

R_{adio} A_{mateur} I_{nformation} & N_{ews}

Ham Radio Is Radio-active in Humboldt County, and beyond . . .



Number 492

Welcome Readers

March 2018

New Website is now LIVE!

<https://www.humboldt-arc.org/>

Carl km6liq has been a very busy ham building a NEW, EASIER TO USE, HARC web site. It went live this month. Online readers of this news letter should be able to click on that link under the title and see the new site first hand. As you can see, many of the colors are very similar to our old site to preserve the familiar feel of the site, but there are many new features:

We have a new bulletin board feature where we can share ideas and events, and also respond to them among the other site users.

We have a new calendar for each month. Site users can also add events to this very easily just going to the site and logging in to add event data.

The site automatically restricts some information, only members how LOG IN to the site will see all the details and contact information. Make sure you register with the site to get your approval information and password.

We also have a new email reflector. We will be dropping the yahoo group reflector shortly and moving to the new reflector. This will eliminate a lot of spam that yahoo injects into each of the messages from the current list. Make sure you update your address books!

Carl has done an amazing job between all the other work he does day to day. Thank you again Carl!

Enjoy the new look and feel of HARC online!

Message from our President

Peter w6ies

I'm sorry I took so long to write this but I need to tell HARC what's going on. Due to problems with my neck I'm not going to be able to fulfill my presidential responsibilities until after my surgery, sometime in the next 5 weeks. I'll probably be ready by early May but in the meantime I want to thank Jim and Anthony and Don and Don for helping out so far. I won't be able to attend meetings probably until May but I will be keeping in touch with what's going on with HARC, reading RAIN and keeping up with the emails, although I cannot type or text. Right now I'm using Google speak to write this. Sorry again and I hope to see you all very soon.
Peter, w6ies

Let's all keep Peter in our thoughts and prayers for a successful surgery and speedy recovery! He needs all the positive energy we can send him right now.

John Conrad Anderson, KF6AAR SK

Jaye ke6sls



John Conrad Anderson, age 57, resident of Lone Tree, Colorado passed away on March 4, 2018 in a tragic traffic accident. He was born January 16, 1961 in Eureka, California to John and Peggy Anderson. John was a resident of Humboldt county for 47 years. He attended Eureka Senior High School and College of the Redwoods. John drove commercial trucks for many years in California and in Colorado. He was a Amateur Radio Operator, Extra Class and an Avid motorcyclist. John was a great friend and dedicated to keeping friendships alive over time and long distances. John was also a devoted son, brother and uncle and will be greatly missed by those he left behind.

John was one of my two best friends for the last 25 years. I'm glad I was able to snap this picture of him shortly after he bought his new motorcycle and showed up one afternoon to show it off. We burned some rubber over the years on many motorcycle rides and it was always a pleasure to ride with

this old man. John was and has long been a regular member of HARC even after he moved to Colorado. John was a part of the GREAT KF6AA* group of hams that showed up for a technician class—all the participants passed and Humboldt county basically owned the group of AA* that testing cycle. John joined me one year in the Sweep Stakes contest on Somoa beach—we froze our buns off, but we had a GREAT TIME and did very well that year! We also conducted a few Field Day contests up on Titlow hill, above Horse mountain—the contest was fun, the food was amazing, and the beer was cold. John also loved collecting locomotive horns. . . . One evening, we had discussed the variety of horns he had on 2 meters, and I asked him to bring them over. I used my 25 gallon air tank and hooked up a 5 horn set. I pulled on the valve and those horns made noise I never dreamed could be made on this planet. After all the echos stopped, my ears started hearing NOTHING. Every dog in the neighborhood stopped barking, the birds stopped chirping... It was just reallllly quiet. We decided to forgo testing the rest of those horns. The grin on John's face will be forever remembered!

We will miss you Mr Anderson. God speed old man.

/ed

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of Meeting – March 6, 2018

Officers Present: Anthony Wiese **KG6LHW**, Vice Pres./

Dan Eaton **KB6DE**, Secretary/

Jaye Inabnit **KE6SLS**, Newsletter Editor Pro Tem/

Jim Armstrong **KW6JIM**, Past President 2016-2017

Anthony called the meeting to order at 19:00 PST in the Eureka Municipal Auditorium (Muni) Meeting Room @ 406 11th St. (11th and E).

Introductions were made and the log book was passed around. 28 members attended.

We welcomed a visitor, John Prince **KI6PRR** and encouraged him to become a member.

Health and Welfare: Our President, Peter Esko **W6IES**, is waiting for surgery. Jaye reported Peter's mobility is limited and he has little strength or feeling in his hands due to an old spinal injury. We hope he is better soon.

Secretary Report: Dan's February 6th minutes were reviewed. Joyce Isherwood **JØYCE** motioned to accept and Bob Colburn **KA6ULG** seconded. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

- Dan reported the theft of our military mast parts from the small trailer discovered by Jim and Howard Lang **KB6NN** Feb. 21. A theft report was filed with EPD on March 2nd and photos of the parts and tool box were trotted around to the three EKA pawn shops, Anglin's and Arcata Salvage on March 5th. We will wait a month (to see if they turn up) then talk about replacements in April. Both trailers are now parked in the fenced Bloodmobile parking area at St. Joseph's Hospital. We will need to improve the trailer door locks. Dan will check on costs and report.

Treasurer's Report: None

Old Business: Our W6ZZK HARC website is up and running. Carl Eggleston **KM6LIQ** will give us an update from time to time. It sure looks good. Ben Adams **KK6SYJ** will draft a "Mission Statement" for the site.



New Business: Jim showed us the Kinetic Sculpture Race/Ham themed stickers and pins he had printed. Bob made a motion which Sherry Eaton **KK6MPY** seconded to reimburse Jim \$83.00. All members agreed. These stickers will be used to promote Ham Radio while we provide communications for the race.

EMCOMM Report: The last **EMCOMM** event, **EXPLAN**, was held on **Saturday, February 17th**. Don Nelson **WA6N BG** sent his report to members via HARC-CA. This report is attached for you to review. Thanks Don.

- Jim said we still need net control folks for the new Thursday net on 145.470 Simplex.

Past Event Report: Jim reported the 2nd Tuesday meeting for February was well received. Topics were LoTW and FT-8.

Future Events: Anthony told us there will be an **ISS contact event** on **March 14th** with a school. We can listen in on 145.800MHz.

- Anthony and Arleda Cloud **KK6YJB** held an introduction to the Technician License Class for Rancheria folks in Blue Lake. About 25 people signed up for the short class in March. Testing will take place in Blue Lake.
- **March 12th, Monday:** Don Campbell **KE6HEC** will start the 10 week Technician class again at the Muni at 1900.
- **March 11th, Sunday:** **Foggy Bottoms Milk Run** in Ferndale.
- **March 13th, 2nd Tuesday Workshop:** Don N.: Cross-band repeating on VHF/UHF bands. Bring your hand held radio.
- **March 17th, Saturday:** **EmComm Trailer build party** at Carl's place, 3483 Harrison Ave EKA at 1000 rain or shine. Joyce and Sherry: Food Wranglers, Jaye: Trailer Transport and Dan: Plywood Producer.
- Anthony suggested that we could all work on a list of 20 things to keep on our persons or in our cars in case of emergency. We could start comparing lists in March.
- **Reminder:** Don C. told us the FWRA is planning a **Swap Meet and Pot Luck** at the next meeting in April, date to be announced.
- **May 26th to May 29th (Memorial Day) Kinetic Sculpture Race.**

Presentation: Anthony and Ben showed drawings of the trailer dimensions and we discussed plans for the trailer build on the 17th.

Break and Raffle: Thanks to Don C. for the cookies and juice.

Raffle winners were Bob, Seer Snively **KM6MWO**, Joyce, Richard Friedley **WA6NBI**, Gene Bass **K6PCS** and Drew Lamb **KK6REN**.
Thanks to Don N. for running the raffle. We received \$50.

Swap Meet: Good stuff, lots of fun. Hardly anyone went away empty-handed.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:00 PST.

Note to new or prospective Members:

The club has an informal lunch every Thursday, 11:30 at the Pantry Restaurant on Broadway in Eureka (next to the Motel 6). All are welcome.

Minutes submitted by Dan Eaton **KB6DE**

de KB6DE

The W6ZZK Story

By Bob wb6qpg

John Harnsberger , W6ZZK was born July 15, 1925 and passed away on June 20, 1992 at age 66.

John lived in Kneeland,CA with his wife Vaneta “Pete” Harnsberger. Together they had 3 sons, John “Les”, Dennis and Mike.

John worked as an Electrician for the Louisiana-Pacific Corp Particleboard Plant on West End Road in Arcata. John liked to work on “boat anchor” Ham Radios and on World War 2 communication radios. John was a good radio tech and he understood radio circuits on tube radios real well.

John enlisted in the U.S. Navy and while aboard a destroyer in the Pacific and on duty on the deck one night he was looking up at the ships wire radio antenna emitting sparks during transmission from the ship radio room, John was copying code from the sparks when a ship’s Officer came by and asked John what he was doing and John said that he was copying code from the sparks. The officer said “come with me” and took John to the radio room and told the officer in charge “you now have a new CW operator on your crew”.

That was the story as John told it to me.

In 1945 after the War John was stationed at the Table Bluff Light House Coast Guard Station and met and married Vaneta who was his childhood sweetheart. Vaneta went by the Nick-name of ‘Pete’ because her maiden name was Peterson and her school friends called her ‘Pete’. Vaneta worked at the Kneeland Post Office for years.

John’s nick-name was ‘Tiny’ going to High school because he was a big 6 feet 2 inches tall. They enjoyed life on the place on Kneeland and later on after John’s passing

Vaneta moved to Eureka and later passed on November 22, 2003.
John was a founding member of the Humboldt Amateur Radio Club and regularly attended radio club meetings. On the Air John would sign W6 Zig Zag Kid.
John encouraged me to study to upgrade my radio license to Advanced. I thanked John for that after passing the Exam in San Francisco.
John was a great Ham Radio man and good friend and I am glad that the Humboldt Amateur Radio Club honors him by using his call sign identification.

Now you know why HARC uses w6zzk for our Club and repeater identification!

Submitted by Bob, WB6QPG
/tnx Bob

DISCLAIMER: RAIN is published monthly by the Humboldt Amateur Radio Club. RAIN is a benefit of membership in Humboldt Amateur Radio Club. No paid subscriptions are available.

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Jaye Inabnit ke6sls, ke6sls@arrl.net

For more information, please visit our website <http://www.humboldt-arc.org> or write to:

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club
BOX 5251
Eureka, CA 95502-5251

Behind Lock and Key!

On Feb 27th Steve - KK6MPV and I moved both HARC trailers to a gated area to the rear of the Blood Bank next to St Joseph Hospital.

We have access to the rear (west) gate. There is a key to the gate on each of the two trailer keyrings.



With no Bloodmobiles present, the space was relatively easy for Steve to maneuver into, but not simple. It will be a greater challenge when the Bloodmobiles are there. I think only those members with a pretty good grasp of trailer backing should be moving the trailers - and only with the assistance of a spotter.

They are currently parked with the large trailer accessible first. In order for the small one to be moved, the big one needs to be moved.

The trailers are not covered, and are still exposed to the elements. There are trees above them so they will probably collect debris on their roofs. We'll need to make a point every month or two to go over and clean them off. They look to have decent sun exposure so once we have the solar system running, the batteries should remain charged nicely.

So, they are there, behind fence, lock and key!
Thank you to Peter W6IES for getting permission to park at the Blood Bank.

73!

Jim Armstrong - KW6JIM
Humboldt Amateur Radio Club



REDWOOD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

3125 Graybrook Lane
Hydesville CA 95547

RARC MEETING NOVEMBER 28, 2017

The Redwood Amateur Radio Club October meeting was an informal get-together only.
The regular business items were dispensed with and discussion continued on how to outfit the trailer.

- It was agreed that the equipment needed to be temporarily removed and placed in totes (to be provided by Don, KE6HEC). Dan AG6JW will do the packing, and Kirby, KE6ZPF, can temporarily store the equipment while the work is done.
- Kirby can donate some glue-on foam insulation.
- Dan can donate 3 sheets of veneer.
- Floor coverings discussed – glue-down carpet or vinyl remnant with area rugs.

Respectfully submitted, Don Campbell, KE6HEC, Secretary.

REDWOOD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

3125 Graybrook Lane
Hydesville CA 95547

RARC MEETING JANUARY 23, 2018

The Redwood Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order in Pepper's Restaurant by President Lonnie Harvey, KJ6WDL, at 1900.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's Report for the November meeting were not available. There was no December meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dan, AG6JW, reported \$391.53 in savings and \$692.36 in checking. Taxes for 2015-2017 were filed by Steve Borges for a fee of \$89.95. The Report was approved as read.

OLD BUSINESS

Equipment in the new trailer will be placed in the newly acquired totes and taken to Kirby's for storage.

Stabilizing jacks donated by Dan are in Lonnie's possession. Layout for the new trailer still needs to be planned and disposition of the old trailer decided. The trailer will be taken to Lonnie's for installation of insulation, paneling, paint and floor covering.

NEW BUSINESS

Dan provided a list of VE Test dates – attached.

Election of Officers for 2018

President – Lonnie Harvey KJ6WDL

Vice President – Ron Jones W6RBJ

Treasurer – Dan Martin AG6JW

Secretary – Don Campbell KE6HEC

Hospital Communication Exercise

The state of Ham gear in Redwood Memorial Hospital was discussed for the upcoming February 17 exercise. Lonnie and Steve removed the radios from the hospital prior to the recent remodel. The antenna is still on the roof but the feedline is questionable.

Kirby has the packet gear from the club's old node and would like to see it returned to service somehow, possibly in conjunction with a weather station. More discussion at our next meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Don Campbell, KE6HEC, Secretary.

ARRL Requests Expanded HF Privileges for Technician Licensees

ARRL has asked the FCC to expand HF privileges for Technician licensees to include limited phone privileges on 75, 40, and 15 meters, plus RTTY and digital mode privileges on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. The FCC has not yet invited public comment on the proposals, which stem from recommendations put forth by the ARRL Board of Directors' Entry-Level License Committee, which explored various initiatives and gauged member opinions in 2016 and 2017.



"This action will enhance the available license operating privileges in what has become the principal entry-level license class in the Amateur Service," ARRL said in its [Petition](#). "It will attract more newcomers to Amateur Radio, it will result in increased retention of licensees who hold Technician Class licenses, and it will provide an improved incentive for entry-level licensees to increase technical self-training and pursue higher license class achievement and development of communications skills."

Specifically, ARRL proposes to provide Technician licensees, present and future, with phone privileges at 3.900 to 4.000 MHz, 7.225 to 7.300 MHz, and 21.350 to 21.450 MHz, plus RTTY and digital privileges in current Technician allocations on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. The ARRL petition points out the explosion in popularity of various digital modes over the past 2 decades. Under the ARRL plan, the maximum HF power level for Technician operators would remain at 200 W PEP. The few remaining Novice licensees would gain no new privileges under the League's proposal.

ARRL said its proposal is critical to developing improved operating skills, increasing emergency communication participation, improving technical self-training, and boosting overall growth in the Amateur Service, which has remained nearly inert at about 1% per year.

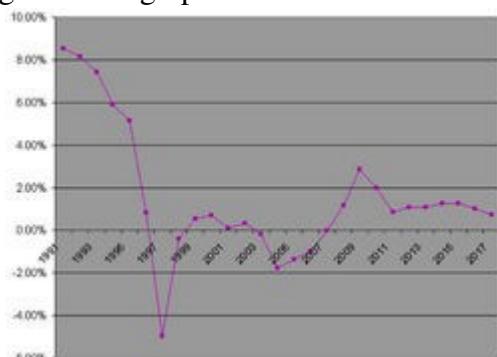
ARRL's petition points to the need for compelling incentives not only to become a radio amateur in the first place, but then to upgrade and further develop skills. Demographic and technological changes call for a "periodic rebalancing" between those two objectives, the League maintains.

"There has not been such a rebalancing in many years," ARRL said in its petition. "It is time to do that now." The FCC has not assessed entry-level operating privileges since 2005.

The Entry-Level License Committee offered very specific data- and survey-supported findings about growth in Amateur Radio and its place in the advanced technological demographic that includes individuals younger than 30. It received significant input from ARRL members via more than 8,000 survey responses.

"The Committee's analysis noted that today, Amateur Radio exists among many more modes of communication than it did half a century ago, or even 20 years ago," ARRL said in its petition.

Now numbering some 378,000, Technician licensees comprise more than one-half of the US Amateur Radio population. ARRL said that after 17 years' experience with the current Technician



Overall net growth in the Amateur Service has remained sluggish at about 1% per year over the past few years.

license as the gateway to Amateur Radio, it's urgent to make it more attractive to newcomers, in part to improve upon science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education "that inescapably accompanies a healthy, growing Amateur Radio Service," ARRL asserted.

ARRL said its proposal is critical to developing improved operating skills, increasing emergency communication participation, improving technical self-training, and boosting overall growth in the Amateur Service, which has remained nearly inert at about 1% per year.

The Entry-Level License Committee determined that the current Technician class question pool already covers far more material than necessary for an entry-level exam to validate expanded privileges. ARRL told the FCC that it would continue to refine examination preparation and training materials aimed at STEM topics, increase outreach and recruitment, work with Amateur Radio clubs, and encourage educational institutions to utilize Amateur Radio in STEM and other experiential learning programs.

"ARRL requests that the Commission become a partner in this effort to promote Amateur Radio as a public benefit by making the very nominal changes proposed herein in the Technician Class license operating privileges," the petition concluded.

EXPLAN exercise

Don wa6nbg

It has taken me a while to compose my thoughts about the EXPLAN exercise on Saturday. One thing I have been struggling with is the inadequacy of the FLMSG ICS forms. Custom forms can be generated. For them to be useful, the templates must be distributed to the end users (Hams receiving FLMSG's). Using spreadsheets is an option, but end users must have a spreadsheet on the computer they are using with Ham radio and some hassle is incurred in manipulating the files once on the computer.

We had at least 19 Hams involved, and evidently some more behind the scenes that did not show up on the logs. Disappointing that Jerold Phelps Hospital did not participate. All in all, I think a very representative scenario considering the one hour-plus time period.

HF communications from the Courthouse OEC HF station will always be difficult because of the very high noise level on receive. I think best practices for now is to relay any HF traffic via VHF/UHF to another station with better conditions. I heard nothing but noise on 40 meters. S meter reading of background noise was S 8. I have contacted the CalOES net a few times on 40 meters, but always with an S 8 background. There were times I could not participate. The signals on 75 meters were slightly better as I could hear the Del Norte station 50% of the time, but still with an S 8 noise level.

Issues with the OES radio station:

High noise levels on HF.

Wire HF antenna has poor jumper connection on roof. DO NOT use amplifier until fixed.

Logging onto station computers.

UHF radio has internal DIP switch for configuring sub-audible tone. Currently set to 100.0. Need to set to 103.5. Possible swap with Yaesu FT-857.

Need to replace broken VHF antenna on roof with VHF/UHF antenna.

Vertical HF antenna unusable, no solution in sight. Regulations on use of rooftop complex.

Future status of current location for OES in question and should not spend too much time and/or money on Ham station.

My current focus on Amateur Radio emergency communications is the Incident Command System and integrating it into the exercises. I recently (September) completed the Federal Emergency Management Agency training for Communications Unit Leader and these exercises allow me to put into play what I learned. Also on how Ham digital communications can be improved and implemented into the exercises.

I hope our next exercise can involve even more people. Each exercise has increased in participation. Integrating some digital communications into the exercises can point out some advantages and deficiencies we Hams in northwestern California understand about utilizing the new modes and techniques.

I thank all that participated in this event.

Don Nelson
WA6N BG

Amateur Radio License Exam Sessions

Sponsor: Unsponsored

Date: Apr 21 2018

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Daniel R. Martin

(707) 768-9147

Email: Dan.AG6JW@gmail.com

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Fortuna Volunteer fire Dept
320 S Fortuna Blvd
Fortuna CA 95547

Sponsor: Humboldt ARC

Date: May 19 2018

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Daniel R. Martin

(707) 768-9147

Email: Dan.AG6JW@gmail.com

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Fire Dept (Classrooms)
6th & C Street
Eureka CA 95501

RAIN
Box 5251
Eureka, California, 95502-5251

North Coast Nets

Sunday	0800	North coast emergency net	3.855 MHz LSB
Monday	1830	Humboldt County HF emergency net	3.955 MHz LSB
Monday	1845	Humboldt HF Digital emergency net	3.581 USB MFSK32
\Monday	1900	Arcata Emergency simplex net	146.430 MHz
Monday	1900	Eel River Emergency net	147.090 PL103.5
Monday	1900	Eureka Emergency simplex net	146.460 MHz
Monday	1900	Southern Humboldt Emergency net	146.790 PL 103.5
Monday	1915	Eureka & north UHF Emergency net	444.400 +5000 PL103.5
Monday	1930	Humboldt county Emergency net (nearest FWRA repeater to you)	146.700 PL103I.5 147.000 PL103I.5 146.760 PL103I.5 146.610 PL103I.5
Monday	1930	Humboldt HF Digital emergency net	3.581 USB MFSK32
Monday	1945	Humboldt County HF emergency net	3.955 MHz LSB
Monday	2000	California State net	3.992 MHz LSB
Tuesday	1930	ORCA digital operations net	3.581 MHz USB
Tuesday	1930	California-Mendocino net	3.915 MHz LSB
Wednesday	1000	California State net	7.230 MHz LSB
Wednesday	1930	FWRA net	146.760 PL103.5
Thursday	1900	HARC local repeater net	145.470 PL103.5



humboldt-arc.org