

JUNE

DOTS and DASHES Valencia County Amateur Radio Association Newsletter

A Letter From The Presidency

UPCOMING DATES

May

20 9am Network for Internet work. (See article)

23rd. 7Pm Regular meeting

June

Every Saturday
9-12 Breakfast club at club house.

First and Third Saturday 9-12
Builder's club at Club house

Every Wednesday
8pm Weekly Net

Every Thursday
7:30pm ARES net

10th VE TESTING
VE testing is conducted monthly the 2nd Saturday at the VCARA Clubhouse
See our website for Important Info on this process.

23-24^h
FIELD DAY
At the Club House.

New officers Take over

Dues are due!

After elections look for a note here each month!
See you at Field Day!

Internet is Coming... Need Help

As a result of our Memorandum of Understanding with the Los Lunas School District they will be providing us with **high-speed Internet Access**. This service will be microwaved from the District's offices in downtown Los Lunas to our 50-ft tower.

Monthly license exams via the W5WI VEC require Internet Access for the testing. **Internet Access** will allow us to real-time spot stations on the air as well as keep our logging programs up to date and the submittal of our logs to Log Book of the World (aka LOTW).

When? On **Saturday May 20th, 2023**, starting at 9 AM sharp the microwave unit will be installed on the school tower and connected to their **network system** for internet access. Then the tower climber and volunteer in a man-lift at our tower will use mirrors to locate each other and aim the microwave dishes - UREKA, reliable Internet Access at KC50UR.

Additional help is needed: Volunteers have stepped forward for climbing the tower, riding the man-lift and being the technical geniuses on each end. But several support helpers are needed to assist with these efforts for such things as gathering tools and sending them up in a bucket, safety observers, message relaying, untangling cables, bringing donuts, and so on. Come out and support the efforts. Check with Chris W5CSG or John K8JWS if you have questions.



Meeting Minutes

In May Presentation

Ralph Clark, NM5RC,
presented about the logging
software the club uses.

Also Discussed:

Location Location Location
FYI... Field Day

NEW FIELD DAY LOCATION

Doesn't Field Day mean going
into the Field to
demonstrate/practice our
expertise/equipment to
operate during emergencies
and assist with emergency
communications?

Yes, but ARRL recognizes
assisting at Emergency
Communications Centers is an
essential Amateur Radio
service which should be
demonstrated and practiced.
So, there is a Field Day class
for operating from EOC's.
Since the Valencia County
Emergency Manager has
designated our shack as an
auxiliary EOC, it is appropriate
our Field Day operation be
from our clubhouse.

We will use the Yaesu FT-710
operating position for HF voice
and the Icom 756 position for CW
as well as voice when there isn't
a CW operator. Under discussion
is if the small distance between
the HF beam plus 40/80M dipole
and the HF vertical will cause too
much interference. If that will be
a problem, we may temporarily
erect a multi-band HF vertical in
the parking lot or the NW corner
of the church property. Also
planned is to use N5PR's jack-up
tower for a 6M beam. Oh, and
don't forget we can make simplex
contacts from our 2M/70cm
operating position too.

The plan for GOTA (Get On The
Air) operators is to prioritize
getting them on the air on any of
the rigs - separate
computer/paper logs will be
available at each of the rigs. See
the Field Day flyer for more info
re who is considered a GOTA
operator - turns out most of us
are.

Now for the important stuff. Yes,
Saturday morning donuts,
Saturday hamburger and pot luck
lunch, Saturday evening cold cut
sandwich fixings, and Sunday
morning breakfast burritos and
orange juice.

Wednesday Night Net

** See our website for net
running protocol**

May 17 – Greg, KB5OCW
May 24 – Al, W5ACW
May 31 – Gene, KI5BZI

Jun 07 – Chris, KF5EMP
Jun 14 – John, K8JWS
Jun 21 – Earl, KB5UEW
Jun 28 – Charlie, NM5CL



Contact Us

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Facebook- Valencia County Amateur Radio Association

OTHER NEWS and INFO

Next Meetings *Be Prepared*

June
Field Day!

July 25

We will be hearing from Earl Cox about the history of transceivers .

CHECK THIS OUT

There is a facebook group for our club?

<https://www.facebook.com/VaCtyARA/>

Why is this important? Why do you want to get on here and join our group?

There are updates about the repeater on here, if net needs to be canceled you might be able to read about it here. There are some cool photos. You can ask questions.

This is a good way for us to communicate, let's use it.

SCHOOL HAM STATIONS ARE COMING

Amateur Radio stations at the Valencia Middle School and the Los Lunas High School are on their way. These stations will be used in the schools' after school enrichment programs scheduled to start in August. The club received a grant from Facebook/META to support this effort. We developed a comprehensive equipment and references list which the schools used to place orders - some of the equipment has already been received.

By the time you are read this, William Kennedy (KJ5AEV), the enthusiastic science teacher leading VMS's effort is expects to earn his General license. The LLHS Ham radio project is under the auspices of the Junior ROTC program and the Captain is preparing for his license exam too.

As a result of our work with the Los Lunas Schools, preliminary discussions are under way with the Belen Middle School Principal and several teachers about the possibility of a BMS Amateur Radio station. Keep tuned for more information.

If you are interested in assisting with the school station undertaking, visit with John K8JWS, Nick KI5MFF, or Ralph NM5RC.