

SEPTEMBER

UPCOMING DATES

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

4th Saturday 10-12
ARES Group

VE TESTING

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

Sept 20-22
Duke City Ham Fest
(see article in newsletter)

Next Meeting
Be Prepared

SEPTEMBER
POT LUCK

Bring Something
Yummy



DOTS and DASHES

Valencia County Amateur Radio Association
Newsletter

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

I am looking for a volunteer to be the mentor for the club we are trying to get started at Los Lunas Middle School. The 2 teachers have not gotten their licenses yet but would like to get the club going but they are not ready to teach ham radio yet, and can't get on the air. I would do it but I work full time, and I work until 3:30 and it would be an after school club, but that starts at 2:30ish for them. They would need you after school a couple of days a week and maybe at some lunchtimes if we can get it going like at Valencia Middle School. I also need some help getting the station setup there. It was taken apart at LLHS and just dropped off in the classroom.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact me via my direct e-mail, john@jwschaaf.com. Please don't reply to this e-mail. Thank you very much in advance, John K8JWS VCARA President.

DUES

As a gentle reminder, the club fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30, which means membership dues become payable in July each year. Many members often pay their dues while attending our field day activities, however this year's attendance was light and few dues payments were received. Please, review your financial documents, i.e. check book, credit card, etc., to see if you have renewed your membership for 2024/25. If you are paid up *please ignore this reminder* and accept my sincere thank you for your timely membership renewal.

Dues may be paid by PayPal to: nm5cl@att.net

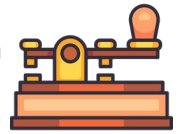
\$30.00 Individual

\$40.00 Family

Enter: "Membership Dues Payment"

or by check to: VCARA PO Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042

73, Charlie NM5CL
Treasurer, VCARA
nm5cl@att.net
505-450-8536



Meeting Notes

Bill K7ZM JULY 30th
He turned 80! Sorry this got lost in the birthday wishes previously.

He wrote:

I didn't see my "happy birthday" in the newsletter. I'll be 80 on July 31st. I never thought I'd ever make it to this age! Hopefully, I'll be attending some of the Saturday morning get togethers. (check out my qrz.com page)

73. Bill, K7ZM

THE LAST MEETING

The last meeting was interesting. It was about traffic pile up in emergencies and in normal every day traffic.

As always there was coffee and conversation prior to and after the meeting starting.



INFORMATION

Website:

<http://kc5our.com/wordpress/>

Facebook:

Valencia County Amateur Radio Association

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vms repeater

? Need to correct!

Wednesday Night Net

* See our website for net running protocol*

AUGUST

Aug 21 – Al, W5ACW
Aug 28 – Gene, KI5BZI

SEPT

Sep 04 – John, K8JWS (Sub)
Sep 11 – John, K8JWS
Sep 18 – Earl, KB5UEW
Sep 25 – Nick, KI5MFF

Albuquerque Duke City Hamfest

will be held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September, 20th, 21st and 22nd, 2024 at University of New Mexico, Continuing Education Center 1634 University Blvd. Albuquerque, New Mexico
dukecityhamfest.com



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Bill K7ZM JULY 30th

Shaulis, Danielle
Gregory, Delbert
Lahair, John (Smoky)
Smith, Ralph
Steinke, Ronald

Contact Us

President: John Schaaf,
Vice President:
Secretary: Chris Schaaf
Treasurer: Charlie NM5CL
President Former: Earl Cox
Newsletter Editor: Ginger Eldridge, KC5MTI apoemge@q.com

100-Years Anniversary for a Morse Code Hero

By Dave Jensen, W7DGJ (Taken with permission and attribution)

On July 15, 2024, it will be 100 years since the birth of war hero and Morse Code warrior, Jeremiah A. Denton. Denton served as a US Senator from the State of Alabama from 1981 to 1987. and was earlier a US Navy rear admiral. But he's best known as one of the first naval aviators to be taken captive during the Vietnam War (and who later showed the world that Morse Code was alive and well). Denton's A-6 Intruder suffered severe damage due to a bomb that detonated as it was leaving the plane over hostile territory, and upon landing he was immediately captured by the North Vietnamese.

During his years in captivity, he was held in irons in a cell measuring 3' by 9'. In 1965, he became one of the highest-ranking USA prisoners to be held by the North and as a result he was paraded to the world media. On May 17, 1966, Denton was forced to participate in a televised propoganda interview under the glaring television lights set up by North Vietnam.

After the journalist recited a number of alleged U.S. war atrocities, Denton was asked about his support of U.S. policy concerning the war. Instead of what they had primed him to say, his response was: *"I don't know what is happening now in Vietnam, because the only news sources I have are North Vietnamese, but whatever the position of my government is, I believe in it, I support it, and I will support it as long as I live."*

In this televised interview, Denton was apparently having trouble with the glare of the lights. Feigning eye issues, he was able to send Morse Code by blinking his eyes and spelling out the word T-O-R-T-U-R-E repeatedly. This confirmed to the world's intelligence services (and to anyone code-knowledgeable watching the broadcast) that American POWs were being tortured by the North Vietnamese.

Next year on July 15th, it would be fun to see a Ham Radio Special Event station set up to remember this aviator and hero. If anyone is interested in managing this with me, please write my QRZ email address.



Albert W5ACW, Took these photos. Thanks for that. Nick up there working on a tall antenna.

