

Radio Amateur Information & News



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

Number 493

Welcome Readers!

April 2018

EVENTS:

April 21 WARS **Ham-BQ**--Willits

April 21 HARC **ComRig build party**—Eureka

April 21 RARC VE Testing--Fortuna

April 22 FWRA **Brunch & Swap**—Fortuna

April 24 **RARC Club Meeting**—Fortuna

April 28 **John Anderson kf6aar Memorial**—Arcata/Eureka

Blue Lake Tech Class & VE Session

Hi Jaye,

Here's the scoop. I approached my contact at the Blue Lake Rancheria, Anita Hull, about periodically testing their 2m rig and getting them Winlink capable. The Rancheria is a bona fide FEMA evacuation center. They have made significant preparations for disaster relief.

That can be perhaps covered in a whole other article. Short story, long. Anita asked if I could teach an accelerated (6 weeks) Tech class to the employees. I have never taught that class and decided that until I was up to that I would mentor a DIY Technician class. Carl, KM6LIQ and Aleda, KK6YJB and I hosted a 1.5 hour intro, Q&A and resources meeting. We explained what Amateur Radio was and wasn't, how we use it here on the North Coast, how it could help them, etc. We also organized a shipment of Gordon West's Tech books to be available to the roughly 20-25 people that showed up. We explained where lesson plans could be found on the internet, encouraged the use of the ARRL phone app for practice tests and for the long commuters, talked about the audio book "The Fast Track to Your Technician Class Ham Radio License." Our intention was to set them loose and meet up with them in four weeks time to have another Q&A and tutor session. We had three students show up for that who were very well studied up but just wanted to tighten up on a few concepts. One being how to convert from frequency to wavelength. Another one was why we refer to the 2m band as "2 meters" but the 70cm as "440". Fair question!

A big draw and bonus for this class was that we were going to bring the exam to them. Daniel AG6JW, Dan KB6DE, Sherry KK6MPY and Kirby KE6ZPF came to the hotel on March 29th to give the exam. We had 9 in attendance and 4 passed. Two passed their Tech and were one or two questions short of their General, one was a Tech renewal and the banner student, Michael Lee got his Extra! His call is KM6RUL and has a request in for a Vanity. Wow, fast mover!

I'm in the works with Anita to have another tutoring session or two to get more students through the program. At this point I won't ask the examiners to come back out until we have a firmer system in place. I was a bit embarrassed with the initial results but we needed to try the whole thing out once. There is a big supply of students from the other tribes and the residents of Blue Lake proper. I'm

looking forward to firming up a program to help my local community get their license to learn.
Cheers and 73,
Anthony KG6LHW

From the Editor:

I am very excited about the program you started Anthony! We must remember, the tech exam is the hardest exam for most of us hams. It takes students into a realm that is rarely visited by most people! I have a feeling that we'll be seeing more hams graduate from this program over the coming months. My gratitude to Anthony kg6lhw, Carl km6liq, Dan ag6jw, Dan kb6de, Sherry kk6mpy, Kirby ke6zpf and Anita Hull for bringing all of this activity about! Here's to the new hams, and the new EXTRA—
Congratulation to you all.

GREAT work guys!

/jaye

Willits Amateur Radio Society—WARS

April BBQ!

Ham-BQ at Little River following the 50K Marathon starting at about 3pm April 21.

Please RSVP so we know how many to expect... Hamburgers and beef hot dogs will be provided and we ask that you bring one or more items listed below.

Bring your chairs, a hat, a jacket and a good appetite!

All Hams and their families are invited, so come prepared to have a great time!

[RSVP for Ham-BQ](https://goo.gl/forms/lLO7P9K0APiSI73S2)

<https://goo.gl/forms/lLO7P9K0APiSI73S2>

So, the official directions are:

Take Little River Airport Road ~ 3.5 miles, Take road 18, on the right. Follow road 18 and stick left. There is a sign with the address, 6670 and "The Marches". There is also parking opposite the driveway in a grassy area. WARS will also have HAM EVENT signs posted.

Next race event will be Avenue of the Giants Marathon on Sunday May 6. First race starts at 0745L. VHF Communicators will be needed.

Thank you for passing along this info Joyce!

Update on the PREZ

Peter w6ies

I just got off the phone with Peter and asked him how he is doing after surgery. He has gotten much of the feeling back in his hands! He has physical therapy at home currently. They are working him hard and even helping him get his fingers to play nicely with his HAM RADIO! I could tell his spirits have greatly improved, along with his general health. He is planning on attending the Thursday Ham Lunch this week! Also, he plans to be back on the air for the next Monday emergency nets.

Great going peter, and great news!

HARC ComRig BUILD

Report on Phase One

A Dandy Crew of Hams arrived at Carl km6liq's house with ambitions of beginning the Com Rig construction! Anthony



brought his trailer with tools and power machines. Dan, kb6de brought the FINISHED materials to build the station table and shelving. Plenty of folks brought in some great Get-R-Dun food and treats for the assembled crew.



In only a few hours, the new trailer had a two position operation console and equipment shelving installed. All work has been done semi-permanently so future modifications can be effectively accommodated. The Chili was stupendous! Thanks to all our hams, especially Carl, for helping us reach this first milestone.



HF Emergency Phone Net

There has been some discussion regarding the 6:30pm net time. Some hams want to know when/if we are going to change back to the old 7:45pm net time. For some, this interferes with normal dinner time, for others it works just fine. We would like to hear from you regarding the net times. Obviously, our solar cycle is very unpredictable, and in fact, breaking new ground every month on how bad it currently is! Keeping the current net time adds quite a bit of insurance that stations can be heard by NCS or a relay station. Also, we no longer have to compete with the net on 3.952MHz who meet at 7:30pm each Monday night and tend to cause a lot of interference to our net.

John Anderson, kf6aar Memorial

Saturday, April 28

Hi All!

We are arranging a memorial/celebration of life for John Anderson, kf6aar. We invite all of you with motorcycles to meet us at Bettendorf Trucking, 5540 West End Rd, (the old Joe Costa Trucking yard), Arcata, CA on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at Noon. We will have one of the old Red & White trucks lead the motorcycles from here to the Samoa Cookhouse where we will have a no-host lunch and celebration of life in their back room. All other people can meet the whole group at the Samoa Cookhouse at 12:30pm on Saturday. Anyone who wishes to follow the group of motorcycles from Arcata to Samoa is welcome to meet here also.

We need to give the Samoa Cookhouse a ball park count for lunch. Please RSVP to either myself at 707-267-5014 or to Sonja at 707-599-5285 and we will get our total counts together.

Please bring stories and memories of John with you!

Thank You!
Laurie Ervin
Bettendorf Trucking
707-822-2901

HARC ComRig BUILD

Crew Needed for Phase Two

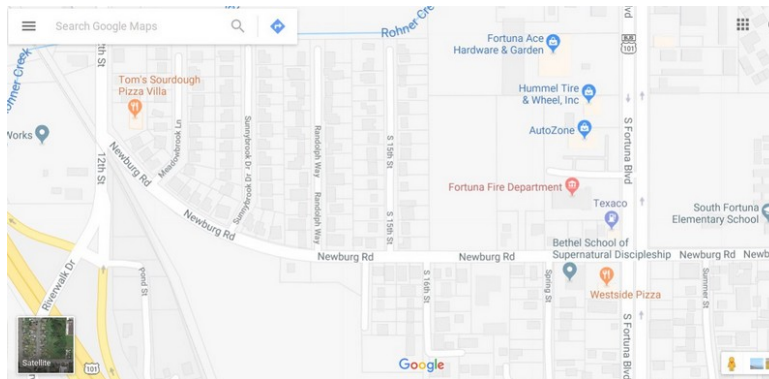
A fine crew of hams is needed to begin phase two of our Com Rig construction. We will be added bulkhead and get started with electrical planning. We are also going to empty the storage trailer and get it painted inside. Plan to enjoy something great for lunch while helping out! We will get started around 9am, Saturday April 21 at Carl's home on Harrison street.

Minutes?

Annual FWRA Swap & Brunch

Sunday April 22 at 11AM

Bring some Food to share, Money, and Ham Gear you want to swap! We'll gather in the Fortuna Fire Department at 320 S Fortuna Blvd, Fortuna. Use the 146.760 repeater for ride-in information.



RARC Meeting

April 24

Tuesday, April 24th 7:00pm at the Fortuna Fire Department, 320 So. Fortuna Blvd. I am bringing to the meeting the equipment and mobile antennas donated to the club by Ferndale Ham Lee Shoblom, K6ADA. There was no formal meeting in February (we talked for a while in the parking lot) so I have no minutes to share. See you Tuesday.

Don Campbell
707.834.0042

Brace yourselves! **May is near!** Check out the HARC website for all the crazy events underway needing our help! <https://www.humboldt-arc.org/event-directory/>

The HAM Classifieds

For Sale/Want To Buy

* Fiberglass Masts 8 & 10 foot long, **FREE** Contact Carl km6liq at carl@humhost.com

* Dual band VHF/UHF NMO mount mobile antenna **for sale**, Diamond [NR73BNMO](#) would like \$20 for this antenna. Contact Jaye ke6sls at ke6sls@arrl.net

* Would **like to buy** a KPC3 or KPC3+ TNC. If you have one in a closet, . . . :) Contact Jaye ke6sls at ke6sls@arrl.net

* Silent Key gear available. Check out <http://orcadigitalnet.com/sk-sale/> for details of the equipment that is **for sale** on Doug's web site. Contact Doug k7ky at k7ky@ferrycreek.com

If you are looking for ham stuff or want to sell or give away stuff, contact Jaye at ke6sls@arrl.net

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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

Avenue of the Giants Marathon

Sunday May 6

Next race event will be Avenue of the Giants Marathon on Sunday May 6. First race starts at 0745L. VHF Communicators are needed. Great beginner event for new hams! Don Cambell - KE6HEC(707) 834-0042

HARC Second Tuesday Meeting

<!BATTERIES!>

Many of us ham folks enjoy the regular monthly meetings. However, we started the new 2ND Tuesday meetings to dive into more technical talks. Personally, these meetings are extremely enjoyable and educational. We've covered a lot of topics so far, and I think we are just scratching the surface.

Tonights meeting covered batteries, now and then. Carl, km6liq and his guest Dave, kk6wsh presented us with the current state of the very latest in very high capacity, high current batteries and compared them to led acid and other older battery chemistry.

Several hams have already invested in this amazing battery packs to run their own HF radios, at high power! The weight is the most exciting thing about these batteries – when you hold one of these things, they are far lighter than a typical battery. What is very exciting is that they are higher voltage (nominal) and are around 13-13.6 volts, so our HF radios function at full output with these new battery packs! Then there is the life cycle expectancy. The new batteries will live much longer

than led acid batteries, some giving up to 2000-3000 full charge cycles. I know I am personally impressed with these new batteries and will have to evaluate if I want to continue using led acid at home, or possibly invest into this new tech battery.

Carl, Dave, thank you so much. I think we had more members for this meeting than we did for the regular meeting this month! The one thing I missed is if there were some good links to visit on the web to learn even more

about the new batteries and charging systems. If you have some cool links to share with your fellow hams, please send them along and I'll update the next addition of RAIN and add the links for us to check them out.

Awesome work and great meeting tonight. Thanks to all who participated, especially the new folks that are now studying for their tech tests!

Hope to see you at the next 2ND TUESDAY MEETING. :)



Humboldt Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of Meeting – April 3, 2018

Officers Present: Anthony Wiese **KG6LHW**, Vice Pres./ Dan Eaton **KB6DE**, Secretary/
Marcy Campbell **KE6IAU**, Treasurer/
Jaye Inabnit **KE6SLS**, Newsletter Editor Pro Tem/
Jim Armstrong **KW6JIM**, Past President 2016-2017

Anthony called the meeting to order at 19:15 PDT in the Eureka Municipal Auditorium (Muni) Meeting Room @ 406 11th St. (11th and E).
Introductions were made and the log book was passed around. 16 members attended.
We welcomed visitors, Talvi Fried and Philip Setterlund.

Health and Welfare: Our President, Peter Esko **W6IES**, had surgery 3 weeks ago and is on the mend, said Don Campbell **KE6HEC**.

Secretary Report: The March 6th minutes were reviewed. Jaye motioned to accept and Don Nelson **WA6NBB** seconded. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

- Dan said he will order replacement antenna mast parts from Ontario (NY) Surplus soon. Unfortunately, the parts have not been recovered.
- Dan reserved a meeting room at the Humboldt Area Foundation for our annual December Potluck. The reservation is for December 14th, a Friday, from 6:00 to 9:00 in the evening. Cost: \$48.00. Rain is forecast.

Treasurer's Report: Marcy reported our March End Balance was \$2785.70. Don C. motioned to accept the report and Del Freret **W6KOZ** seconded. All votes were AYE.

- Don C. requested reimbursement of \$106.38 for parts to repair the repeater at Rainbow Ridge (146.910). Motion to accept was made by Del **W6KOZ** and seconded by Don Nelson **WA6NBB**. All said AYE.

Old Business: W6ZZK HARC website is receiving more updates per Carl Eggleston **KM6LIQ**.

- Ben Adams **KK6SYJ** will draft a "Mission Statement" for the site. Marcy needs to review any new Mission statement and have it approved by ARRL management.

New Business: At present, Jim has all the trailer keys. Jaye suggested we have sets made for all officers and board members. Likewise, we need more keys for the Muni.

- Jaye asked Marcy for a list of HARC founding members so we may include it on the website.

EMCOMM Report: Don N. told us Humboldt County has approved funds to replace the courthouse VHF antenna with a new VHF/UHF one. Also, he now has access to expensive and modern County owned HF diagnostic equipment. (refer to Don's Feb. 2 memo in the March 6th issue of RAIN.)

Past Event Report: Our EmComm trailer build party was on Saturday **March 17th** at Carl's house. A desk and shelf were installed. Jim is working on a budget for the electrical distribution and lighting. Carl can do the wiring. We will standardize using Anderson Pole connectors. Builders were Anthony and Jaye. Crew included Carl, Steve **KK6MPV**, Joyce **KJØYCE**, Jim, Howard **KB6NN**, Kevin Bayless **KK6MPT**, Sherry **KK6MPY** and Dan. A review of this event is on the HARC website.

- **March 29th**, Anthony's Blue Lake Technician class preparation in Blue Lake. 8 tests resulted in 3 new Tech. licenses plus one fellow upgraded from General to Expert.

Future Events: **April 21nd** , Saturday: We plan to have “*Trailer Build Part 2*”, 9:00am at Carl's house, 3483 Harrison EKA.

- **April 22nd, Sunday:** *Farwest Repeater Assoc.* will have a Potluck/Swap Meet at the Fortuna Vol. Fire Dept. at 11:00 AM.
- **May 6th:** *Avenue of the Giants Marathon.* Don C. needs volunteers.
- **May 19th :** (bicycle) *Tour of the Lost Coast.* Don C. needs volunteers.
- **May 26th to May 29th :** (Memorial Day) *Kinetic Sculpture Race* starting in Arcata. Anthony suggested some HAM volunteers ride with paramedic teams and public relations people to enhance our communications effectiveness.
- Jaye suggested we have a FIELD DAY military mast set-up dry run to make sure we have all the needed parts, and to formalize safety procedures. We will set a date in May sometime.
- Don C. will look in using our traditional Woodley Isl. site for our 2018 Field Day. We will consider a site in Blue Lake for the exercise.
- Anthony reviewed his plan to present a list of 20 things to keep in a “ Go/Walk home kit” in case of emergency. He will begin to quiz folks on the weekly Thursday VHF net 145.470 at 1900.

Presentation: We viewed photos of the trailer build party with comments from participants. Kevin was our official photographer.

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

Raffle winners were Gene Smith **KF6RZN**, Don C., Talvi, Philip, and Anthony.

Thanks to Don N. for running the raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:00 PDT.

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**

Amateur Radio License Exam Sessions

Sponsor: Un-sponsored

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	146.700 PL1031.5 147.000 PL1031.5
		(nearest FWRA repeater to you)	146.760 PL1031.5 146.610 PL1031.5
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



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[humboldt-arc.org](http://www.humboldt-arc.org)