

C. SATURDAY MORNINGS AT THE SHACK

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FOR THE NEW HAM, WHAT'S A SHACK?

An amateur radio station is commonly referred to as a *radio shack*, *ham shack* or just a *shack*. These shacks are where most of the radio equipment is located and where a ham will spend most of his or her time while on the air. Ham shacks can be in a home, in a car or other vehicle, and even in a portable case, such as a backpack.

VCARA's KC5OUR shack is located at our club house and we interchangeably refer to the clubhouse as our shack.

SOME BASICS

- Every Saturday morning from 9 AM to Noon.
- Many bring their breakfast or coffee from their favorite fast food restaurant.
- Visitors are always welcome.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THESE GATHERINGS?

Activities not limited to those listed below and typically several of these are going on at the same time.

- General chit chat.
- Discuss/plan upcoming club activities and projects.
- Help each other with:
 - My new radio - how to use, set up, program . . . ?
 - I'm having this problem . . . What is the cause and cure?
 - How should I operate when . . . ?
 - Rig and antenna suggestions?
 - Etc., etc., etc.
- Operate KC5OUR and, if desired, get mentoring on using the equipment, operating procedures and logging.
- License exams - second Saturday of the month.
- Builders club activities - first and third Saturday of the month.

BUILDERS CLUB

- Hands on activities focused on learning about electronics, designing circuits, building projects and figuring out why a piece of equipment is not working.
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- First and third Saturday of every month.