Ralph, NM5RC
Dec 16 – Greg, KG5OCW
Dec 23 – Al, W5ACW
Dec 30 – Gene, KI5BZI

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

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**
Be safe, stay
home & get
ON-THE-AIR