

Dots~N~ Dashes

March 2021
issue

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

Inside this Issue

- 1** Club's Antenna
- 2** Minutes of Meeting
- 2** Events Calendar
- 3** License Fees
- 3** For Sale
- 4** VCARA Net Operators
- 4** VCARA Contacts

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS TO:

CHRIS GILLESPIE W5CSG,
PAUL RIDLEY N5PR,
EMIL CRAWFORD KE5GCH,
KEVIN WELANDER K5ZOO,
STEVE SANBORN AC8PC,
EMMALINE ELDRIDGE KF5TBJ

MESSAGE FROM SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

OH, IT IS A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT TO BEHOLD. About a dozen members gathered at the Shack on Saturday morning, March 20, to complete the re-work of the vertical antenna. After 8:30 breakfast burritos, OJ and coffee, at 9:00 everyone pitched in and the antenna installation was completed by 10:30. Wow does it look nice. And it tested good too. Several members got on the air to demonstrate that it worked fine.

Special thanks to everyone who helped, both this day and the previous Saturday (March 13) on this project. The volunteers included **Andrew NM5AE, Charlie NM5CL, Joe (no call), Chris W5CSG, Rob K5PPN, Jim W5JBS, Ralph NM5RC, Ben KG5BTC, Earl KB5UEW, John K8JWS, Ty K5WY, Gene KI5BZI, Steve KD5PSF, Nick KI5MFF and Rex W6ASV.** Sincere apologies to any others who helped but did not get on the sign-in roster.

While a lot of work, the many volunteers and their wide variety of expertise made it an enjoyable effort. One crew started inside installing a guy ring and making sure the antenna was ready to go up. Another inside crew installed fittings on the coax.

Meanwhile the trenching crew was digging the 60-ft of coax trench so the other outside activities wouldn't be delayed.



The radial wire crew buried ~1000-ft of radial wires radiating like spokes from the new antenna.

The radial plate crew drew a crowd of advisors as it dealt with a 30 bolts, and nuts and LOTS and LOTS of various types of washers.

Unfortunately, the old photographer forgot to take the all important photos of the antenna being raised the completed installation are missing. You will have drop by the Shack and see it for yourself.

After being through testing, KC5OUR was put on the air to make several

March 2021 Issue

contacts on several bands. To wrap things up several members tromped the stack of weeds left over from the previous week into the dumpster.

Again, thanks to everyone who turned out to help.

*Ralph Clark NM5RC
Special Events Coordinator*

**VCARA MEETING
MINUTES OF
FEBRUARY 23, 2021**

The General VCARA meeting for February 23rd commenced at 19:00 local time on Zoom. In attendance were officers; Kevin K5ZOO, John KB5ENN, Greg KG5OCW, Charlie NM5CL, Earl KB5UEW, Chris W5CSG and Ralph NM5RC.

Officer's Report:

1. **President K5ZOO Kevin** - Community Center is reserved for field day in case COVID restrictions ease.
2. **Secretary KG5OCW Greg** - New Video on uploaded onto Facebook Page.
3. **Treasurer NM5CL Charlie**
 - a. Beginning bank balance in January of \$18,289.63.
 - b. Current balance is \$18,290.10.
4. **Past President KB5UEW Earl** – Good Zoom meeting for builders club. Discussed loading coils/arduinios,etc. Thanks to Elvira for creating the newsletter.

5. **ARES Chairperson W5CSG Chris** –
 - a. Repeaters are all working 146.700 is attached to WiresX network.
 - b. ARES is on standby due to COVID.
6. **Special Events Coordinator NM5RC Ralph** –
 - a. 2nd Saturday of April NM QSO Party. Ralph will email contest details (such as frequencies, operating procedures, etc).
 - b. As a club we should be donating to the Church the property is located on. (see new business).

Old Business:

1. New screen on 756 pro radio working.
2. Picked up collection of SK (Yens) items are on the table east side of room at clubhouse are available for purchase from the club – money goes back to his widow.
3. Sections of ROHN tower – available to be picked up. Long-bed Truck or trailer needed (Kevin Volunteered)

New Business:

As a club we should be donating to the Church the property is located on (\$100.00 per month). Motion made and seconded. Passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 19:22 local time after the discussion of the above items. 17 were on attendance including officers, and Van K5VWH, Jim W5JBS,

Mark N9YEX, Ty Till, Gene KI5BZI, Fred KF5DTU, Paul N5PR, John KD5MHO, Steve AC8PC and Alfred Tom Miribal.

Ralph gave a presentation on Radio Batteries for portable operations. Afterwards, net was turned over to normal traffic. Respectfully submitted by

*Greg Mershon, KG5OCW
VCARA Secretary*

Events Calendar



Tues, Mar 23, 2021 7-8pm
VCARA Monthly Meeting
Contact zoom information:
<https://zoom.us/j/97115355215>
Meeting ID: 971 1535 5215
Passcode: VCARA.

Wed, Mar 24, 2021 8pm
VCARA Net 145.430 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Thu, Mar 25, 2021, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz
Emergency scheduled net.

Sat, Mar 27, 2021, 9 - Noon
Breakfast @ clubhouse
BYOB. Masks and social distancing is strictly enforced.

Mon, Mar 29, 2021 7pm
Builder's Club Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/82404682433>
Meeting ID: 824 0468 2433
Passcode: kc5our.

CALENDAR – CONTINUED

Wed, Mar 31, 2021 8pm
VCARA Net 145.430 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Thu, Apr 1, 2021, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz
Emergency scheduled net.

Sat, Apr 3, 2021, 9 - Noon
Breakfast @ clubhouse
BYOB. Masks and social distancing is strictly enforced.

Mon, Apr 5, 2021 7pm
Builder's Club Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/82404682433>
Meeting ID: 824 0468 2433
Passcode: kc5our.

Wed, Apr 7, 2021 8pm
VCARA Net 145.430 mhz
See Net Operator schedule.

Thu, Apr 8, 2021, 7:30pm
Tri-County Net 146.96mhz
Emergency scheduled net.

Sat, Apr 10, 2021, 9 - Noon
NMQSO party @clubhouse
BYOB. Masks and social distancing is strictly enforced.
VE Testing by appointment
(Contact Chris @505-450-7447 or email: csgillespie@msn.com)

Mon, Apr 12, 2021 7pm
Builder's Club Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/82404682433>
Meeting ID: 824 0468 2433
Passcode: kc5our.

LICENSE FEES

The FCC Report and Order adopted last December concerning fees for Amateur Radio licenses was published in the Federal Register on 3/19. The rules would typically take effect on April 19, however, collection of the amateur fees will NOT begin on that date.

The effective date for new amateur radio fees has not yet been established. The FCC stated in the published Notice (at p. 15061, para. 44, <https://tinyurl.com/y52ff2zy>) that the fees "will not take effect until the requisite notice has been provided to Congress, the FCC's information technology systems and internal procedures have been updated, and the

VCARA Dots~n~Dashes
Commission publishes notice(s) in the Federal Register announcing the effective date of such rules." The ARRL's Washington DC attorney expects that the effective date will be some time this summer. 73,

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division
Director: Jeff Ryan, K0RM
k0rm@arrrl.org

FOR SALE

Chance to Get a Great Start on Your Super Station.

Sam N5FO has alerted us that Larry Griggs N5BG (575-358-2259) has the following in Virden, NM (north of Lordsburg on the AZ line):

FREE: Two 120-foot (yep, 10 stories high) Rohn 25 towers. One with a C4X antenna. Other with a 4 (or 5) element 20-meter Yagi). Must dismantle and take everything.

FOR SALE: Two Alpha 99 amplifiers. \$1200 each. Must pick-up and disconnect.

SK Yens' equipment is also for sale at clubhouse. Money will go to his widow.



**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

Mar 17 – Earl, KB5UEW
Mar 24 – Russ, KD5UJR
Mar 31 – Ralph, NM5RC
Apr 07 – Greg, KG5OCW
Apr 14 – Al, W5ACW
Apr 21 – Gene, KI5BZI
Apr 28 – Elvira, KD5UJQ

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 & GET
ON THE AIR!**