

# Dots~N~ Dashes

May 2022  
issue

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

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## HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS TO THE FOLLOWING:

VAN HARLINE KV5VWH  
CREIGHTON EDINGTON  
KF5KWP  
THOMAS SMITH KF5JKL

## TOWER BASES TASK FORCE – NEXT PHASE

Hi Wonderful  
VCARA Members,



Now we have the concrete tower bases installed, we can move on to the more exciting phases.

### Saturday, May 14, 2022

- 120 VAC Power Line from Building to Shed - a small project. Starting work at 9 AM. Will be done before Noon. Donuts provided.

### The work consists of:

- Trenching - cleaning out, deepening a bit and shaving back the wall a bit on both ends of the ~30' of existing trench. The soil is soft, thus easy digging.
- Installing 1.25" PVC conduit with two horizontal-to-vertical bends and LB junction boxes on top of risers; the boxes will be connected to building and shed.
- Install ~12' of ground wire from building grounding rod to shed entry panel.
- Pulling power line through conduit.
- Backfilling trench including laying down

marking tape 6" from surface.

- Digging 8-10 test holes along future trenches to verify type of soil – reason for this is to determine if the trenches could be easily dug by hand or if we are going to have to rent a trencher.

**Tools needed:** Please bring what you can.

- Trenching shovels
- Shovels
- Grubbing hoe/pick
- Probably not needed, but NM5RC will bring just in case
- 50' steel fish tape for getting pulling cord through conduits
- Might be useful if you have one, but we can get by without it
- Bolt cutter (or?) for cutting #6 ground wire
- Would be handy if you have one, but we can do this with the hack saw NM5RC is bringing
- Saws for cutting PVC conduit - NM5RC and W5CSG will bring

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- Electrical panel hole cutter - W5CSG will bring
- Saw horses - NM5RC will bring
- Drill w bits - NM5RC will bring

## PLEASE COME OUT AND LEND A HAND

**Questions?** Call or email Ralph NM5RC (505-821-7636 nm5rc @ msn.com) or ask on club's Wednesday night net.

## assist with the effort:

Earl KB5UEW, Chris W5CSG, Charlie NM5CL, Nick KI5MFF, Rico N5ABQ, Rex W6ASV, Liz KI5PGD, Ginger KC5MTI, Jim W5JBS, Ralph NM5RC, John KI5QKV and Andrew NM5AE.

Thank you very much and 73,

*Ralph, NM5RC  
VCARA Special  
Events Coordinator*

## VCARA GENERAL MEETING, APRIL 26, 2022

We got the second tower's concrete base poured on Friday, April 29.

## Special thanks to the 12 club members who turned out to

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm MST. Board members

in attendance were KG5OCW, NM5CL, NM5RC, K5ZOO, KB5UEW, KB5ENN and W5CSG.

Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag after which attendees introduced themselves. There were 14 attending.

**Officer's Report:** Treasurer NM5CL gave the financial reports.



## Events Calendar

**Sat, May 14, 2022, 8:30sm**  
**Tower Base – Next Phase**  
Volunteers needed.

**Sat, May 14, 2022, 9- 11am**  
**VE Testing @ clubhouse**  
Chris W5CSG 505-450-7447  
csgillespie@msn.com for info.

**Mon, May16, 2022, 7pm**  
**Builder's Club Meeting**  
Click on the link below:  
<http://bit.ly/KC5OUR-BC>.

**Wed, May 18, 2022, 1:30pm**  
**Koffee Klatch at Denny's**  
**Restaurant, Los Lunas, NM**

**Wed, May 18, 2022, 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu May 19, 2022, 7:30pm**  
**Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, May 21, 2022, 9 - Noon**  
**Builder's Club Meeting &**  
**Breakfast @ clubhouse**  
BYOB. Masks and social distancing is strictly enforced.

**Tue, May 24, 2022, 7pm**  
**VCARA Monthly Meeting**  
Members NOT comfortable with attending in person may join the meeting on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/97115355215>  
Meeting ID: 971 1535 5215  
Passcode: VCARA



- Beginning Balance \$10,289.03.
- Debits – \$300.00
- Credits-- \$659.08
- Ending Balance \$10,648.11 (March 31).

#### Tower Project

- Beginning project balance \$11,790.00
- Unspent balance \$2253.46
- Projected balance after April \$1153.46.

**Old Business:** none mentioned.

#### New business:

- Charlie Lyon - Kudos to club from Tour of the Rio Grande organizer KG5LUD.
- Further tower work will be done on Friday (4/29).
- New officers are needed. (president and vp need to be filled).
  - Earl for KB5UEW for secretary
  - Charlie for treasurer
  - Nominate John for VP

- Tentative John kb5enn
- Paul Ridley trustee for the KC5OUR callsign, need to find another person to take on that role. Chris expressed interest in taking on that role. Need to research steps to change trustee.
- Changes to the bylaws discussion. PNM offer for board members. Expand the board for ARES chairman and/or Builder Club chairman (2 new positions). Both positions would be a standing committee position.
- Bylaws changes require all



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## May 2022 Issue

membership voting and 30 notice (amongst other legal challenges). Motion carries.

Without any further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm local time.

Respectfully submitted,

*Greg Mershon KG5OCW*  
*VCARA Secretary*

## CLUB STATION KC5OUR HAS RECORD SETTING NM QSO PARTY OPERATION

Six club members led and mentored by Nick KI5MFF (shown in photo below) participated in KC5OUR's NM QSO Party record setting operation on April 9th. The 156 contacts using three bands was the most we have done. With the 20 meter band open and contacts rolling in, only a quick glance was given to other bands. As frosting on

the cake, four contacts were logged on 2 meter simplex. With the towers going up, next year we will have our Yagi antenna up and a 40-80 meter dipole so we might be able to gather a few more states and provinces, but more QSOs will probably require extending the mic time right up to the 8 PM quitting time. Another first was all the logging was done on the computer and several more neat features of the Icom 7300 radio were put into play.

Club members participating this year included Nick KI5MFF, Andrew NM5AE, Charlie NM5CL, Chris KI5PGD, Liz KI5PGJ and Ralph NM5RC. Put the second Saturday of April 2023 on your calendar and let's aim for even more contacts.

*Ralph, NM5RC*  
*VCARA Special*  
*Events Coordinator*



## CALENDAR - CONTINUED

**Wed, May 25, 2022, 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, May 26, 2022, 7:30pm**  
**Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, May 28, 2022, 9-Noon**  
**Breakfast @ clubhouse**  
BYOB. Masks and social distancing is strictly enforced.

**Mon, May30, 2022, 7pm**  
**Builder's Club Meeting**  
Click on the link below:  
<http://bit.ly/KC5OUR-BC>.

**Wed, Jun 1, 2022, 1:30pm**  
**Koffee Klatch at Denny's**  
**Restaurant, Los Lunas,NM**

**Wed, Jun 1, 2022 8pm**  
**VCARA Net 145.430 mhz**  
See Net Operator schedule.

**Thu, Jun 2, 2022, 7:30pm**  
**Tri-County Net 146.96mhz**  
Emergency scheduled net.

**Sat, Jun 4, 2022, 9 - Noon**  
**Builder's Club Meeting & Breakfast @ clubhouse**  
BYOB. Masks and social distancing is strictly enforced.

**Wed, Jun 8, 2022 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

May 18 – Al, W5ACW  
May 25 – Gene, KI5BZI  
Jun 01 – Elvira, KD5UJQ  
Jun 08 – Chris, KF5EMP  
(Sub needed)  
Jun 15 – John, K8JWS  
Jun 22 – Earl, KB5UEW  
Jun 29 – Russ, KD5UJR  
Jul 06 – Ralph, NM5RC

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

## VCARA Club Contacts

### Officers

**President:** Kevin Welander,  
K5ZOO, kevinwelanders@msn.com  
**Vice President:** John Eldridge,  
KB5ENN, jmeldri@q.com  
**Treasurer:** Charlie Lyon,  
NM5CL, nm5cl@att.net  
**Secretary:** Greg Mershon,  
KG5OCW  
[gregmershon2@msn.com](mailto:gregmershon2@msn.com)

**Past President:** Earl Cox,  
KB5UEW kb5uew@yahoo.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.*

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

US POSTAGE  
Required

**BE SAFE  
AND GET ON  
THE AIR**